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**December 2025**

Edition of  
**The Kentish Voice**

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edition as you would read it  
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# THE KENTISH VOICE

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**Deadline for advertising and articles is  
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## EDITORIAL

Motivation. A tricky concept to unravel as it's about stopping as much as starting, as much about reward as denial and it applies differently to different people.

Some might be motivated by the end goal, years into the future. Some might just need enough motivation to get out of bed and face the day.

As we end another year and make promises to ourselves and others about the next, it's important to work out what works for you. Is it money? Praise? Self esteem? Acknowledgement? Motivation can be achieved with someone backing you, believing in you and saying You Can. It can also be achieved by someone saying You Can't, like when my father said I'd never finish my university degree if I left and worked overseas for a year. Hah! Showed him! (I learned later this is a well-used tactic deployed by parents with precision to achieve their desired aims. Well played, Dad.)

Positive talk certainly helps. Where ideas are encouraged and innovation celebrated. But it's hard for a positive conversation to gain traction. "How's Mum?" "Good" "How's Dad?" "Good" We could talk for hours.

Yet negative conversations take on a life of their own. People want details, give advice, offer comparisons. People like to be

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able to air their problems to help resolve issues and friends are certainly there to do that but sometimes that air breathes life into a situation that should be taken off life support.

It's so easy to perpetuate, though. Giving life to a positive conversation takes effort, it takes focus on the person telling the happy news and being happy for them, rather than resentful of their success, experiences or latest idea.

It requires a lot of You questions rather than I stories, although these can be beneficial if reinforcing a point.

Somehow positive stories have lost their place in the conversation-sphere as negative news overwhelms and infects us. Many have turned away from following the news as it is all too depressing and pointless.

Your Kentish Voice will always retain a positive focus and we welcome story ideas reflecting just that.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be Editor of this community newspaper and I will continue in the role until a replacement comes forward. A shared position is an option, with a transition period and back-up available.

Have a wonderful Christmas and remember the importance of The Pause. As families gather and closeness becomes too close, hold your tongue for 10 seconds and the situation will be smoothed. End the year on a positive note!

*Heather*

# Poppies embrace new-look Railton RSL



Mural artist Janine Poke and a dedicated team of hardworking volunteers have freshened up the face of the Railton RSL with a stunning display of poppies. The rejuvenated club, unveiled on Remembrance Day, features two steel seats crafted and donated by APEX Contracting Tasmania. The kitchen has opened with take-aways.

*Left: Public Officer James Redgrave, Treasurer Janine Poke and Chairman Roxley Felmingham.*

## Happy Holidays at Tasmazia & The Village of Lower Crackpot Where Fun & Laughter Rule

Gift Shop

Gift Vouchers

Thank You all who celebrated 40 years of Mazes and Murals on November 15<sup>th</sup> with Lady Crackpot & the Crackpot Crew  
We hope you will join us over the holidays

Open 10am – 4pm  
Last Maze Entry 3pm  
**CLOSED XMAS DAY**



Phone : 6491 1934  
[enquiries@tasmazia.com.au](mailto:enquiries@tasmazia.com.au)  
500 Staverton Rd, Promised Land

# Mural artists defy elements, dis

International Mural Fest 2025 has wrapped up as a resounding success, overcoming a backdrop of challenging weather conditions that tested artists and spectators alike. This year's finalists demonstrated exceptional tenacity and grit, pushing



through rain, wind, and cold to complete their stunning mural works inspired by the theme 'Amazing Discoveries'.

Sandy Brattstrom, President of Kentish Arts Commerce and Tourism, commented: "Each artist brought a unique interpretation to the theme, transforming Mural Park into a vibrant outdoor gallery filled with colour, creativity, and imaginative storytelling. Their dedication ensured that the spirit of the festival shone through, no matter the forecast."

"We extend heartfelt thanks to the local community and all visitors who braved the unpredictable weather day after day to support the artists. Your enthusiasm, encouragement, and presence helped make the festival atmosphere truly special."

Despite the elements, International Mural Fest 2025 celebrated creativity, resilience, and community spirit, proving once again why it remains one of the region's most cherished artistic events.

Kentish Arts, Commerce and Tourism also extend sincere appreciation to our extraordinary volunteers, whose commitment and enthusiasm remain at the heart of International Mural Fest.

Their tireless efforts ensured that each artist was well supported throughout the week, while also helping to raise vital funds through raffle and merchandise sales. International Mural Fest simply wouldn't be possible without their dedication, and we are deeply grateful for everything they contribute.

We are delighted to congratulate Marco Pennacchia (*right*) from Victoria, winner of the Kentish Council Judges Award Inder Prize for his breathtaking mural "A Journey into the

## Family Photo Session – All Welcome Sheffield Bible Chapel

We invite you to come along to take some family/friends and couples photos with our selection of photography backdrops. Bring your phone and take your own photos. Assistance will be available should you need some help.

To celebrate the Christmas season we'll have some goodies for the children and also a light supper with the evening session on 20th December

### Times as follows:

**Saturday 6th ....11am – 3pm**

**Friday 12th, Saturday 13th,**

**Sunday 14th.... 4-6pm**

**Saturday 20th.... 4-8pm**

We'd love to see you and create some photographic memories

45 High Street, Sheffield.

Watch our Facebook page for updates.

**WILMOT  
COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS  
BBQ**

**Saturday 13 December 2025**  
**At Pioneer Park next to Wilmot Hall**  
**Commences at 5-30pm ENTRY FREE**  
**Pay for your BBQ meat: salads & dessert free**  
**Santa Claus will be making  
an appearance**  
**Come along and join in  
the Christmas fun**

If inclement weather,  
we will move indoors

Further enquiries to  
Wilmot Tourist & Progress  
Association  
**PH 0400 486368**  
**0438 475 726**

# cover joy of painting in the rain

Cosmos.” We also congratulate Gren Freeman (*left*) from Opossum Bay, Tasmania, recipient of the eGuide Volunteers Choice Award and the Slaters Country Store People’s Choice Award, for his playful and captivating mural ‘Animal Lingo’.

This year’s murals were of an exceptionally high standard, each one a unique and imaginative interpretation of the festival theme. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all nine finalists for gifting our community and visitors such beautifully crafted artworks, which will continue to brighten Mural Park over the next year.

As we look ahead, Kentish Arts, Commerce and Tourism will soon begin selecting a theme for International Mural Fest 2026. We welcome suggestions from the community. If you have an idea you would like us to consider, please email [info@muralfest.com.au](mailto:info@muralfest.com.au) by Friday, December 12.

Together, we look forward to another year of creativity, community spirit, and artistic discovery.

KACT sincerely thanks all sponsors and supporters. Without your generous support, International Mural Fest wouldn’t be possible and wouldn’t be the tremendous success it is.

## Council clarifies custodianship

### Statement from Kentish Council

Sheffield’s vibrant murals continue to be a defining feature of the town’s identity, attracting visitors from near and far to enjoy its unique outdoor art gallery. Over the years, numerous murals have been created across both public and private spaces, contributing to Sheffield’s reputation as the “Town of Murals”.

Recently, questions have arisen regarding the ownership and maintenance responsibility of some murals, particularly those located on privately owned properties where mural ownership is unclear or has changed over time. To provide clarity, Kentish Council has identified and taken ownership of murals that are located on Council-owned property and infrastructure. This ensures that these artworks can be properly maintained and preserved as part of Sheffield’s landscape.

Murals situated on private buildings remain the responsibility of the respective property owners. Council is working to establish clearer records of mural ownership moving forward, to support consistency in care and decision making.

Mural Fest, a long-running and much-loved event that brings artists together each year, continues to be run by the Kentish Arts, Commerce and Tourism (KACT) group. As with other community events, Mural Fest operates under Council’s event permit process, ensuring public safety and coordination within the broader events calendar.

Council values the strong community partnerships that have helped shape Sheffield’s mural story and remains committed to supporting the continuation of this unique art form for future generations.



