Issue No. 177 | A **FREE** community publication by Latrobe Council | May-June 2021

TOTE BAG INITIATIVE DELIVERS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Isabella Taylor of Latrobe Primary School last year submitted a sustainable planet grant proposal to Keep Australia Beautiful. The concept sought to design and manufacture fabric shopping bags that customers of local supermarkets could utilise if they forgot to bring their own reusable bags.

Successful with her application, Isabella began collecting various design ideas illustrated by very artistic Latrobe Primary School students.

The three illustrations ultimately chosen to be featured on the bags were those designed by Grade two student Macie, Grade six student but now high school student Max and Grade five student Freya.

This program is now available at both supermarkets in Latrobe - Ritchie's IGA X-press and Hill Street Grocer.

How it works

If you have forgotten your reusable bags when doing your grocery shopping, you can ask staff to direct you to the reusable bags. You then take a bag, use it, wash it, and return it next time you go to the supermarket, remembering to bring your own reusable bags at that time.

It is important to please return the bags because there are only 60 of them and Isabella wants everybody to have the chance to be able to use them and save Tasmania's environment.

A big congratulations to Isabella for making this wonderful opportunity happen and remember - Keep Tasmania beautiful!

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM RAISED THROUGH RECOVERY

"Come what may from the State Government election, this Mayor remains convinced that serious reform of the Local Government sector will be a priority during the next term of our State Parliament and that should be no surprise to anyone. My personal view is that the stance by candidates on Local Government reform has an impact on how people vote" said Mayor Freshney.

The Tasmanian Government now has the final report from the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council which clearly calls on a need for Local Government reform, highlighting the pivotal role Local Government will need to play in the recovery of our communities and Tasmania as a whole.

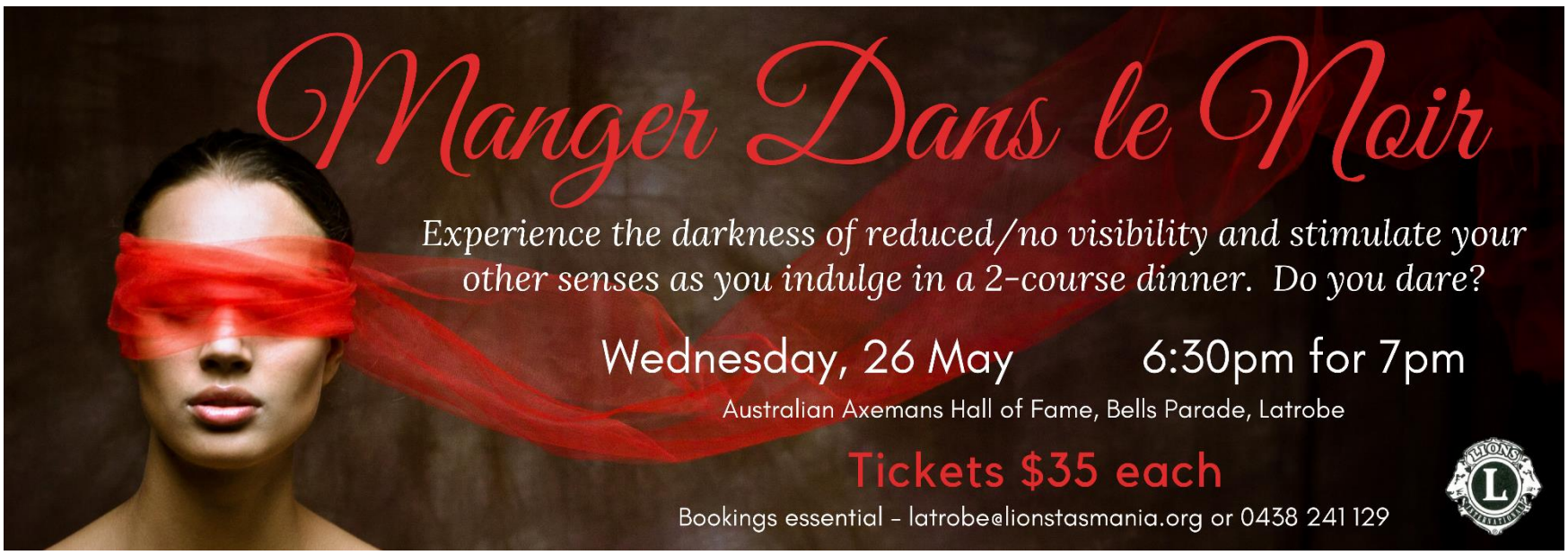
To fulfil that role, the sector will need to be resilient and sustainable, and the report is clear in stating some Local Government Areas are not.

"The existing Latrobe and Kentish Councils shared services model is nation leading and has been developed and implemented over a significant period. Both Councils have been determined to put in place an ethos of continuous improvement in both the level of service provided to our communities and the way in which services are delivered.

Our staff and management have seen significant levels of change in almost every facet of their day-to-day work activities and much has been achieved with relatively little negative impact on the residents in our two council areas.

Whether or not our resource sharing model survives the next bout of Local Government reforms, that will undoubtedly play out in coming months. The one thing I am certain of is that none of what we have achieved and are achieving would be possible without the commitment and courage (yes courage) of our management team and the dedication and commitment of the teams they lead. Past and current staff members have combined to give real resource sharing a 'red-hot crack' and, if our alliance survives, then the credit and recognition should be theirs.

Our elected members appreciate and are grateful of their continued efforts and I trust our community is likewise" he added.



BUSINESS VOICE TO BOOM THROUGH COLLECTIVE ASSOCIATION

The Latrobe and Kentish Council areas will be establishing a single, independent association to support and represent all local businesses.

The Councils have enthusiastically endorsed the proposal and are providing financial support for an incorporated association with a volunteer Board of Management that will represent a broad cross section of local business people.

The groundwork for the business association will be established with a series of communications and forums to hear the views of local businesses on its charter, objectives, scope, name, and structure.

Part of this work and consultation will include nominations among local business people for an initial "Establishment Board of Management" which will meet monthly.

The model for the Association will be that every business across the Latrobe and Kentish Council areas - from a single home-based venture to our largest employers - will automatically be members at no cost, with representation, regular communications, and a range of benefits.

Businesses that choose to can become paid members to help support the work of the Association with diversity as its hallmark.

The objectives of the Association will be to actively represent and support all local businesses and develop programs to boost their success.

The business association will be independent of the Councils but will collaborate with them as the voice of local business to provide ideas, support, and influence economic development activities.

The Association will pursue its own range of benefits, programs and projects, driven by feedback from the business community.

In addition, an independent, registered business association automatically qualifies for benefits that include:

- A seat at the table on regular State Government ministerial briefings, which influence and help drive new business programs and policies;
- Access to Australian and Tasmanian government support programs that include free, expert business consultants on any topic to every local business;
- Leveraging from the programs of other incorporated associations as part of the Tasmanian "Chamber Alliance", such as promotions, mobile black spot solutions, reducing red tape, and many others; and
- Automatic inclusion at no cost to services normally provided to paid members of the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, such as comprehensive legal and financial advice, resolving employment and wage issues, training, skills development, and assistance in complying with regulations.

Gordon Williams, who has a background in industry development as well as the growth of the Northern Midlands Business Association, has been commissioned by the Councils to act as Executive Officer to establish the local association and work with its Board.

To be successful, the business association will need a diverse, representative Board of Management, which will meet monthly to chart the Association's direction and measure its progress.

All businesses will be invited to upcoming forums to put their views forward on key aspects of the proposed association, including nominations for the initial "Establishment Board of Management".

In the meantime, if you are passionate about boosting business success and employment in our region, or are interested in nominating to join the Board, please contact gordon.williams@latrobe.tas.gov.au to find out more.

YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor Peter FRESHNEY 0417 287 006
D/Mayor Graeme BROWN...0417 598 116
Shayne (Cush) ALLISON 0409 792 648
Michael McLAREN 6426 2777
Vonette MEAD 0407 055 180
Sommer METSKE 0409 622 710
Garry SIMS 0419 139 053
Gerrad WICKS.....0488 325 590
Lesley YOUNG.....0419 326 250

TARLETON ROAD UPGRADE

An upgrade to approximately 1.2km of Tarleton Road from Mersey Main Road to Coal Mines Road continues with works expected to be completed mid-year. This completion timeframe is highly subjective to weather and ground conditions to the point where the resurfacing may be held until ground temperatures increase.

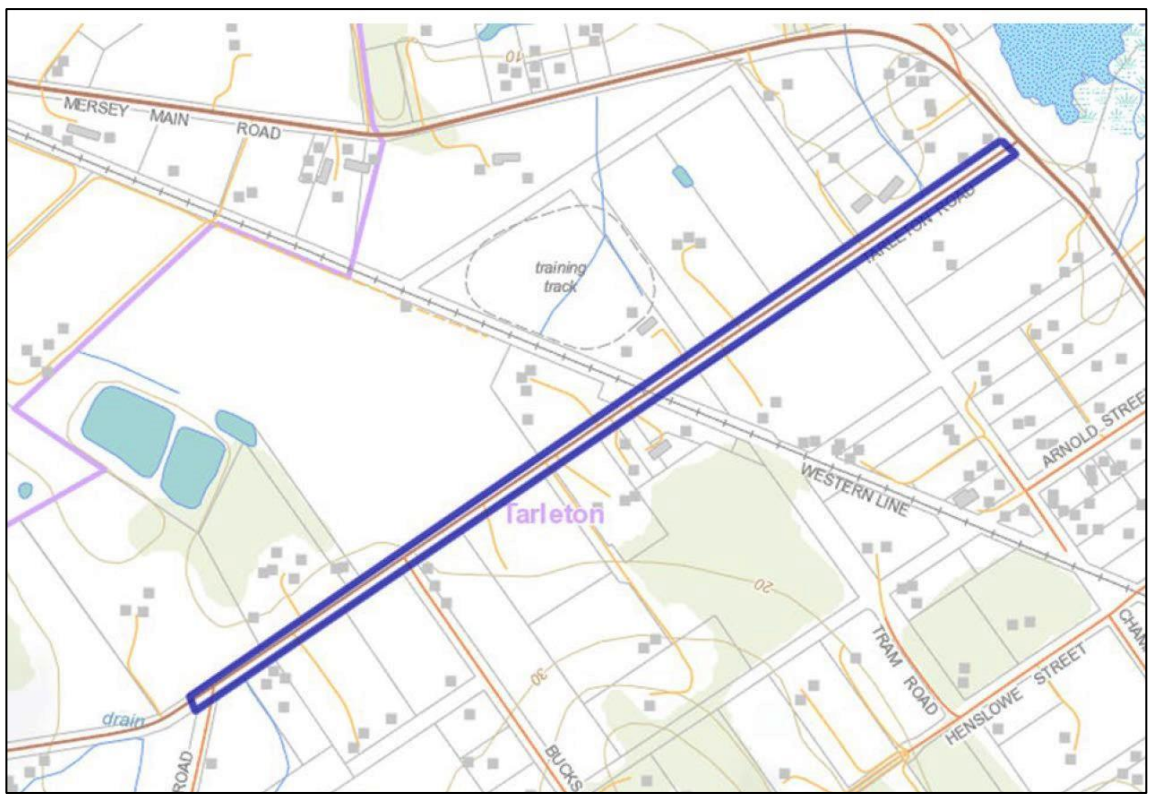
This section of Tarleton Road required pavement repairs and strengthening. It was also identified as a strategic link for widening to increase the separation between users and the roadside drains.

The road surface is being raised on average by 100mm, the pavement widened by around 1.0m and sealed to a width of 6.8m to allow incorporation of white edge lines.

The drains are being relocated closer to boundaries and reduced in depth were practical, roadside vegetation will be removed, existing pavement failures repaired and under capacity culverts replaced.

A concrete footpath is to be constructed next to the boundary on the southern side of the road but remains subject to TasRail approval to cross the rail corridor.

The project has been contracted to Walters Contracting.



DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING

The second course of Dog Obedience Training this year commences on 2 May. Over 6-weeks, participants and their dogs will develop trust and improve their understanding and expectations of each other.

Costs are kept low thanks to the volunteering of Brian Patrick and is an encouragement to broad participation.

If this relationship building with your dog is of interest to you, further courses will be held from August 15 or October 17.

For full details, go to www.latrobe.tas.gov.au/services/animalcontrol

HAWLEY ESPLANADE SHARED PATHWAY UPDATE

Round two of community consultation on the shared pathway along Hawley Esplanade has resulted in two defined opinions -

- a shared pathway through the Hawley foreshore with minimal vegetation removal and a lowered road speed limit to 30km/hour or
- a walking track only, keeping all cyclists on the roadway but encroaching further into the foreshore with the construction of boardwalks over bays and the removal of vegetation additional to that proposed.

As with any consultation, it is all about balance. The proposal to be endorsed and presented to Latrobe Council's May meeting will be for "lycra" cyclists (is that politically correct) to remain utilising the roadway, the speed limit to reduce to 30km/hour and social cyclists and walkers utilise the shared pathway through the Hawley foreshore.

This option allows users to enjoy the vistas with minimal vegetation removal to protect the foreshore from erosion.

SOUTH ESPLANADE PLANS UNSUPPORTED

In the last newsletter, Council invited community comment on a proposal to install defined parking bays, bollards and improve parallel parking capacity on the river side of South Esplanade, including the installation of three speed humps.

17 responses were received throughout the community engagement process with a significant proportion of them not supportive of the proposal.

Respondents, especially those that live adjoining the proposed works, advised that speeding vehicles are not an issue and believe that the works would detract from the natural attraction of the area.

Council will consider this feedback at its May meeting with the following alternatives to be considered -

- reducing the scope of the project considerably and only bollard off what has been identified as readily accessible hazards to pedestrians and vehicles.
- reallocate the current budget to rectify the existing timber bollards and associated infrastructure in Park Esplanade, immediately west of South Esplanade.
- develop a shared path behind bollards, closer to the riverbank.

PRIORITY ACTIONS APPROVED FOR LANDFILL SITE

Following completion of the Detailed Site Investigation of the former Port Sorell landfill site on the corner of Alexander Street and Hawk Hill Road, Shearwater and lodgement with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Council received permission from the EPA to proceed with priority actions.

In undertaking the Detailed Site Investigation, a clear understanding of the plausible pathways and implications that the landfill may have on the surrounding area was essential.

The continuation of landfill gas and groundwater monitoring in addition to undertaking the priority actions will ultimately culminate in the remediation of the site to enable its redevelopment as a useable space, meeting community needs into the future.

Future updates will continue to be provided via this newsletter.

TANKYU TUMAS BAIBAI

(THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE)

The time has come to say thank you and goodbye to our friends from Vanuatu who are leaving Port Sorell and heading to other parts of Australia to help other growers harvest their valuable produce through the Jobs Australia Seasonal Workers program.

What a pleasure it has been to have these people at Camp Banksia and in the Port Sorell community.

From mid-January, 140 men and women have called Camp Banksia and Port Sorell their home and they have been a credit to themselves and to their small island nation.

They have treated the facilities of Camp Banksia with respect, the staff at the camp have enjoyed the banter and the relationships that have developed with all the workers, and the care and loving nature the workers have for each other and those around them is inspiring.

The local community have welcomed the workers like long lost family members and the workers have reacted positively to this. The times when calls were made to the community were greeted with immediate, long term and heart felt responses and to observe that was nothing short of amazing. To ask for warm clothes and to have clothes dropped off at Camp Banksia for the following eight weeks was truly sensation and was matched only by the smiles on the faces of the seasonal workers who were able to walk around in a warm jacket or sleep under a warm blanket (or 2).