**Join us to celebrate Christmas!**

## Christmas Services in our Community

**Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Lower Barrington Baptist - Carols and Lessons - 9.30am

Bible Chapel - 10 am

Roland Gospel Chapel - 10 am

St John's Kentish Anglican Church - 10 am

Sheffield Catholic Church - 11.30 am

**Christmas Day**

Combined Service - Sheffield Baptist Church/ Bible Chapel at the Baptist Church.

Sheffield Catholic Church - 11 am

Lower Barrington Baptist - 10 am

**All welcome!**

Will you celebrate Christmas on your own?  
Please contact Leoni Read (Ph: 0429 705 062) if you would like to join with others.

# Did you know? Some ambos are volunteers



For nearly 20 years, the Sheffield Ambulance Station has provided continuous, 24-hour pre-hospital emergency care to the Kentish Community.

Sheffield Ambulance has managed to achieve this through a mix of salaried Paramedics - or Branch Station Officers (BSOs) - and a lengthy list of local Kentish residents who, to this day,

continue to volunteer their time as a Volunteer Ambulance Officer (VAO).

Sheffield's incredible VAOs go on shifts day and night, and work alongside BSOs, other VAOs, or sometimes by themselves to provide the essential care when Kentish residents or local visitors are experiencing a medical emergency.

Not all Kentish residents may be aware that when you see two people in a Sheffield ambulance, one, or sometimes both, are local volunteers. For some Sheffield VAOs, what started as an altruistic commitment in ambulance volunteering became such a source of inspiration that they went on to forge their own health careers as doctors, registered nurses, and paramedics; some of whom now work as health professionals, locally and on the North West coast.

Mikayla Bardwell and Sally Brooks (*pictured left*) are Sheffield VAOs. Sally has been giving her time to help our community since the establishment of Sheffield Ambulance Station in 2006. Mikayla is one of Sheffield's newest VAOs and has recently completed her initial training so that she can continue to provide this essential service.

Sheffield Ambulance is always looking for people who are willing and able to give their time to help those who are experiencing what can be the worst time of their lives. There is enormous respect from the patients, their families and from the Kentish Community.

The role of a VAO is not for the faint hearted. All prospective VAOs are required to successfully complete initial and ongoing training and must commit to a minimum of 100 hours per annum on ambulance shifts (240 hours per year for advanced level volunteers).

If you think that you have what it takes and would like to get involved, then this can be an opportunity to provide real assistance and support to both our residents and visitors.

To view more details of what the role requires and to register your interest, go to <https://www.health.tas.gov.au/hospitals/ambulance/volunteering-ambulance> or call 1300 303 196.

As the Sheffield Ambulance Station approaches its 20th year of continuous operation on November 10, 2026, more information will be provided so that past and present BSOs and VAOs can be involved in the celebrations.

This will also be an opportunity for all residents of Kentish to find out what VAOs do to help us all when we need it the most.



## SHEFFIELD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

*Get into the Christmas spirit ...*

**A wonderful Christmas tradition in Kentish!**

*Forget the hustle and bustle! Look past the presents!*

**Joins us to celebrate Christmas with your community, to sing many of the traditional and more recent Christmas Carols.**

**7pm Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 2025**

## SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL

Featuring Exhale Choir, Be Natural, Bible Chapel Singers, Mountain Echoes, Sheffield Singers, the Sunshine Club & Santa!



Gold coin donation for the work of THE HUB



## BAHÁ'Í FAITH

**“O Son of Being!**

**“I have made death a Messenger of joy for thee?**

**Wherefore dost thou grieve? I have made the Light to shine on thee its splendour. Why dost thou veil thyself therefrom?”**

- Hidden Words of Baha'u'llah

[www.bahai.org](http://www.bahai.org)

0448976442

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**Hello, I'm Doug Westbrook**

I've spent over 35 years helping people feel at home in Northern Tasmania.

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# Drop by Kentish House for a cupful of thanks

West North West Working is inviting the Sheffield and Kentish community to attend a relaxed end-of-year morning tea on Monday, December 9, hosted by Local Engagement Officer Vicki at Kentish House, 16 Station Street, Sheffield, from 10:30am to 11:30am.

The morning tea marks the end of a productive and engaging year, and offers an opportunity to acknowledge the community members who have taken steps toward employment, training and education with the support of West North West Working. It also provides a chance to reflect on the collaboration and partnerships that have strengthened services in the region throughout the year.

Vicki says she has valued the opportunity to work closely with local residents. "It's been a wonderful year working alongside the Sheffield and Kentish community," she said.

"This morning tea is a simple way to say thank you and to offer a space for people to come in, have a chat, and ask questions about their future pathways if they wish."

Kentish House has played a key role in supporting these community sessions, offering a welcoming venue and on-the-ground assistance. Cassandra, Kentish House Coordinator, Glenhaven Family Care, says it has been a privilege to be part of the work. "We've really enjoyed being able to support Vicki and the community this year," she said.

"Whether it's helping people print their resumes or simply providing a friendly place to drop in, it's been fantastic to see local residents taking positive steps towards their goals."

Closed December 25, reopening Monday, January 5, 2026.

# Lions are on a mission

Kentish Lions Club is one of only two in Tasmania to be recognised with the Mission 1.5 Lions International Award.

We are on a mission to grow. Mission 1.5 is the drive to reach 1.5 million members worldwide, so we can better meet the growing needs of our communities and serve more people.

Our Club gained seven new members last year while retaining all existing members.

The award was presented to our Club at our recent District Convention held at Port Sorell by 2024-25 District Governor Victoria Cochrane and accepted on behalf of the club by Lions Rudy Van Der Korput and Jenny Smith (*below*).



COMMUNITY MORNING TEA  
**Thank You**  
TO THE SHEFFIELD & KENTISH COMMUNITY

EMPLOYMENT. EDUCATION. TRAINING. LET'S START THE CONVERSATION.

Join us for a relaxed end-of-year morning tea with Vicki, our Local Engagement Officer for West North West Working, your regional Jobs Hub for the Sheffield area. It's our way of saying thank you to the community for a great year!



**Drop in for a cuppa, a chat, and a chance to connect.**

*If you've got questions about employment, education, or training, Vicki is here to help, no matter where you're at on your journey.*

**Tuesday, 9th December**  
**10:30am - 11:30am**  
**Kentish House**  
16 - 18 STATION STREET, SHEFFIELD  
NIBBLES AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

**Questions? Reach out to Vicki**  
**0490 865 391** [vicki@wnwworking.com.au](mailto:vicki@wnwworking.com.au)





**Kentish House**  
18 Station St, Sheffield  
Mon-Thu 9am-4pm & Fri 9am-2pm  
Ph. 6491 2322 / 0447 325 343  
[kentishhouse@glenhaven.org.au](mailto:kentishhouse@glenhaven.org.au)  
[facebook.com/kentishhousetas](https://facebook.com/kentishhousetas) [instagram.com/kentish.house](https://instagram.com/kentish.house)

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**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

JP will be at Kentish House fortnightly. No appointment needed.

**Fortnightly (Monday) 9:30-11:00am**

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**FREE LEGAL INFORMATION APPOINTMENTS**

North West Community Legal Centre are offering **FREE** legal information appointments at Kentish House.

To make an appointment please contact North West Community Legal Centre **6424 8720**.

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**KENTISH HOUSE PLAYGROUP**

Enjoy play time and activities with your child/ren 0-5 years.

**Tuesdays 9:00-11:00am during school terms**

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**FOOD PICK UP & BREAD PICK UP AT KENTISH HOUSE**

**Food & Bread Pick-up: Wednesday's 9:30 - 11am**

*Amounts available vary, items available are on a first in-basis.*

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Kentish House will be closed from 12pm Wednesday 24th December 2025. Reopening Monday 19th January 2026.

*For Emergency Relief during this time please contact Salvation Army 6208 1488*

# Bros Robinson make murals come to life

By Andrew Robinson

Over the past few years of local film-making, my brother and I have had the chance of meeting some of those who helped begin the mural project in town; hearing of their courage and creativity is truly inspirational.