Islanders getting lifts home from the shops; bikes been donated; people taking workers home for lunch after church; sport, sport and more sport; music, music and more music - the Port Sorell community were amazing and set an example that many have followed.

Will these seasonal workers come back to Port Sorell? That is unknown but they do want to.

For now, though, it is time to acknowledge all that these wonderful people have done for our agricultural sector and the snapshot of diversity they have given to our community and say Tankyu Tumas Baibai.

COASTAL PATHWAY INITIATES BELLS PARADE PARKRUN

It has been a long road for the Coastal Pathway since the concept was first proposed and the Councils adopted the project into their future infrastructure program.

Another big milestone on that journey has now been achieved with the completion of an additional 3.5km section linking Ambleside to Latrobe, with its official opening on 8 April.

The track offers users a safe space to travel between the Devonport and Latrobe municipalities with separation from traffic.

Meandering along the Mersey River, the construction of the rock embankment fulfills two roles -

- Supplying a platform on which to build the path in an area which otherwise would be too tight for space and
- Provide significant protection against potential future erosion of the soil embankment supporting River Road.

The rock embankment gives way to an elevated platform which leads the user into a section of tree lined, on ground pathway.

Dotted along the route are some cut stone seats to allow users to take a break and enjoy the vistas; the rocks used were uncovered during excavation and have been rescued from the rubble to be given a new lease on life.

This section of the Coastal Pathway has already seen plenty of use and will no doubt enhance physical activity for years to come.

One such exciting activity to result from the construction is the establishment of a Bells Parade parkrun.

The route is planned to commence from Bells Parade, along the coastal pathway 2.5kms before returning to Bells Parade.

A group of enthusiastic individuals are working through this process to get this started soon including seeking Foundation Funding of $7,500 which is required to access parkrun's resources, insurances, defibrillator and the like for the lifetime of the parkrun. If you would like to contribute towards this, please contact Michelle on 64264444.

A NEW DIRECTION

The Port Sorell Advisory Committee (PSAC) is a Special Committee of Latrobe Council, established under the Local Government Act 1993, to consider and make recommendations to the Council on issues relating to the good development of Port Sorell and surrounding areas. The Terms of Reference define these as including traffic management, business/commercial development, recreational facilities, foreshore and environmental matters, land use planning policy and general promotion and development of the Port Sorell area.

Historically the committee has been made up of representatives from various community groups specific to the Port Sorell area. The Port Sorell area is defined as Hawley, Shearwater, Port Sorell and Squeaking Point.

Current considerations are to re-vamp and refresh PSAC by streamlining existing representation to community individuals with expertise and skills in the fields of interest contained in the Terms of Reference; reschedule the meetings from monthly to quarterly and hold them out of business hours to attract a greater cross section of community participation.

Expressions of interest will be sought in the second half of this year for committee nominations that can enhance the objectives of PSAC in 2022.

AUSSIE BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

With the Aussie Backyard Bird Count now one of the largest citizen science projects in Australia, the data collected by citizen scientists throughout the Latrobe Council area plays a vital role in providing important information to BirdLife Australia.

Generally, more is known about threatened bird species than our common backyard birds with the Aussie Backyard Bird Count helping to fill this critical knowledge gap. It also helps raise the profile of bird species throughout Australia, highlighting their cultural and ecological importance and promoting a national passion for Australian birds.

Throughout the Latrobe Council area, 57 observers participated in the bird count, recording 4,130 individual birds and 87 bird species.

Topping the list of observed birds was the Silver Gull followed by the Common Starling, Common Blackbird, Masked Lapwing and Crested Term before a significant drop to other birds.

Both the endangered Wedge-tailed Eagle (7) and Grey Goshawk (1) were observed as well as seven of the vulnerable, White-bellied Sea-Eagle.

While data collected from the Aussie Backyard Bird Count is currently only a baseline for monitoring, results from the past five years show that Australian backyards - in all their shapes and sizes - continue to attract a range of birds, giving us hope that even as the iconic Aussie backyard shrinks, many native birds can and do remain.

The next bird count will run from 18-24 October.

COUNCIL'S WORKS REPORT

The following works are scheduled to be undertaken throughout the Latrobe Municipality during May and June:

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE TEAM

- Dumbleton Street kerb construction
- Club Drive street tree plantings
- Old Deloraine Road vegetation and road improvements
- Roadside shouldering program
- Roadside drain cleaning program
- Roadside vegetation maintenance program

TOWN SERVICES

- Shade structures in Shearwater Park and Panatana Family Park
- Council office external building repairs
- Council building maintenance program

GREEN SPACES

- Freers Beach foreshore access ramp upgrades
- Public bin replacements in major parks and CBD areas
- Shearwater Park additional park furniture
- Playground maintenance program
- Parks trees and vegetation maintenance program

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Operations Manager on 6426 4453.

AUSTRALIAN AXEMAN'S HALL OF FAME TRANSFORMED

The Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame has been transformed but don't take our word for it - go down and have a look.

After an extended hiatus for a major redevelopment, the official relaunch to the Legend's exhibition, axeman's memorabilia and stories was held on 18 April.

Talented locals Marianne Hawke and Libby Prescott have worked tirelessly with members of the Australian Axeman's Association to complete the refurbishment and have received high praise from the wood chopping community, including the Tasmanian Axeman's Association and North West Axeman's Association.

The Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame is open Tuesday to Sunday from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm or other times by appointment.

Pictured: Eight Woodchoppers posing with their axes, watched by crowd at competition, Waratah c1913-20. JH Robinson (1883-1953) photographer. Nitrate sheet film negative. Purchased, 1984. Collection: Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. Q1984.172

HYDROTHERAPY POOL LEASE REVIEWED

Council recently received a draft grant funding deed from the State Government which, once finalised, will allow the $250,000 to be paid. This money is to be used for improvement works including new pool heating, updated amenities, and other maintenance tasks associated with the former hydrotherapy pool in Latrobe.
Uniting AgeWell, the owner of the hydrotherapy pool, is working with Council to finalise the lease agreement between the parties. It is expected that this agreement will be considered by Council in the next 4-6 weeks. Upgrade works will not commence until the lease agreement has been finalised.
A challenge for Council may be the availability of tradespersons to undertake the works once they have been identified and scoped.
As this will be an additional Council operated facility, work is continuing to develop the operating model relating to management arrangements, user agreements, insurance and liability responsibilities, etc.
At this stage it is Council's intention to have the hydrotherapy pool reopen later this calendar year.

BASS HIGHWAY CORRIDOR REVIEW

In 2018, the State Government made a commitment to upgrade several State roads.
These commitments are detailed in several documents including the State Road Upgrades North West and West Coast - Building Your Future.
In relation to the Bass Highway, a few areas were identified for upgrades including the section between Deloraine and Latrobe.
The Department of State Growth is currently looking at the corridor from Launceston to Devonport. The project aims to assess the existing road corridor and develop a long-term view of potential road infrastructure upgrades and a prioritisation plan for those upgrades to meet the needs of road users into the future.
The immediate priority will be to look at the safety needs of the Deloraine to Latrobe section and identify long term opportunities for the wider section of this road corridor.
To deliver this project, the Department of State Growth has engaged Aurecon Group, who have commenced work to deliver the Corridor Strategy and Implementation Plan.
The first step in this process is to establish a Working Group of key stakeholders who will collaboratively inform the development of the strategy and project priorities by contributing to the identification of issues along the corridor and participating in the Investment Logic Mapping process. Latrobe Council has been invited to have representation on this group. Following this, broader community consultation will be undertaken.