So, when we were asked if we could make a short film to usher in the 40th anniversary of the Sheffield Mural Project, we knew we wanted to make something special.

We wanted people to experience something a little more magical than a simple history lesson. We chose an artistic approach with the aim of speaking to the heart - not just to those who know the story, but to those who may have never even heard of Sheffield.

The main challenge of filming murals is... They don't move. After some discussion, the idea of murals "coming to life" and of someone stepping out of a painting, while we see and hear glimpses of the story of our town came about.

Thankfully, many of our murals have living counterparts and having the chance to film with Julian Bale, a local artist who has painted over 30 murals in the district, and has been the curator and restorer for the murals for 20 years, was a great opportunity from a film-making and storytelling perspective.

With a fairy-tale vibe, the film portrays moments and fleeting instances of the story and beauty of Sheffield, and seeks to give a small, yet earnest, "tip of the hat" to those who have made our town special - whilst looking to the future.

The film is currently being played at the Sheffield Visitor Information Centre. It can also be found online at [YouTube.com/thebrothersrobinson](https://www.youtube.com/thebrothersrobinson)

We would like to thank Julian Bale for his work in this film. As an artist and curator, he represents all artists from all over who make Sheffield the beautiful town it is today. His unerring dedication to keeping the murals on the walls has been a gift to all of us, and we are grateful.

A very big thank you to the Kentish Council for its support and grant for this project and to the Sheffield Motor Inn for their assistance and for filming on their premises. And a special thanks to Tim Politt, Melea Lakin, Lisa Dittman, Kylie Rogerson and Tim Carter - our talented and hardworking crew on this film for all their time, talent and effort.

Murals depicted on front age (L-to-R Top to Bottom): Mersey Forth Catchment - Damian Rossiter; Forth Falls - John Lendis; Masonic Lodge Symbols - John Lendis; Dr Sender - Cheyne Purdue; The Wilmot Bakery - John Lendis; Pioneer Surgeon (Dr Ratten) - John Lendis; Amelia Morse's Kitchen - John Lendis; Mountain Rescue (Harry Clark) - Cheyne Purdue; Tasmanian Cement Company 1924 - Cheyne Purdue; Frank Slater's Wireless Studio - John Lendis; Any Vacancies? - Julian Bale; Visitor Info Centre; Lost Child at Barrington - Ron Hutchison; Post Office Tree - Cheyne Purdue; Sheffield Streetscape - John Lendis; The ANZAC & WW 1 Commemorative Mural - Damian Rossiter; Railton's Great Elephant Race - Margaret Odgers



Stephan (front) and Andrew

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**34 Main St Sheffield 0473 050 909**

# Bushfire danger period is here: be prepared

As your local TFS representatives, Roland Group consists of Claude Road, Lorinna, Beulah, Kimberley, Railton and Sheffield brigades.

Each brigade responds to different types of emergency incidents, serving the needs of their communities.

We are there to back each other's brigades, with members training together regularly and maintaining brigade facilities, equipment, personal protective clothing, and supporting community education.

From October 23 to November 15, the Roland Group attended five emergency incidents. This included a tree on power lines causing a vegetation fire, a fire at the Dulverton Waste Management Facility and a few escaped landowner burns.

The bushfire danger period is upon us and now is the time to prepare your property – TFS are here to help.

There are a few things you need to think about to help protect your property:

Will our trucks be able to access your property in a fire? Do we know where to go and how to get there? Be sure to have a look at your driveways access when you are out on your property. You may need to trim limbs or branches.

Emergency response occurs by calling Triple Zero (000). The clearer the information you provide about location, size, type of fire, the quicker TFS can be on the scene with the right trucks and firefighters. Local knowledge is invaluable, especially if access is not readily marked.

When planning a burn, register at all times of the year online at <https://www.service.tas.gov.au/services/emergencies/fire/register-a-burn/> or by calling 1800 000 699. This helps avoid unnecessary brigade call outs, and if the burn escapes, we

already have an address, and contact person to assist the brigade responding.

A registered burn is different from a permit burn. There are specific rules during fire permit periods and Total Fire Bans. Burns are also subject to environmental regulations and local government bylaws and restrictions in parks and reserves. Permit periods and Total Fire Bans are declared by the TFS.

In other news, eight junior members headed to the Tasmania Fire Brigade Championships Association State Championship Competitions earlier this month. It was great to see junior and senior volunteers from across the state (35 teams from 19 Brigades) come together, compete, cheer, and celebrate each other's wins and laugh together. Our junior members, 11-17 years, learn teamwork, problem solving and have fun.

Keep an eye out for Claude Road's activities coming up - there are opportunities to gain more information about your own bushfire planning and preparedness.

Below is a list of useful resources that you should familiarise yourself with in the leadup to the summer period.

TasALERT App and website shows current incidents and their status and warnings. Keep up to date at [TasALERT.com](http://TasALERT.com)

Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire Website shows bushfire planning and community education information: [bushfire.tas.gov.au](http://bushfire.tas.gov.au); Tasmania Fire Service website – [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au) - 'What's burning now' page shows registered, permit and reduction burn locations.

Emergency + App may also assist being able to provide an accurate location. Especially when enjoying holidays in an unfamiliar area.

- Vanessa Cooper, Community Engagement Volunteer  
Tasmania Fire Service



**REGISTER NOW**

**BUSHFIRE-READY WORKSHOPS**

Get Ready for Bushfire Season:  
Join our FREE Preparedness Workshops

- ✓ Know your Bushfire Risk
- ✓ Have a Bushfire Plan
- ✓ Prepare your Property

Thurs 18th December

- 10.30am-11.30am
- 5.30pm-6.30pm

Claude Road Hall

**BUSHFIRE WHY RISK IT?** Visit [fire.tas.gov.au](http://fire.tas.gov.au)

Know your risk. Make a plan. Email: [community@fire.tas.gov.au](mailto:community@fire.tas.gov.au)

**BUSHFIRE-READY NEIGHBOURHOODS**  
We all play a part

Tasmanian Government

## Workshops help residents get ready for bushfire emergencies

Join us at the Claude Road Hall for one of two Bushfire Ready Workshops on Thursday, December 18, at 10:30am or 5:30pm.

These relaxed, one-hour sessions will help you understand what bushfire risk looks like in our area, where to find reliable information when things heat up, and how to put together a practical bushfire plan for your household. It's not about scare tactics; it's about giving you the tools and confidence to make good decisions when it matters most.

Whether you've lived here for decades or just moved in, everyone has a role to play in keeping our community safe. Bring your questions, share your ideas, and enjoy a cuppa, tea and coffee will be provided, while you learn how to protect what matters most.

Register now at: <https://bushfire.tas.gov.au/bushfire-ready-neighbourhoods/whats>

Don't wait until the smoke is in the air! Get ready before summer kicks in. A little preparation today could make all the difference tomorrow.



**Announcing Mt Roland Art Prize 2026**

Exhibiting at Sheffield Art Gallery, Sheffield

**Theme : 'Fragility'**

Entry closes 9 January 2026

Exhibition opens: Saturday 21 February 2026 at 3.00pm and continues until 14 March 2026

Prize winners chosen by Public Vote  
Sponsored by DULVERTON WASTE MANAGEMENT & WORKING ART SPACE, SHEFFIELD

Prizes Awarded : Saturday, 14 March at 2.00pm

First Prize	: \$3,000
Second Prize	: \$2,000
Third Prize	: \$1,000
Fourth Prize	: \$ 500

For further information email: [mountrolandartprize@gmail.com](mailto:mountrolandartprize@gmail.com)  
6 Pioneer Cr, Sheffield, 7306 - Tel: 0475 810 981  
[workingartspacesheffield.org.au](http://workingartspacesheffield.org.au)

Background image courtesy Lindsay Gardim

**Opportunities for locals, right here and beyond**

**FREE SUPPORT | FREE SUPPORT | FREE SUPPORT**

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**Looking to take the next step in your career? Whether you're returning to work, starting fresh, or exploring new opportunities, WNWW is here to help you every step of the way!**

Here's how we can help:

- **Boost your confidence** to re-enter or start your career journey.
- **Revamp your resume** to stand out.
- Learn the secrets to **creating a standout cover letter**.
- Discover how **your existing skills can open doors** in new industries.
- **Explore paid and free training opportunities** to level up.
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**Reach out to Vicki**  
Local Engagement Officer for Kentish & Latrobe  
Vicki 0490 865 385 [vicki@wnwworking.com.au](mailto:vicki@wnwworking.com.au)

 **Book an appointment**  
**Let's start the conversation**  
[www.wnwworking.com.au](http://www.wnwworking.com.au)

**FREE Personalised Support**

**OFFICE CLOSED Thursday 25 Dec 2025 and will reopen on Monday 5 Jan 2026**

 **West North West WORKING** Regional Jobs Hub for Kentish

 **Tasmanian Government**

 **JOBS TASMANIA**

**Recycle REWARDS**

**Refund Point Sheffield**

**Your local refund point has moved!**

The refund point located at the Sheffield RSL has closed

**NEW LOCATION**

Now located at  
**Astron Sheffield**  
2 Main Street, Sheffield

Open 8:00am and 5:00pm daily

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED URGENTLY SEEKING SUITABLE HORSES**

Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) is all about bringing people and horses together and the benefits to both the participants, as well as RDA volunteers are enormous.

From humble beginnings as a grassroots volunteer organisation in the north of the State in 1975, this year sees them celebrating 50 years of having delivered equine programs to people with disabilities and additional support needs throughout Tasmania.

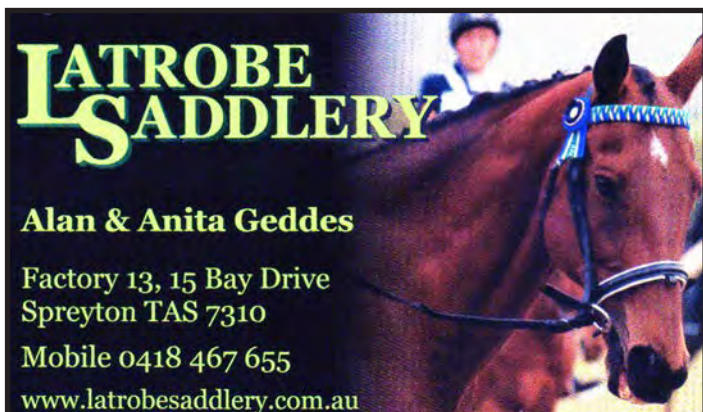
The RDA program changes the lives of participants and their families, increasing confidence, independence, mobility, strength, daily living skills and improving overall health and wellbeing.



There are also benefits for RDA volunteers, who dedicate their time and skills to RDA week-after-week, year-after-year. For many volunteers this is their regular social connection as well as outdoor exercise; all whilst giving back to the community and assisting people with disability and additional support needs and their families to benefit from their generosity.

However, the program cannot exist without trusty equine partners. Without these special creatures, there simply is no RDA program, and finding suitable horses is proving incredibly difficult. Unless RDA can find more horses, they won't be able to continue the program next year.

Horses in the RDA program have a very giving nature. They are selected for their calm and controlled temperament. They are sensible when presented with something new and take everything in their stride, including a range of unfamiliar movements and reactions from their rider. They are easy to re-direct and they are willing to learn new things including beneficial RDA session activities. They must be free and forward moving, not a 'more-whoa-than-go' horse.



**LATROBE SADDLERY**  
**Alan & Anita Geddes**  
Factory 13, 15 Bay Drive  
Spreyton TAS 7310  
Mobile 0418 467 655  
[www.latrobesaddlery.com.au](http://www.latrobesaddlery.com.au)

RDA participants often don't have the strength to keep a horse going forward, so it is crucial to the rider for both mental and physical benefits, that RDA has horses are not 'plodders'.

Solid built horses are a preference as they can carry more weight, yet not too tall as that hinders the work of the volunteers who work on the ground alongside the rider and their horse. The most critical size we are

currently looking for is a sturdy 15.2-16hh horse between 8-16 years old. A horse between 14.2-15hh is also desired.

Older horses can be considered on loan (going back to their owner when they retire) if they are sound, without arthritis that impedes their movement or mood, or any other health related issues that may reduce their ability.

Without finding a suitable, bigger mount, many RDA participants are not able to continue in the program next year, putting them at risk of regressing and losing the benefits of the progress they made over the years; physically, psychologically and socially.

For the past 50 years, the success of RDA stems from the unwavering commitment of its community - from the volunteers who dedicate their time, to the participants who consistently push beyond perceived limitations, and the generous supporters who ensure the organisation's financial sustainability.

RDA is calling on people in Tasmania or interstate to assist in the urgent search for more horses, so they can continue to provide important services to people with disabilities and additional support needs in 2026 and beyond.

Please contact: Claudia Nevah Mobile: 0429 943 247; email: [admin@rdatas.org](mailto:admin@rdatas.org)



**St John's Kentish Anglican  
Community Church**  
Join us for a  
**Christmas Carols Evening**  
**7.00pm Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
**92 Foster Street Railton**



Please email your sports news to:  
[editor@thekentishvoice.com.au](mailto:editor@thekentishvoice.com.au)



**“We asked for help.”**

Without the help of Carer Gateway, life would be really difficult.  
**Taya & Kathryn,**  
Carers

Kathryn and her daughter Taya are both carers for Kye, their son and brother who has autism. Through Carer Gateway’s support they were able to go on a retreat to connect with other carers in a supportive environment and take a break.

Care2Serve is the local tassie team connecting Tasmanian carers to Carer Gateway.

If you are a carer and would like help too, contact us.

Support is free, inclusive, and confidential.

**Call 1800 422 737 (press 1) or visit [carergateway.gov.au](http://carergateway.gov.au)**



**Project update**

## **Cethana pumped hydro**

Thanks to everyone who has shared their thoughts about our Cethana pumped hydro project. We’re gearing up for a busy 2026 as we work on getting the project approved. Our team is looking forward to seeing you!



Want to learn more?  
Scan the QR code or visit our website.

 <https://connect.hydro.com.au/cethana-pumpedhydro>

December 2025

The Hydro Tasmania team is now developing its Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for the proposed pumped hydro project at Cethana, which looks at how the project might affect people and what’s important to them; how they live, how they connect, and how they value the surroundings.

Over the past few months, the team has facilitated workshops to gather insights from the local community. The team has listened to the concerns raised and is currently analysing the information before it is incorporated into the final SIA. Key themes raised were potential impacts on the peace and tranquility of the local area, concerns about increased traffic and safety on the roads, what might happen to housing

availability and affordability and managing emergencies when the community is already concerned about stretched emergency services. There was strong interest in how to create long-lasting community benefit.

The Hydro Tasmania team appreciated the honest feedback. 2026 will be a busy year, with Hydro Tasmania planning more visits to the area. The results of technical studies (traffic, noise, water management) will be shared, as well as our plans to avoid and reduce impacts. Hydro Tasmania is working on the project’s Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Development Application (DA). The community will be able to make comment, before it goes to the Kentish Council.

## RAILTON PARKRUN



As Christmas draws near, the Railton Parkrun family extends best wishes to you all for a 'Safe and Merry Christmas'. We have had another wonderful year, which included welcoming people from far and wide. On October 25, we celebrated eight years of the Railton event, with Gavin Gleeson also completing his 200th run. Congratulations

Gavin! We also welcomed Brenda Shaw (*below*) as she participated in her very first event. Karen Barber (*above*), who is a regular volunteer, clocked up her 50th run in early November - well done Karen. It is interesting to note that the fastest first finishers in early November were Thomas Gleeson with a time of 21.05 and Cassandra Sheehan with a time of 23.59, a great effort by both runners.

A reminder that our family friendly event happens every Saturday morning at 9am. It is a free community event where you can walk, jog or run in an idyllic bush setting. We meet at 8:50am at the Syke's

Sanctuary entrance on Kimberely Road. It is vital that any new participants attend the briefing by the Run Director, as key safety issues are covered.