CHECK IN APP COMPULSORY

From 1 May, the use of the Check In TAS App became compulsory in many business premises and event settings.
Up until this time, many businesses have been able to use a variety of contact tracing tools, requiring customers to download multiple Apps onto their smartphone.
Using Check In TAS allows the customer to download the App once, load their contact information then, when entering a business/event, simply scan the QR code with their smartphone camera and the deed is done.
To check whether your business or event is required to offer the Check In TAS QR code, go online to the official Tasmanian Coronavirus website at https://bit.ly/3rzdkw7
Registering a business/event for the Check In Tas App for the QR code is easily effected at https://covid19.health.tas.gov.au/check-in-tas-business-registration but can take up to five working days to receive your code.
If you don't have a smartphone, businesses will be able to check you in via the business functionality in the App.
You can find further information, and register, at www.checkin.tas.gov.au

COVID-19 VACCINE ELIGIBILITY CHECKER

As the COVID-19 vaccine rolls out, there are different phases to receiving the vaccine - Phase 1a, Phase 1b, Phase 2a and Phase 2b.
Do you know what phase are you in? You can find out by completing a short, online survey at https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility or, if you prefer not to use the online option, you can call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline on 1800 020 080.
Currently vaccinations are in Phase 1b which is for people aged 70 and over, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over the age of 55, adults with certain medical conditions, healthcare workers, and critical high-risk workers.
It's important to note that not all general practices have chosen to deliver the vaccine at this stage and supplies are limited to those practices that are providing this service.
If your own general practice is delivering the vaccine and you're eligible under Phase 1b, it's likely that they will get in direct contact with you. Please don't call them to make an appointment if you're not eligible under Phase 1b - general practices have been inundated with vaccination inquiries which can make it difficult for sick patients to get through to them.
If you are eligible under Phase 1b and your regular general practice isn't providing the vaccine, you could consider making an appointment at a Tasmanian Government community clinic or Australian Government-funded respiratory clinic.
Appointments at these clinics will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. They can be made via the Vaccine Eligibility Checker or vaccination helpline mentioned above.

LATROBE SETS HIGHEST POPULATION GROWTH ON THE COAST

The Australian Bureau of Statistics recently released its annual Regional Population projects for 2019-20, revealing that the Latrobe Municipality had the second highest estimated population growth (2.8%) of Local Government areas in Tasmania over this period, just slightly behind the Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council (3.2%). This was well over double that of other North West councils and significantly exceeds the state average of 1.2%.
The Kentish Council, whom Latrobe Council has a resource sharing relationship with, recorded the second highest percentage growth (1.2%) of Councils in the North West and is on par with the State average.
On the Statistical Area Level 2 population data for the North West Coast, Latrobe and Turners Beach-Forth equalled each other with 3.1% growth with Port Sorell achieving 2.7% growth. This was closely followed by Penguin-Sulphur Creek at 2.6%.
While the actual number of people differentiates significantly between small and large communities to determine the percentage, the increase maintains the Latrobe Municipality's continued growth which has been sustained over many years.
This growth adds to the demand on Local Government to continue to supply services and infrastructure to maintain and enhance the lifestyle that residents are attracted to.
Latrobe Council continues to work through its budget process to appropriately fund such activities while balancing maintenance requirements on existing facilities and program provision.
The budget is scheduled to be adopted at the June Council meeting.

SUICIDE PREVENTION AND SELF-CARE TRAINING

With a growing prevalence of mental health issues and long lead in time for professional services, CORES (Community Response to Eliminating Suicide) is offering **free** training to provide the skills and resources to individuals when experiencing poor mental health and also the broader community so they can recognise the signs of someone in need and be able to support them.
If you are finding yourself challenged to move through worrying thoughts, are interested in how to identify personal signs of stress and develop simple strategies to manage your stress levels on an everyday basis, the **Self-Care and Mental Wellbeing** workshop on 17 June (from 6:00pm until 8:00pm) may benefit you.
If you are worried about a friend, family member or work colleague who may potentially be at risk of suicide and would like to have the ability to identify and respond to their concerns while increasing your awareness and how to access appropriate services then the **Suicide Prevention Training** on 25 June or 10 September (from 9:00am until 4:30pm) may suit.
All sessions are being held in the Supper Room of the Sheffield Town Hall, 66 High Street, Sheffield with bookings required.
Want to know more, email Natalie at admin@kentishrc.com.au

CHILDLESS PERSON FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Over the past months, with a new future ahead, new resident Robyne Le Roi has felt very alone. Being without a family, on her own, has had its challenges.
While people in her life are good intentioned, they are unable to understand her life without children.
Now, as she turns a page and moves forward, she is seeking to start a friendship group of ladies who travel this life's journey without children.
Thirty years ago, Ms Le Roi formed a support group on the mainland, where she enjoyed sharing a social life with other childless and courageous girls and she is now seeking to do the same here.
"Let's connect and have some fun and make new memories.
Support has never been offered to me, so let's enjoy a social life together.
We could cook and eat a meal together; visit markets and Op shops; go to the theatre, movies and have a coffee and chat after; enjoy a crafting day and explore our skills or whatever takes our fancy - we are free to do, enjoy and share," she said.
Does this interest you? If so, please phone Ms Le Roi on 0472 770 932.

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES COLLABORATIVELY

The Tasmanian Collaboration for Health Improvement (TCHI) is pursuing improvements to health and wellbeing outcomes for all Tasmanians through a shared translational research agenda that informs the development and delivery of a well-integrated, people-centred and effective health system.
Their translational research agenda is about identifying the research needs that are important to Tasmanians, and ensuring the outcomes are translated into policy and/or practice change; and deliver tangible improvements in population wide.
To achieve this, they are accessing the collective knowledge, expertise, capability and resources of 62 health sector and community organisations involved in addressing the health and healthcare issues facing our community.
To find out more, go to www.tchi.org.au

FUNDRAISING FOR MOBILITY ACCESSIBLE BUS

OneCare Rubicon Grove is a local non-profit aged care facility in Port Sorell, offering a homely and welcoming atmosphere. Rubicon's leisure and lifestyle teams take great pride in assisting their residents in a variety of friendly, accessible, and exciting social experiences.
A big part of this is taking their residents on bus excursions exploring the wonders of the local area!
In recent months they have taken trips to Costa's Berry Farm, Deloraine Folk Museum and Altona Gardens, amongst many others.
As a non-profit, Rubicon Grove relies on generous support from the local community.

They are currently attempting to raise $60,000 for a new Toyota HiAce bus, with a wheelchair lift fitted. This new vehicle would enable the facility to assist residents who cannot manage the steps to get onto the current bus, increasing the accessibility of these excursions for residents who have greater mobility restrictions.
If you would be interested in supporting this fundraising effort, please phone Rubicon Grove on 6427 5700.

GLOBAL REPORT ON AGEING RELEASED

The WHO (World Health Organisation) global report on ageism has been released, highlighting the prevalence of ageism globally and makes key recommendations for how to work together to combat it.
The report finds that 1 in 2 people worldwide are ageist against older people and that this impacts on older people's life span, income, poorer physical and mental health, slower recovery from disability and cognitive decline.
"This report also shows just how pervasive ageism is in our society. We see it in our workplaces, in our health care system and of course we've seen it rife throughout the covid-19 pandemic," said Ian Yates, Chief Executive of COTA Australia.
"When older people are undervalued, we all miss out, as individuals, as communities, and as an economy. The hidden costs of ageism and age discrimination in employment, health care and other areas is enormous, and the WHO report calls for more research, education and legislation to understand and combat this scourge".
COTA is a leading member of the Every Age Counts Coalition, a national campaign which aims to tackle ageism against older people in Australia, which the is praised by the WHO report.
To read the report, or access resources and the Global Campaign to End Ageism Toolkit, go to: https://bit.ly/3wdtGht

SUPPORTING RECOVERY THROUGH NATURE

A plan to restore landscapes and support regional economic recovery is being pursued for the North West in a partnership between Landcare Tasmania and the Cradle Coast Authority*.
Through this program, large-scale investment in practical conservation and land management work is expected to provide jobs for thousands of people in regional communities hard hit by COVID.
More than 100 conservation, farming and land management organisations have come together nationally to support this plan that will provide a pathway from welfare to work for thousands of people while simultaneously restoring Australia's landscapes and support regional economic recovery.
Government investment in 'Working for Nature' supports practical conservation and land management activities like tree planting, weed management, soil erosion control, bushfire recovery, restoration of bushland, rivers and creeks, feral animal control and restoration of coastal and marine habitats.
To find out more, go to www.workingwithnature.org.au

* The Cradle Coast Authority is jointly owned by the nine Councils of western and north-western Tasmania, to help them achieve regional outcomes and maintain strong local government, by working together.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES REVEALED IN STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

Premier Gutwein recently provided the State of the State Address with significant recommendations and activities stemming from this announcement. A brief run down on these actions and funding programs include -

JOBS AND EDUCATION

1. Local Jobs Networks Jobs Tasmania - $20.5m allocated to the package that includes:
   1.1. New Jobs and Participation Unit in Skills Tasmania to oversee the Jobs Tasmania local networks
   1.2. $2m job ready fund to help job seekers gain essential tools to get a job such as White Card, PPE, Equipment, WWVP checks
   1.3. Area Connect Service expansion from six regions to 16 regions ($3.2m)
   1.4. Worker Connect Portal ($400k) for Tasmanian businesses and job seekers to share and access information including support services, programs and local jobs
   1.5. Regional Jobs Show and Events program ($200k) to showcase local and industry opportunities for employment in partnership with local jobs hubs and community
   1.6. Expansion of the Job Matching service ($2.4m) to match local employers and suitable job seekers
   1.7. Tasmanian Employer Bonus ($6.5m) incentivising employers to take on a long term unemployed person with experience and skills $6,500 per employer
2. $300m to fund an additional 600 training places in Certificate III in Individual Support
3. Extension of Skill Up initiative for a further 12 months ($1m) provide free training for those most impacted by COVID-19 to upskill or retrain
4. Youth Navigators project ($850k). A youth employment alliance formed between community organisations to deliver triaged services tailored to young people to support them entering the jobs market.
5. TasTAFE – review and restructure to better meet industry needs and to become an organisation more reflective of business not a school (recommendation to make TasTAFE an independent government business)

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT:

1. $41.2m over four years to fully fund phases one and two of the Government's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
2. An extra 80 FTE professional support staff, including school psychologists, social workers, nurses, speech and language pathologists to support children and young people impacted by trauma

EVENTS AND TOURISM:

1. $1.5m for a Regional Events Recovery Fund to support organisers to undertake activities that contribute to the sustainability of these rich events in regional areas, including additional funding for arts and performance organisations
2. $8m in innovation and development grants to continue to enhance Tasmania's world-class experience reputation, and a further $500k to extend the business planning support program.
3. $4m in direct financial support to tourism and hospitality businesses identified as critical to regional visitor attraction that remain in acute financial stress
4. Tourism Tasmania will invest $3.5m to deliver our most aggressive winter season campaign ever.

A further program relating to economic development included the Building Construction Support Loan Scheme to provide loan finance to support paused commercial scale building and construction projects. Projects of $3m+ will be able to apply for low-interest commercial loans through the Office of the Coordinator General:

HOUSING SUPPORT INCLUDED:

1. $10m headworks holiday for new residential subdivisions - $5,000 per residential lot for power, and up to $5,000 per residential lot delivered for water and sewerage infrastructure
2. Finalise an Apartment Code to establish appropriate Permitted and Discretionary assessment pathways for medium-density residential development
3. 250 new ancillary dwellings that are made available for long-term rental for more than two years will receive a $10,000 payment
4. Funding will be increased by up to another $10m, meaning at least another 100 households can realise the dream of home ownership through the HomeShare scheme
5. Reset the land tax thresholds to reflect today's strong property market

Finally, a review into **DIGITAL COVERAGE** gaps will be undertaken to identify future investment priorities (and future budget commitments).

CONTAINER REFUND SCHEME ENDORSED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Government has welcomed the State Government's preference for a split responsibility model for Tasmania's Container Refund Scheme.

Mr Dion Lester, CEO of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) recently stated that a "Container Refund Scheme is an essential part of a good waste management system and LGAT welcomes the recent State Government announcement of a split responsibility model for Tasmania's Container Refund scheme, as this is something LGAT have been recommending for some time.

A split-responsibility model, like what exists in NSW, will make it easier for community members to return their containers and receive their refund rather than the alternative model that the beverage industry (under the guise of TASRecycle) is arguing for. Under a split responsibility model, the Tasmanian Government will separately tender the scheme coordination and network operator roles. Whereas with the alternative, which is the scheme in place in Queensland and WA, responsibility for running the scheme and operating the collection network is undertaken by a single entity.

This difference is important because in most jurisdictions it is the beverage producers who run the scheme and they are far less motivated to achieve high rates of return. For every container that is not returned these companies retain the 10 cents that the consumer has already paid when purchasing the drink.

It is also not true to assert that the alternative model is better for charities either. For instance, Vinnies in NSW operate six large scale automated depots channelling significant profits back into their operations. Hoxton industries (a disability social enterprise) similarly run several facilities. Since the start of the NSW scheme over $18m has been returned to charities in donations and recycling fees.

By separating running the scheme from the network the State Government can guarantee consumer convenience and therefore high rates of container return.

Importantly, for councils, the expected reduction in container litter from a container refund scheme not only removes the burden of plastics in the environment, but it also increases recycling rates, maximising the environmental and community benefits of the scheme."

GUIDE DOGS CAN GO ANYWHERE

Over the past month, Guide Dogs Tasmania has been raising awareness of the access laws and discrimination that Guide Dogs and their handlers face across the state.

Just as hearing aids, wheelchairs and crutches enable people to live healthy, productive, independent, and dignified lives, Guide Dogs do the very same thing. Guide Dog are working animals that are trained to help people who are blind or have low vision navigate their world safely, and independently. From eight weeks of age, the dogs in the training program are socialised in public areas. They are quiet, well-behaved, non-aggressive and completely clean.

When you see a Guide Dog in harness, or wearing an orange training coat, please remember they are legally allowed access to go everywhere their handler does. A Guide Dog has full public access rights in accordance with the Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs Act, 1967.

Living in a supportive and inclusive community is essential for our quality of life and wellbeing. Let's make sure everybody has the same opportunities to participate in every aspect of life to the best of their abilities.

Please remember that Guide Dogs can go anywhere.

For more information, visit guidedogstas.com.au

2021 CENSUS

Australia's next national Census will be held on Tuesday, 10 August.

The Census is a snapshot of who we are and tells the story of how we are changing. It's used to inform many things, from planning schools, healthcare and roads to local services for individuals, families and communities.

Your participation is important. The Census provides data on important topics such as populations, rents, mortgages, incomes, religion, languages, housing and more. It helps governments, businesses, researchers, not for profit and community organisations make informed decisions. For example:

- the Royal Flying Doctor Service uses Census population data to determine what health services are required in rural and remote areas
- the Council of the Ageing (COTA) uses Census data to help understand issues affecting older Australians
- Crime Stoppers uses Census data to deliver prevention campaigns that help keep communities safe

These services help develop enterprise, support towns and contribute to the economic growth of metro and rural regions.

HIDDEN FEATURES IN ART

Jill Crompton, originally from London, is this month's feature artist at The Crowded Lounge, 129 Gilbert Street, Latrobe.

Jill works in oils and resin with her paintings being more than just landscapes or portraits, they feature many other hidden items and figures within them for viewers to seek out.

Jayde Cannell, a young emerging artist that focusses on photographing landscapes, flora and fauna is the guest artist for June.

Weekly after school art classes for children continue to be held on Mondays (10yrs+) and Tuesdays (7yrs+), from 3:30pm until 4:30pm. The cost is $15 and includes a drink and materials. Bookings are essential by phoning Stef (0488 667 206).