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the Parkrun in 2025, as well as all those who volunteered. An invitation is extended to all to share a little Christmas spirit by wearing your best Christmas outfit on Saturday, December 20.



## SHEFFIELD GOLF

Laurie Lang was awarded a Life Membership this month. Thank you Laurie for your overwhelming contribution with running the club for many years.

This month Judy Denney and Lou Proud represented our club in the Bronze stableford at Ulverstone.

Sheffield had the pleasure of hosting the Silverspoon championship this month. Susie Coombes represented our club. Well done ladies.

We also had a Gala Day on the day of the Silverspoon and were fortunate to get approx 40 ladies playing. Div 1 winner with 35 nett Jeanette Loring [Burnie], Div 2 winner with 35 nett Janice Williams [Sheffield], Div 3 winner with 38 nett Bronwyn Ewington [Wynyard].

*Monthly Medal Winners*

Members- Sponsored by IGA Sheffield was won by Scott Gale on countback from Stephen Hope on 66 nett.

*Vets:* Sponsored by Sheffield Mechanical and Tyre was won by David Jago on countback from Doug Callander on 68 nett.

*Ladies:* Sponsored by Lou Proud was won by Janice Williams on 76 nett from Geneen Duff 79 nett.

Mixed Foursome Championship: Played over two weeks [36 holes], was won by Noel Meyers and Lou Proud 203 nett from Tony Wootton and Susie Coombes 206.5 nett.

Gross winners were Noel Meyer and Lou Proud on 246 gross from Tony Wootton and Susie Coombes 259 gross. Well done to these two teams and thank you to all teams who participated.

*Vets / Ladies:*

21/10 Scramble [Canadian, Pinehurst, Ambrose] was won by Tony Wootton and David Jago on 59.5 nett from Micheal Meaney and Susie Coombes with 64 nett.

28/10 Mulligans was won by Janice Williams on 61 nett from Martin Bakehouse on 63 nett.

18/11 3 Person Irish Stableford was won by David Jago, Tony Wootton and Glen Connors with 81 nett from Micheal Chatwin, Helen Lloyd-Jones and Anna Balesteri with 75 nett.

*Vets:*

11/11 Stableford was won by Peter Orchard with 37 nett from David Jago with 35 nett.

*Members:*

25/10 Thomo/Jago Day Ambrose 4 was won by Ben Corbett, Roland Proud, Ryan Patteerson and Scott Westbrook with 53.875 nett from Glen Connors, Matthew Knight, Mark Jones and Stephen Harris with 54 nett. Thank you to The Thomas and Jago families for sponsoring this great event.

08/11 Stableford Multiplier was won by Doug Callander and Allan Duncan with 72 net from Noel Meyers and Jason Crosswell with 63 nett

15/11 Sherriff Family Invitation Day 4 person Ambrose was won by Roland Proud, Scott Westbrook, Ben Corbett and Ryan Patterson with 50.75 nett from Stephen Harris, Tony Wootton, Greg Collis and Glen Connors with 54.25 nett.

Thank you to the Sherriff family for sponsoring this very successful day. It was great to have 68 participants.

Sheffield Golf Club 0418 199 873

Green Fees (per day): Adults \$20.00; Juniors \$5.00

**Live Music** **Hot Food**

# Wilmot Country Market

**Sat Dec 6th**  
**3 - 7 PM**

**Contact:**  
**Idell Wadley**  
wilmotcountrymarket@gmail.com

**Back Room!**  
**Bricktasia**  
Displays, builds & prizes

**BRICK**  
sandwich  
Catering

**Wilmot Memorial Hall**  
**Main St, Wilmot**

## SHEFFIELD CRICKET



Our 1st Grade have started well with recent wins over Ulverstone and Devonport. We were defeated by Westbury and our games against Wynyard and Mowbray were unfortunately abandoned. Ethan Clark has been in fine form scoring 79 against Westbury and 76 against Ulverstone. Gary Miles scored 30 not out against Ulverstone. Marc Simonds 45, Liam Slatter

36 and Alex King 33 not out got us over the line with 6 for 158 against Devonport.

2nd grade started with a win scoring 9 for 182 (Kaleb Lee 55 not out, Connor Hinrichsen 39 and Roland Skirving 24) to defeat Ulverstone 7 for 159 (Noah Milburn 2/20 and Tyson Crawford 2/28). However, they have since had close losses against Latrobe, Devonport, Wynyard and Burnie. Against Latrobe, Kaleb Lee scored 53 and Josh Bell took 3 for 30. Brock Bamford scored 57 against Devonport.

Our under 16s scored 3 for 126 with Maklyn Jones scoring 32 not out to defeat Devonport 125. Logan Bramich took 2 for 21. We were defeated by Latrobe and Burnie. Miller Jones 31 and Xavier Duff 19 top scored for us against Burnie.

We have two under 12 sides and they recently played against each other. Top Scores were Nash Barber 14 not out and Henry Distill 10 not out.

Our Ladies 0-65 (Georgia Anderson 36 and Taylor Wigg 18 not out) defeated Wynyard 6 for 64 with Sam Cotton taking 2 for 9 and Isabelle Febey 2 for 11. We had a narrow loss to Latrobe when we scored 4 for 101 with Georgia King scoring 46 not out. Latrobe got the runs with 1 ball to spare

In December we have two home Thursday night T20 games (Dec 4 v Latrobe and Dec 18 v Burnie). We will be holding our Christmas Party on Thursday, December 18.

## RAILTON BOWLS



The season has started quite well and we have all teams within the top four. Great effort by all the players.

When nationals are over, the season again ramps up, with double headers coming into play. Our Hub Veterans Day is in early December, with all rinks filled.

We cannot express enough thanks to our wonderful sponsors for their dedication to our club. 2025-2026

Sponsors: Simmons

Wolfhagen Lawyers; Kentish Council Community Grant; Cement Australia; Stihl Shop Devonport; The Hub Sheffield; Railton Motor and Tyre; Anvers Chocolates; Quilters Group; R&T Howell. We thank Simmons Wolfhagen and The Kentish Council Community Grant for sponsoring our new club tops and gear, they make such a difference.

We have many carnivals coming up: Mixed Carnivals, Cement Australia Elite Fours, Tommy Donohue Day and RSL Days. The ladies who offer their time to come along and cater for these events are fantastic.

We have our Christmas raffle running at the moment, this will be drawn on December 13 when both teams are at home. We will have a Players Tea that night after the game.

If anyone would like to try the game or would like to join the club, please contact Noelene on 0409 768 863.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and stays safe, see you on the green.

- Noelene Purton, Secretary

## KENTISH PONY & HACK CLUB



Kentish Pony Club riders have been busy again this November with the Pony Club Rally on the 2nd inviting members of the Mersey Valley PC to join us for a day of jumping and

instruction. Fun was had by all who attended.

The following Saturday, three of our riders competed at the Oss Foley Memorial Endurance Ride at Gowrie Park. One of our senior riders, Piper Braid, tied for first place in the 80km ride while our other two riders entered the 20km introductory ride. The Shield was jointly won by Piper and Kirsty Neilly in a time of 4 hours and 32mins.

On the weekend of the 16th we had six of our junior riders enter the Leven PC Shield event where our riders competed in a number of different classes, including pleasure pony, games and fancy dress. Our junior riders won many ribbons and scored points for our club.

This month we have also welcomed another new junior rider.

We will be having our last rally of the year and Christmas party on December 7 and Pony Club will start up again in January with a rally on 11th and 21st.

Kentish pony and Hack club welcome new members ages from 5 to 80 years of age. Ticket to play also available for eligible members. Enquiries can be made to Karan 0429 231 612.

## KENTISH MEN'S SHED



A few months back Ron Greeves found at a garage sale in Roland a studio portrait of an A.I.F. soldier. On learning that this splendid picture was destined for landfill, Ron took possession and brought to the Men's Shed where it awaited further developments.