Beginners art classes are held each Thursdays from 10:30am until 12:30pm and cost $25, includes materials. Bookings are essential by phoning Michelle (0459 239 192).

While The Crowded Lounge has decided to close on a Saturday, they are now open earlier and later every other day and remind customers that an all-day Makers Market is held on site each Sunday. They also now offer options for in-house business/community meetings.

LIBRARY FOR ALL AGES

The Latrobe Library in Gilbert Street, Latrobe is a library for all ages. All season long it's there to connect you to books, events and information technology (IT) classes across all Libraries Tasmania sites, computer/technical assistance with inhouse volunteers or just come inside to read, study, meet friends and relax.

Give Devonport Library's Facebook page a 'like' to be the first to receive updates on what's coming up in the area or grab the latest copy of "What's On" from the Latrobe Library.

Would you like help getting online safely or learning how to use your smartphone, tablet or laptop? You can register for a free, small group session or 1:1 appointment with volunteers in the Latrobe Library Computer Hub.

Latrobe Library has a range of resources to suit all. Books, DVD'S, CD'S, graphic novels and audiobooks are all available. Staff can assist with recommendations or place holds on items at other libraries to come to Latrobe for collection.

Trained literacy volunteers are available to help adults with spelling, reading, writing and maths or to learn the road rules to pass the L1 Driver Knowledge Test for car, motorcycle, or heavy vehicle.

If English is your second language, the Latrobe Library can help you learn to communicate easier with others through free weekly sessions, in a small group setting, with volunteers to help with conversational skills, building confidence and meet new people.

Please contact Kerrie (6478 4237) or ask at the library desk for more information.

The opening hours for the Latrobe Library and its Computer Hub are from 1:00pm until 5:00pm every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

CONNECTIONS ACROSS GENERATIONS

The Latrobe High Learning for Life Program and the Latrobe Senior Citizens Club have joined forces this year to tackle a wide range of issues.

Funded by the Mental Health Council of Tasmania and the #check in program, some fantastic weekly activities have commenced including shared cooking experiences where recipes and the making of traditional tomato sauce and amazing caramel mushrooms were shared.

The groups have also worked together to colour and shave hair to raise funds for the World's Greatest Shave.

In coming weeks, they will begin a program where young people will support the education of the senior citizens with social media and video calling and create a 'Pen Pal' program.

Extending into the wider community, Latrobe High School students will soon begin to meet and greet with individual members of the community to interview and record personal local histories.

The school thanks the Latrobe Senior Citizens members for working with them and lookS forward to continuing and developing this program.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Fallen leaves, cold nights and an urge to tidy the garden signal the arrival of May. Put in unplanted spring-flowering bulbs into the ground or large pots to grow while you are waiting for the bulbs to shoot.

WHAT TO SOW AND PLANT IN MAY:

ORNAMENTALS: Camellias (pots), carnation, cineraria (seedlings), cornflower (seedlings), chrysanthemum (pots), cyclamen (potted plants), daffodil (bulb), deciduous trees (bare-rooted or pots), delphinium (seedlings), English daisy, echinacea, forget-me-not, freesia (bulb), hollyhock (seedlings), hyacinth (bulb), Iceland poppy (seedlings), jonquil (bulb), lobelia (seedlings), pansy (seedlings), polyanthus, primula, rose (bare-rooted stock), tulip (bulb), viola (seedlings), wallflower (seedlings)

PLANT: Broccoli, early potatoes, broad beans, garlic, spring and salad onions, Japanese turnip and winter lettuce.

SOW: Broad beans, English spinach, Asian brassicas and root crops, spring and salad onions, shallots, chives and green manure crops.

In June, bare-rooted fruit trees are available for planting. Many fruit trees need cross-pollination for successful cropping so plant the necessary pollinator or buy a plant that has been multigrafted with a pollinator. If harvests have been low on existing fruit trees in the orchard, fruit set may be improved by planting a pollinating variety.

WHAT TO SOW AND PLANT IN JUNE:

ORNAMENTALS: Camellias (pots), carnation (seedlings),

chrysanthemum (pots), cineraria (seedlings), cornflower (seedlings), cyclamen (potted plants), daphne (pots), deciduous trees (bare-rooted or pots), delphinium (seedlings), echinacea, forget-me-not, freesia (bulb), hellebore (pots), hollyhock (seedlings), hyacinth (bulb), Iceland poppy (seedlings), Italian lavender (pots), lilium (bulbs), lobelia (seedlings), pansy (seedlings), polyanthus (seedlings), poppy, primula (seedlings), rose (bare-rooted), viola (seedlings), wallflower (seedlings)

PLANT: Asparagus crowns, early potatoes, rhubarb divisions, Jerusalem artichokes, globe artichoke suckers, potato onions, chives, shallots and garlic cloves

SOW: Long-keeping, salad and spring onions, broad beans and English spinach. In containers under glass or indoors sow seed of cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli to raise seedlings for August planting

BE THE CHANGE

You may not think who you bank with matters but it does. For customers of the Port Sorell District Community Bank, their banking is making a real difference. Over $100,000 has been distributed to the community with sponsorships, since opening 6 years ago. Customers are helping to change lives, and save lives, simply by banking with them every day e.g. home loans are helping to provide lifesaving equipment for all the local fire brigades and first response agencies; defibrillators are placed strategically around the community; equipment is being provided to schools and sporting clubs e.g. Latrobe Football Club and Port Sorell Bowls Club. Personal loans, business banking, insurances and credit cards are funding rescue boats as well as State representatives.

Everyday banking is providing all this and more with $250m returned to communities and initiatives Australia wide.

You need a bank to give you the products and services you need and the Port Sorell District Community Bank needs your banking to help them make a difference. A win for you and a win for the community bank.

For assistance with your financial needs, call Janet Edmunds (6428 6280), visit the Latrobe agency or the Port Sorell Branch in Shearwater.

SMALL BUSINESS DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

Switch Tasmania offers Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) in the digital solutions space and are currently offering a free sign up.

If you need help getting your business online, to build a website, create a social media presence or better understand all the free online marketing tools, then you need the help of Switch Tasmania.

To join the ASBAS Digital Solutions program, you only need to be a small business (less than 20 people), have an ABN and be a for profit business.

Business owners will have access to 1:1 digital mentoring services, workshops, and their own self-paced online learning. This allows working individuals or small business the space to grow and develop their entrepreneurial dream and vision.

To access this program, contact Switch Tasmania on 6408 7005

LATROBE CHAT AND CHOOSE

Latrobe Chat n Choose is held at the Latrobe Baptist Hall, behind the Church, 125 Gilbert Street, Latrobe, every Wednesday during May and June from 10:00am until 12noon.

15 craft tables offer activities including hardanger, knitting, crochet, quilting, a conversation table, zentangling, smocking, macrame and wood turning. Other crafters are welcome to join a table.

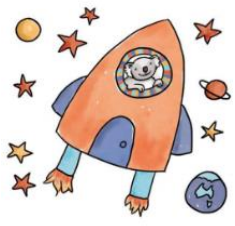
A trade table also has plenty to offer.

The cost is just $2 which includes morning tea. For more information, phone Lorraine (0401 266 302) or Nelleka (0405 464 023).

LAUNCH INTO LEARNING

Latrobe Primary School have lots of activities happening this year!

Launching into Learning (LiL) is about meeting and connecting families in the community with their beautiful local school before Kindergarten.



Their programs include Little People Move and Play which is all about gross motor development and learning through play. Their physical education teacher runs an active Gross Motor session in the school hall where children have opportunities to engage in activities that may include climbing, balance, ball skills and coordination. Running alongside this is a quieter play space for activities such as playdough, puzzles, sensory fun and art and craft.