Enter our good friend Andy Walsh who has undertaken the task of providing a suitable frame with the intent of preserving and protecting the image of this forgotten Anzac. Whoever he was, this man presents as an heroic figure that, even after a century or more has passed, captures the eye and leads the viewer wanting more but alas we have no one to supply any detail of the life of this man as the only clue written

in small, fine copperplate on the back of the picture just three words: Roote, Devonport and Oak.

From that perhaps we may infer that Roote is this young man's family name, Devonport the location and Oak possibly the choice of the timber for the frame long since lost.

Perhaps we might get lucky and a reader will make a connection and help solve the riddle and this young man will reclaim his name and and place.

The Knights Templar battled their way through the two days of the Medaeval Festival which was held to be the best yet and has



become a significant part of our Kentish calendar.

Our Bannon's Forge was flat out repairing the dents and fractures inflicted by lusty swordplay and our very own Viking Bjorn Pedersen together with wife Hayley and granddaughter Shelby-lee (*above*) did a roaring trade dispensing spit-roasted pork rolls to an appreciative crowd.

We were also gladdened by the return to our shed good friend Noel Bass still convalescent but clearly benefitting from the care of friends and relatives after his surgical sojourn in Launceston. It is good to have him safe home.

The Men's Shed is open Thursdays and Saturdays 9am to 1pm and for information please call Peter on 0439 537 386.

## KENTISH SCOUTS

There are mountains of opportunities with scouts, so 4 of our Cubs took advantage of one and climbed a mountain! While they didn't quite make it to the top of Mount Roland, they did discuss wildlife and the environment along the way and came away from their hike with fantastic attitudes and were extremely proud of themselves.

Meanwhile our Scouts visited the newly revamped Railton RSL Club and had some wonderful conversations with Roxley who was an abundance of information. The connection between Their Service and Our Heritage is something to be treasured and instilled in our youth and our scouts showed so much

respect to Roxley, the Club and the patrons in attendance. Thank you to Di Sharp for organising our visit.

Once again, we are still in need of leaders to help guide our youth up mountains and down the path to become the next generation of valuable members of society, so if you are interested, please contact Tanya on 0438 559 317.

- Tanya, Scout Chairperson

VISIT *Slaters*

- SEE THE LATEST FASHION IN LADIESWEAR, MENSWEAR AND FOOTWEAR
- VIEW THE FLYING FOX CHANGE DISPENSER
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## THE WORLD OF WASTE: WHERE THE WEIRD THINGS GO? Part 2

### What about things in the cupboard:

- Old mobile phones – save the photos and drop them to the collection bins at the Waste Transfer Station or a mobile phone shop.
- Batteries don't belong in wheelie bins – both single use and rechargeable batteries go in special bins at the front of the Supermarket, Hardware Store or Waste Transfer Station.
- Flares – your last lot of flares are now out of date and you are ready for summer fishing? Ask at the Waste Transfer Station and these can be collected and used safely by MAST for training.
- Gas bottles – ready to go camping and the gas bottle is empty and not able to be refilled? Dropping them to the Waste Transfer Station is a safe pathway to disposal.
- Broken household appliances – if it is rechargeable or has a cord to plug in, drop it to the waste transfer station and it will be pulled apart and recycled.

**BEST OF ALL – THESE OPTIONS ARE LOW COST OR NO COST!!!**

#### Latrobe / Kentish Council Collections

Christmas Day		Thursday 25th December	Saturday 27th December
Boxing Day			Friday 26th December
New Years Day		Thursday 1st January	

**Collections on Thursday 25th December have been moved to Saturday 27th December.**

**No changes have been made to collections on Boxing Day or New Years Day.**

★

*Merry Christmas from the team!*



**WE WILL BE TAKING A SHORT BREAK FROM DECEMBER 18TH.  
Back in the workshop January 5th**


1/36 CLAUDE ROAD  
PH: 6491 1107

**Sheffield Art Gallery** | Working Art Space Sheffield  
6 Pioneer Crescent Sheffield 0475 810 981

## Scenes of Tasmania

An Exhibition by **Kathleen Bentley**

The exceptional scenery of Tasmania, its colours and breath-taking landscapes have compelled this talented artist to capture the spirit of the land



**Duration: 11 Dec '25 to 10 Feb '26  
Open 10am to 3pm daily - Free Admission**

# Bob Brown calls for end to native forest logging

The Bob Brown Foundation is renewing calls for Forestry Tasmania (FT) to be abolished, and an end to native forest logging, after FT's latest annual report reveals a \$22.9 million loss from logging operations and a growing \$24.5 million unfunded superannuation liability.

"While the government business enterprise has reported a headline \$5 million profit, this relies on carbon credits for plantations, on-book revaluations of forests and \$12.9 million of government grants to inflate income," said Scott Jordan, Bob Brown Foundation Takayna Campaigner.

"In the middle of the twin biodiversity and climate crises, Tasmania's government is allowing carbon-rich forests full of critical habitat for threatened species like Tasmanian masked owls, Tasmanian Devils, Wedge-tailed Eagles and critically endangered Swift Parrots to be smashed and burnt.

Campaigns Director Jenny Weber said FT had increased its "controversial" exports of woodchip by almost 10%.

"Alarming, Forestry Tasmania destroyed even more native forests this year, with 5500 hectares of critical carbon storehouses and wildlife habitat lost to logging," she said.

"Forestry Tasmania has reported it has established new contracts for native log supply, with current agreements set to expire in 2027.

"The native forest wood supply contracts must not be renewed. Instead, the logging needs to end and be replaced with secure protection of native forests.

"Not only for our clean air, water and environment, but also to end the waste of much-needed public money."

# MRLC seeks donations for high-priority projects

Mount Roland Land Care (MRLC) is now officially registered as a charity with Deductible Gift Registration, meaning that any donations to the group are fully tax deductible. Throughout its 25-year plus history, the group has generally sought grant funding to fund its activities. But grants are hard to get and often don't provide opportunities that match with what the group would like to do. While MRLC will continue to apply for available and suitable grants, it will now also invite donations to fund its highest priority projects.

The first priority project is the 2026 Tree Planting program. Since 2022, MRLC has been organising tree planting on properties in the Kentish municipality through a partnership with landowners, a funding body, and our wonderful teams of volunteer tree planters.

More than 7000 trees have been planted, and hundreds of people have been involved. MRLC organises the whole process and provides technical assistance where needed.

Landowners prepare and maintain the planting site, and community volunteers join in a public tree planting day, usually planting more than 200 seedlings in a few hours on a Saturday. A highlight for all is the shared lunch after planting. Provided as a 'thankyou' from the landowner, the lunch is always greatly appreciated after a couple of hours work, and provides a great opportunity for chatting and building social connections.

In 2022 and 2023 grant funding was provided thanks to the generous support of the Kentish Council, and the Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal.

In 2024 and 2025 the State Government has provided a grant through its Healthy Tasmania program. This funding pays for the seedlings and the planting accessories: tree guards, stakes, etc.

MRLC is now looking for funding support to continue this program in 2026. If you or your organisation/business would like to support this project, donations can be made by EFT or credit card through the Group's website at:

<https://www.mountrolandlandcare.org.au/donate>

The website also includes portals for donating to other 2026 projects – there will be more to come on this soon!

To discuss making a donation, please contact [secretary@moundrolandlandcare.org.au](mailto:secretary@moundrolandlandcare.org.au)



## HARP CONCERT



**18<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 2pm**

At Sheffield Town Hall, 66 High St, Sheffield

Cost Adults \$20, Children \$5


Family Tickets also available




<https://events.humanitix.com/sheffharpconcert2026>

**Bookings Preferred - Tickets available on-line or at the door if not sold out previously**


**The 2026 Sheffield Summer Harp Collective**



Presenting  
Tasmanian Harpists and  
guest musicians playing a  
range of music, led by  
Victorian Harpist Andy Rigby. Be prepared  
to enjoy eclectic music and unexpected  
instruments.



Andy is one of Australia's leading designers,  
makers, players and teachers of the Harp in both its  
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BYO your gifts, and we will wrap them or you can use our  
wrapping station to wrap them yourself.  
Volunteers on hand to help personalise your gift tag or wrapping.

\*Kentish residents only. Maximum 5 gifts per person if being wrapped by a volunteer.



# Plateau wombats forge highways



From its changing hues and cloudscapes to its forests and rugged stones, Mount Roland offers us no end of surprises. Even frequent walkers of the mountain are unlikely to have witnessed more than a small fraction of its features and less again of the life that calls the mountain home.

Mount Roland Land Care has been studying that life in a project simply called “Life on the Mountain”. Thousands of hours of camera and audio recordings plus direct observation continue to reveal a world of activity that is as humbling as it is wonderful.

One of the animals you would be lucky to see on the plateau is a wombat. Yet the mountain is a place many of them call home. Their square poo is always easy to find along the track and, at the moment, because it’s been a good year, there are many healthy joeys wandering not too far from their healthy mothers. The “highways” the wombats create by pushing their bodies between the mountain’s stones and foliage, forging clear paths by using the same routes again and again, are one of the things that characterise the plateau of Mount Roland.

It’s a different story across the heights of Mount Van Dyke. And Mount Claude, too, is far less obviously occupied by these sturdy, quirky, highly lovable animals. The “Life on the Mountain” project, though it has been running for two years, is yet to secure footage of wombats on top of these other two mountains.

On Mount Roland, the “highways” allow easy travel from the lower, softer-soiled areas where burrows can be dug to the higher feeding grounds closer to the peak. Mount Roland Land Care has been keeping track of some of this activity. Almost all of the higher-up feeding happens at night, and there’s a network of paths the wombats choose as they move to and fro. Some of the paths are used more often than others, from just once a month or so to several times in a week.

Even the occasional paths remain fairly open – if you were able to see through the dense shrubs, trees and buttongrass, you would find a complex network of well-kept “roads”. They remain open because so many other animals are happy to use them. Spotted-tailed quolls, devils, feral cats, echidnas, Bassian thrush, southern brown bandicoots, tiger snakes, long-

tailed mice, Bennetts wallabies, pademelons, and even MRLC’s volunteers. All of these animals, especially the larger ones, have been recorded using the same wombat-forged paths. They would all get by without the wombats, of course, but a good road is too attractive an opportunity to pass up.

For the smaller animals, use of a wombat highway does carry risks – it places you in the same locations as the animals that may wish to eat you! It saves energy to use a well-made path, but it may also cost you your life. Unsurprisingly, it’s common to see long-tailed mice, pygmy possums, swamp rats and antechinus skirting the edges of the paths, darting on and off them as they hunt for food and company.

Wombats have been recorded by MRLC right across Mount Roland’s plateau. Gazing up at the jagged peaks from down below, you could imagine, especially in the night, their short legs finding ways through the tea tree, myrtle beech and pineapple grass, skirting the outcrops, drinking at the pools, carrying, in the case of the females, their new babies in their backwards-facing pouches.

Through 2026, MRLC hopes to report on many of the other species being followed by the “Life on the Mountain” project.



**Sheffield Fruit & Veg**

Mon - Fri  
8:30am - 5:30pm  
Saturday 9am - 1pm  
Closed Sunday

Phone - 0419 506 405  
Email -  
sheffieldfruitandveg@outlook.com

*A Kentish Lions Club Project*





**Sheffield Christmas Parade 2025**

Friday 12 Dec at 6 pm on Main St.




Bring the whole family  
Free BBQ, Fairy Floss  
Photograph your kids  
with Santa

Enjoy a great Christmas  
celebration in Sheffield.

To Enter the Parade Contact Don Thwaites  
0458343059 or donintas@gmail.com

This is a CHILD SAFE EVENT

# KENTISH COUNCIL

## RATES REMINDER

A reminder that the second rates instalment for the 2025/2026 financial year was due on or before **31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**. The third rates instalment is due on or before **28<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. Should you be experiencing financial difficulties, please contact our Rates Officer to discuss payment arrangement options.

## AUSTRALIA DAY & VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Nominations are now being called for –

- Australia Day Citizen of the Year;
- Young Citizen of the Year;
- Community Event of the Year,
- Volunteer Awards for 500, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 5,000 and 10,000 hours of service, and
- Recognition of Outstanding Service by a Volunteer.
- Volunteer Encouragement Award

Guidelines and application forms are available from Council's website at [www.kentish.tas.gov.au](http://www.kentish.tas.gov.au) or by contacting Council on 6491 0200 during business hours. Applications close on **Monday, 1 December, 2025**.

## FACILITY HIRE SYSTEM

Kentish and Latrobe Councils have a range of facilities available for use:

- Sheffield Town Hall
- Sheffield Community Rooms
- Banksia Centre
- Camp Banksia
- Latrobe Memorial Hall
- Hamilton Hub
- Bells Parade BBQ Area & Rotunda

All bookings can be made via our website at [www.kentish.tas.gov.au/community/hall-hire](http://www.kentish.tas.gov.au/community/hall-hire)

If you require further information about Councils online booking system, please contact our Customer Service Team 03 6491 0200 or [bookings@latrobe.tas.gov.au](mailto:bookings@latrobe.tas.gov.au).

## NEW DEFIBRILLATORS AT THE SHEFFIELD VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

There have been two defibrillators installed at the Sheffield Visitor Information Centre in case of emergency. This unit is now available for the local community to access, hopefully it's never needed, though it's reassuring to know that such an important, life-saving device is on hand should an emergency occur in Sheffield.

## WILD MERSEY MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE

Wild Mersey MBT retail items are on display and ready for purchase at our Visitor Information Centres. Pop in and pick up a fresh kit! We also have a selection of

water bottles, stubbie holders, and openers, perfect for keeping refreshed after coming back from the trails.

## CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

### Council Office and Depot

The Council Office will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from **1pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2025** and will reopen at **8am Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. The Council Depot will also be closed over the same period. Emergencies should be directed to the Call Centre on 6491 0200.

### Waste Transfer Stations

The Waste Transfer Stations will be closed on Christmas Day – **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025**. All other opening/closing times for the Waste Transfer Stations will be as normal.

### Garbage and Recycling Collections

Latrobe / Kentish Council Collections			
Christmas Day		Thursday 25th December	Saturday 27th December
Boxing Day			Friday 26th December
New Years Day		Thursday 1st January	

**Collections on Thursday 25th December have been moved to Saturday 27th December.**  
No changes have been made to collections on Boxing Day or New Years Day.

## DID YOUR BIN GET MISSED? WAS IT TOO HEAVY?

If your bin is too heavy (over 80kg), the collection truck can't lift it.

## LIFT THE TONE CAMPAIGN



## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held at the Council Office on **Tuesday, 16 December, 2025** commencing at 6:00pm.

## CHRISTMAS WISHES

At the close of another year the Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and Staff extend to all residents and ratepayers a warm and happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

# Mayor's message: decorate with care



This will be my last message for the year and to be honest I just don't know where the year has gone. By the time *The Kentish Voice* is published, there will only be about three weeks till Christmas.

Mural Fest was held during the first week of November and while the weather wasn't very kind, it didn't stop the artists from completing their mural or the visitors from wandering around the park to admire the murals as they came to life. If you haven't seen the murals, please go to Mural Park - they are inspiring, spectacular and absolutely amazing.

Sandy and her team of volunteers did a wonderful job looking after the artists and visitors and they all reflected on what a beautiful place Kentish is and how much they love coming here to participate in this annual event.

End of year events will be held throughout the municipality. This is a wonderful opportunity for residents to come together for a time of celebration and to socialise.

Other significant events have been held during November, including the Mount Roland Folk Festival. This event draws a huge crowd to Sheffield and is a fantastic event to showcase the musical talent of local artists and artists from further afield.

Once again, the success of this event is due to the dedication and commitment of volunteers who work hard behind the scenes to make sure the event runs smoothly.