Little People Read and Rhyme is a drop-in session where you can borrow a book and enjoy time in the school library space reading with your child. There is also a small group play time with Jo which may suit some families better.

Latrobe Primary School have great connections with other services in the community which they can help families link into if needed.

The LiL teachers this year are Rae Bakker, Sally Jackson and Jo Rann and they look forward to seeing you soon.

More information can be found on the Latrobe Primary Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/LatrobePrimary/

AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

The Rubicon Grove Auxiliary remains active in the community, recently partnering with the Lions Club of Port Sorell and hosting a bric-a-brac sale at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall. The proceeds raised enable the group to continue to support residents of One Care's Rubicon Grove home for the aged.

The group extend a special thank you to Costa for supplying a vermin proof enclosure at the home. This will undoubtedly encourage residents to continue their physical exercise around the home while reducing their contact with animal droppings, which was prevalent given the nearby bushland.

The auxiliary will hold a light luncheon on 16 June at 12 noon at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall, complete with a trade table. Special Guest will be author Ester Campion who will chat about her latest book titled "A Week to Remember". To book your attendance, please phone 0408 637 019 or 0419 352 359.

All Executive members were re-elected at the recent Annual General Meeting: President Sharron Martin, Vice-President Bridget Cole, Secretary Elaine Bramich and Treasurer Deidre Merrick.

The next general meeting of the auxiliary is scheduled for 19 May at 1:00pm at Rubicon Grove. New members are welcome with attendee registration essential via the number above.

NEW ANGLICAN MINISTER

A new Anglican Rector has been welcomed by the Parish of Bridge of Hope - Rev. David Rogers-Smith.

Rev. Rogers-Smith, his wife Julie and their daughter Gabbie, have moved from Queensland where Rev. Rogers-Smith was Regional Director for the Bush Church Aid Society QLD/NSW.

Previously working in Tasmania in the Parishes of Dorset and Riverlinks, Rev. Rogers-Smith is an experienced Bible teacher and leader and the church is looking forward to fruitful ministry under his leadership.

Rev. Rogers-Smith loves are Jesus, the Bible, his family and church family, his Rhodesian Ridgeback, the beach, and riding his Yamaha V-Star 650cc cruiser.

This is an exciting development for the Parish which has been without a minister for a few years.

Rev. Rogers-Smith is currently leading services and preaching every Sunday in the Community Room at Rubicon Grove, 89 Club Drive, Port Sorell at 9:30am and at St. Luke's, cnr Hamilton and Cotton Streets, Latrobe at 11:00am with a monthly service held at Newground.

Visitors and new members are warmly welcomed at all services where the best news is shared and God's amazing love is given.

SHEDDERS WELCOME INTEREST

The Latrobe Men's Shed meets every Friday from 9:00am at the shed in Kings Lane, Latrobe, concluding with a BBQ at 12 noon.

Up to 20 men each week are engaged in a variety of community projects with morning tea and a 'toolbox' meeting at 10:00am.

Men of all ages are welcome to come along, even if it's just for a chat.

If you want to try your hand at your own project, members are willing to share their lifetime of skills as you develop your confidence with construction.

For more information, phone Peter (0409 978 514) or Ralph (0405 464 023).

PRE-SCHOOLER PLAYGROUP

The Latrobe Playgroup for children up to 4 years of age and their carers gather at the Latrobe Baptist Church Hall, 125 Gilbert Street, Latrobe at 10:00am every Friday during school terms.

There are a large variety of toys, bikes and games available to play with, story time and singing are at 11:40am.

If you are new to the community, a new parent/carer or simply seeking the support of other pre-school parents/carers, you would be made to feel most welcome.

Just turn up or phone Lorraine (0401 266 302) or Nelleka (0405 464 023) for more information.

ART WORKSHOPS LOCKED IN

The Rubicon River Arts - Latrobe Arts Hub operates out of 21 George St, Latrobe, behind the Latrobe Memorial Hall.

The group have finalised workshops for the next few months and the exhibition of members' artwork and craft.

They are pleased to offer three workshops to members and non-members throughout May -"Upright Birds" or "Nesting Birds" Ceramic Bird Workshops with Eve Howard; Spinning Workshop with Rasa and Colour Therapy with Richard Klekociuk. Full details are included in the What's On calendar in this publication.

Future events will be published on the Rubicon River Arts Inc Facebook page so don't forget to check it regularly.

New members are warmly welcomed, whether an interested person, beginner, or experienced artist/crafts person, with skills to learn or share. Currents members' interests include poetry, singing, the visual arts - painting, drawing, printmaking, fibre-arts, jewellery, sculpture, ceramics, and arts administration. Members live not only in the Latrobe Municipality with the furthest member being from Dunorlan.

RRA Inc meetings are held at the Latrobe Arts Hub from 10:00am until 12 noon on 1 May, 3 July, 4 September and 6 November where the business of the group will be discussed, and members' works shared.

HISTORY IN THE FAMILY

The Mersey Branch of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc is one of five branches of the Society. Formed in the early 1980's, the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc Mersey Branch has been resident in Latrobe for over 10 years. The society is a not-for-profit organisation, relying on membership and donations to exist.

Manned by volunteers who have a love of family history, the aim of the group is to help people find their family history as well as record and preserve documents.

At the Mersey branch, they are involved with the ongoing projects of compiling and publishing cemetery headstones and monuments as well as burials and maps, local and elsewhere. Members also index death notices from early to current Tasmanian newspapers.

Their book collection numbers in the hundreds and range from family histories to histories of small and large early settlements, military records, education, and religion. Many of these books are now out of print but they remain available for members and visitors.

Assistants have a wealth of knowledge and are only too happy to help start people on their family history journey and or help 'break down that brick wall' that some have reached.

So, if you would like an inside hobby (Winter is coming) whether you are computer friendly or not, come and see what is available at the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc Mersey branch at the back of the State library Latrobe, Gilbert Street, Latrobe on Fridays from 10:00am - 3:00pm or give Sue Ellen a call 6428 6328 or Ros 6491 1141.

NEW SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Over the past month, members of the Mersey Valley Ladies Probus Club have enjoyed a luncheon at the Arboretum; learnt how to play Finska which is a game of skill involving throwing a small ball and knocking over a wooden peg; learnt about life growing up in South Africa and joined with the Central Coast Probus Club for their annual barbecue "Meet and Greet" followed by a game of Petanque.

The club meet monthly on the 4th Monday, from 10:00am, at Hamilton Hub, 18 Hamilton Street, Latrobe and invite ladies to join them for friendship and fun.

If you would like to know more, please phone 0438 688 771.

MULLED WINE IN MAY RETURNS

With the staging of the Port Sorell ANZAC Day Service behind them, the Lions Club of Port Sorell is once again ramping up to host Mulled Wine in May on 29 May, this time at Shearwater Resort. A committee of dedicated volunteers have been working with the management of Shearwater Resort to make this event another roaring success which will feature mulled wine, food, live music and fun. Admission will be by donation with the event open from 5:30pm and continuing until late the evening.

DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS

The Rotary Club of Latrobe Inc continues to forge its way through the COVID-19 landscape with RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment), a weekend long leadership camp. Open to selected Grade 10 students, RYPEN camps develop participants culturally, socially and academically, providing the inner foundations for a strong future.

A similar experience but for an older age group (18-30-year-olds) is RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) where participants, nominated by a Rotary Club, participate in innovative leadership development and vocational training to help them reach their potential. If you would like to nominate for participation, please contact the Rotary Club of Latrobe at http://www.rcol.org.au/contact-us/

The Rotary Club of Latrobe recently hosted a farewell and thank you BBQ for 170 fruit pickers at the Banksia Centre in Port Sorell. These workers had responded to the call for pickers to help harvest crops throughout the Latrobe Council Area, via Jobs Australia, with their commitment coming to a seasonal end. The function included a barbecue meal, after which the Tongans displayed their exuberant dancing and singing skills, inviting attendees from Rotary, Costa Group, Jobs Australia, local farmers and Latrobe Council to join them.

In other news, a dedication seat has been approved for placement at the Pitcairn Street entry to the Pitcairn Bush Reserve and the club is in the process of planning another Car Boot Sale and a Trivia Night. Members continue to fundraise via a Bunnings, Devonport barbecue and encourage you to support them on 29 May and 10 July.

Finally, the club is investigating hosting another Latrobe Community Connection event where community groups/ organisations have a booth where residents can visit and become aware of what is available for them to participate in.

COMING EVENTS

COVID-19 safe requirements continue to be in effect. When attending an event, please register as per the requirements offered by the organising body and maintain 1.5m physical distancing between non-same household people. This will assist in events continuing to be held for your enjoyment, and coordinating groups not receiving a hefty fine for any non-compliance.

MAY

8 **High Tea** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell from 1:30pm. Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

9 **A Mother Only High Tea Special** at The Crowded Lounge, 129 Gilbert Street, Latrobe. Cost: $10 per mother. Bookings essential - 0475 406 280

10 **Latrobe Council Meeting** at the Latrobe Council Chambers, 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00pm. To comply with COVID-19 requirements, persons considering attending must RSVP to Council by phoning 6426 4444. Public participation is offered at the commencement of the meeting.

13 **Tarleton Community Information Evening** at the Latrobe Memorial Hall from 7:00pm where location specific activities will be discussed. Registrations essential to 6426 4444.

15 **"Upright Birds" Ceramic Bird Workshop** with Eve Howard at the Latrobe Visitor Information Centre and Arts Hub, 21 George St, Latrobe from 9:00am until 4:30 pm. Participants will create an owl, penguin or bird of prey. Cost: $125 (members) or $130 (non-members). Registrations are essential to Bronwyn (email gard1234@bigpond.net.au) with full payment details and any special requirements

16 **"Nesting Birds" Ceramic Bird Workshop** with Eve Howard. Location, cost and bookings details as per previous event listing.

16 **Rock painting workshop** with Ros Barnett at The Crowded Lounge, 129 Gilbert Street, Latrobe. Cost: $20pp. Bookings essential - 0448 316 618

16 **High Tea** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell from 1:30pm. Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

22 **Spinning workshop** with Rasa from 10:00am until 2:00pm. Cost is $20 (members) or $30 (non-members) with bookings direct to Rasa (email rasa.dunlop@gmail.com).

23 **High Tea** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell. from 1:30pm Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

28 **Soup and Sandwich Luncheon** in aid of the Royal Flying Doctor Service at the Latrobe Bowls and Community Club Inc, Victor Street, Latrobe from 12noon until 2:00pm. Cost: $10pp. Bookings essential to Lorraine (6426 1499)

29 **CWA Tas Handcraft and Home Industries Exhibition** at Hamilton Hub, 18 Hamilton Street, Latrobe from 9:00am until 3:00pm. Free entry.

29 **Colour Therapy with Richard Klekociuk** using coloured pencils from 9:15am until 3:30pm. Cost is $115 (member) or $135 (non-member) and bookings should be made direct to Richard (email artkleko@gmail.com)

29 **Mulled Wine in May** at Shearwater Resort from 5:30pm. Donation admission. Refer to separate article.

30 **North West Zone Dressage Competition** at the Thirlstane Golf Club grounds, 291 Squeaking Point Road, Thirlstane from 9:00am until 3:00 pm. Free spectator entry. For more information, phone 0408 144 569

JUNE

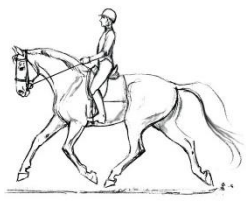
6 **Soup, Bread, Red and Carvery** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell from 12:30pm. Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

7 **Latrobe Council Meeting** at the Latrobe Council Chambers, 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00pm. To comply with COVID-19 requirements, persons considering attending must RSVP to Council by phoning 6426 4444. Public participation is offered at the commencement of the meeting.

16 **Luncheon** at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall from 12 noon as a Rubicon Grove fundraiser. Guest speaker Ester Campion. Trade table also. Bookings to 0408 637 019 or 0419 352 359

20 **Soup, Bread, Red and Carvery** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell from 12:30pm. Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

27 **North West Zone Dressage Competition** at the Thirlstane Golf Club grounds, 291 Squeaking Point Road, Thirlstane from 9:00am until 3:00 pm. Free spectator entry. For more information, phone 0408 144 569



27 **Soup, Bread, Red and Carvery** at Tranquilles, 9 Gumbowie Drive, Port Sorell from 12:30pm. Cost: $40 per person. Bookings to 6428 7555 or 0415 723 874

PORT SORELL CARAVAN PARK UPDATE

Following the receipt of a $2.5m loan through the Tasmanian Government Local Government Loan Scheme, the Port Sorell Caravan Park redevelopment commenced in February. To continue to provide a functional caravan park throughout the redevelopment, and especially over Easter and the peak camping periods, the project is being undertaken in stages.

Stage 1 included the construction of new amenities and laundry facilities (pictured). This part of the project is scheduled to be completed in May.

As with any redevelopment, 'what was' will not be 'what is' at the project's conclusion. This specifically relates to the total number of sites.

While there will be a reduction of sites throughout the construction phase, the works will include an associated clean-up of vegetation, specifically blackberries, which provides an opportunity to develop sites in new locations.

Detailed designs for Stage 2 have been completed and are currently proceeding through the necessary approval phase.

Stage 2 involves the construction of a new reception/caretaker's accommodation, 10 new cabins (6 standard and 4 premium) and roadworks to clarify traffic movement.

The existing playground nearest the current reception/caretaker's residence will also be removed and replaced with a new playground to the east of the new amenities and laundry. While the current playground met the Australian Standards at the time of its installation, it is not expected that the equipment will be sufficiently compliant for today's Standards for public use to enable reuse in the new recreation space. This is yet to be assessed. The fenced pre-school playground adjoining the Port Sorell Memorial Hall will remain insitu.

Stage 3 will include a new camp kitchen and a new barbecue area.

At the conclusion of the Port Sorell Caravan Park redevelopment, expected in early 2022, a modern facility will be available to meet the expectations of a variety of potential campers while retaining the atmosphere that draws current campers back to Port Sorell time and time again.

LATROBE CROQUET WINS PENNANT SERIES

In March the Latrobe Croquet Club "A" Grade Pennant Team was successful in its' final game against East Launceston winning 7 games to 5. This was the final game of the competition and as a result of this win Latrobe won the entire pennant series.

Pictured: A Grade Pennant Team of Flick Green, Malcolm Maney, Ivan McLeod, Patsy Paine, Curtis Mead, Chris West and Yvonne Mason

Latrobe also had a good result in the recent Tasmanian Golf Croquet championships with Chris West coming in second place being narrowly beaten by Joan Williams of St Leonards club.

Membership of the club is steadily increasing, and new members are always welcome.

Play can be at any level either social or competitive so if you would like to give it a try give Chris a call on 0499 990 239.

DISCLAIMER - *Information supplied is correct at the time of printing. Although all care has been taken in the production of this newsletter, Latrobe Council accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy or error contained in this newsletter because of information supplied.*

FUTURE EDITIONS

Article deadlines and distribution dates are provided to assist contributors with their forward planning promotion -

Deadline	Edition
3 Jun	July-Aug
29 Jul	Sept-Oct
30 Sept	Nov-Dec
18 Nov	Jan-Feb 2022

Articles may be submitted to the editor by the relevant deadline date via email to michelled@latrobe.tas.gov.au or posting to Latrobe Council, P O Box 63, Latrobe, 7307.

Contributions must be relevant to the Latrobe Municipality and suitable for inclusion. They will be used at the discretion of the editor, in whole or part, or not at all, in the next scheduled issue or subsequent issues. The Council does not pay for editorial submitted.