The Medieval Festival was also held during November as was the Triple Top and the Endurance Ride. Twenty years of the Wilmot Museum was celebrated on November 15 with guests travelling to Wilmot to celebrate this milestone.

Laura Inder hosted the 40-year celebration of Tasmazia in November, honouring the vision of her late husband, Brian, as he developed the complex with the mazes, the Crackpot Village, shop and restaurant.

All these events add to the vibrancy of our municipality and I am very thankful to be part of a thriving community.

The Sheffield School will hold its end of year Celebration Day on December 9. This annual event highlights the amazing effort of the staff in providing interesting and engaging learning programs for the students.

Congratulations to the students who will receive awards. I wish all the Grade 10 leavers the very best as they leave school to continue with further education or work in their chosen field.

As Christmas approaches, I would like to reflect on the message I gave at the Christmas Carols in Sheffield a couple of years ago. I referred to the word "decorations" which we love to see at Christmas. We all love Christmas decorations which are used creatively in our homes, shops, presents, cards, gardens and of course the Christmas tree. Another area to reflect on is our environment and how it is decorated with the mountains, hills, trees, gardens, flowers, birds in the air, farm land and produce being grown. They all contribute to the beauty of our region.

Finally, I want us to think about how we decorate ourselves. As we reflect on this year, I want us to think of others in our community including family, friends, neighbours, emergency services and responders.

Let us decorate ourselves with kindness, love, care, compassion and humility. I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year and may 2026 bring you much love, joy and happiness.

**medicare**

## Mental Health Centre Devonport

The Devonport Medicare Mental Health Centre offers a safe and supportive environment where adults aged 18 and over can access free, professional mental health support, with no need for a referral or appointment.

When you come to the Devonport Medicare Mental Health Centre, you'll be welcomed into a calm and friendly space. There's no pressure, we'll take things at your pace.

You'll have a relaxed chat with one of our team members to get to know you and understand what's been going on. From there, we'll work with you to find the kind of support that feels right, whether that's counselling, peer support, or something else. Everything you share is confidential, and you are welcome to bring a friend, family member, or support person if that makes you feel more comfortable.

<b>OPENING HOURS</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
10 AM - 6 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY	11 - 17 STEWART STREET DEVONPORT TAS 7310
<b>E-MAIL</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>
DEVONPORT.MMHCC@STRIDE.COM.AU	1800 595 212

**ACCESS 2  
Health  
Services**

## FREE DECEMBER HEALTHY OUTING:

**10.30AM - 2.30PM  
MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

### MINI GOLF @ DEVONPORT

**MEET @ KENTISH HOUSE  
@ 10.15AM FOR BUS**

**SPOTS LIMITED,  
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL:**

**CASSANDRA 0447 325 343  
RUBY 0497 780 216**

SUPPORTED BY  
**Tasmanian  
Government**

**Kentish House**

## KENTISH HEALTH SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays				
<p><b>All services &amp; programs are free unless marked with an *</b>  <b>No bookings required unless marked with an ** For more information:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"><b>Call, text or leave a voicemail:</b></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <b>Kentish House:</b>                      6491 2322  <b>Cassandra:</b>                      0447 325 343  <b>Ruby:</b>                      0497 780 216                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"><b>Or come visit us at:</b></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <b>Kentish House</b>  <b>16 – 18 Station Street</b>  <b>Sheffield</b> </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Call, text or leave a voicemail:</b>	<b>Kentish House:</b> 6491 2322 <b>Cassandra:</b> 0447 325 343 <b>Ruby:</b> 0497 780 216	<b>Or come visit us at:</b>	<b>Kentish House</b> <b>16 – 18 Station Street</b> <b>Sheffield</b>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>  <b>9.00am – 11.00am:</b>                      Playgroup (0-5’s) w. KIDS Parenting Support @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am:</b> Mountain Learners Homeschool Meet @ Kings Park  <b>10.30am – 11.30am:</b>                      Rural Health Fitness Class @ Lorinna Community Hall  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b>                      Qheadspace Peer Group Chat (LGBTIQA+ &amp; allies, 12-25’s) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>9<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9.00am – 11.00am:</b>                      Playgroup (0-5’s) @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am:</b> Mountain Learners Homeschool Meet @ Kings Park  <b>10.30am – 11.30am:</b>                      West North West Working @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b>                      Qheadspace Peer Group Chat (LGBTIQA+ &amp; allies, 12-25’s) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>16<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9.00am – 11.00am:</b>                      Playgroup (0-5’s) @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am:</b> Mountain Learners Homeschool Meet @ Kings Park  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b>                      Qheadspace Peer Group Chat (LGBTIQA+ &amp; allies, 12-25’s) @ Headspace online</p>	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>  <b>9.30am – 11.00am:</b> Food pick up for Kentish residents @ KH  <b>12.00pm – 1.30pm:</b> Red Cross Recovery Basics (First Nations Peoples &amp; Communities Webinar) @ Zoom Webinar  <b>5.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> Digital Health Support Hour @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> General Coping Peer Group Chat (12-25’s) @ Headspace online  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Adults Supporting Young People (for family &amp; other adults) @ Headspace – text-based group chat</p> <p><b>10<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9.30am – 11.00am:</b> Food pick up for Kentish residents @ KH  <b>9.30am – 11.00am:</b> Services Australia @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am – 12.00pm:</b> NDIS Mission Australia @ Kentish House  <b>12.00pm – 12.30pm:</b> Services Australia @ Kings Hall, Railton  <b>2.00pm – 3.00pm:</b> Kentish Carers Support Group (Paint, Snack &amp; Sip!) @ Rural Health Sheffield  <b>5.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> Digital Health Support Hour @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> General Coping Peer Group Chat (12-25’s) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>17<sup>th</sup> – Kentish House closed between 1.00pm – 2.30pm</b>  <b>9.30am – 11.00am:</b> Food pick up for Kentish residents @ KH  <b>5.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> Digital Health Support Hour @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> General Coping Peer Group Chat (12-25’s) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>24<sup>th</sup> – Kentish House will be closing at 12pm noon</b>  <b>9.30am – 11.00am:</b> Food pick up for Kentish residents @ KH</p>
<b>Call, text or leave a voicemail:</b>	<b>Kentish House:</b> 6491 2322 <b>Cassandra:</b> 0447 325 343 <b>Ruby:</b> 0497 780 216					
<b>Or come visit us at:</b>	<b>Kentish House</b> <b>16 – 18 Station Street</b> <b>Sheffield</b>					
<p><b>8<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9:00am – 12:00pm:</b> North West Community Legal Centre @ Kentish House**  <b>9:30am – 11:00am:</b> Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House  <b>3.00pm – 4.30pm:</b> Social Hub (for neurodiverse young people, 12-18’s) @ Kentish House</p> <p><b>15<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>10.30am – 2.30pm:</b> Mini Golf Healthy Outing @ Kentish House **  <b>4.30pm – 6.00pm:</b> Culturally &amp; Linguistically Diverse Social Group @ Kentish House</p> <p><b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>  <b>9:30am – 11:00am:</b> Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House</p>						
<p><b>Turnbull’s Pharmacy will be closed on public holidays; open all other days.</b></p>						

# GRAMS CALENDAR – December 2025

Thursdays	Fridays	Weekends
<p><b>4<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>3.00pm – 4.30pm:</b> Green Room Youth Space @ Green Room  <b>4.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> The Quiet Corner @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Yarnspace Peer Group Chat (A&amp;TSI 12-25's) @ Headspace online  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Work &amp; Study Peer Group Chat (12-25's) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>11<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>12.00pm – 4.00pm:</b> Free Gift Wrapping @ Kentish House  <b>3.00pm – 4.30pm:</b> Green Room Youth Space @ Green Room  <b>3.30pm – 5.00pm:</b> Textiles Crafting Group @ Sheffield Library  <b>4.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> The Quiet Corner @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Yarnspace Peer Group Chat (A&amp;TSI 12-25's) @ Headspace online  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Work &amp; Study Peer Group Chat (12-25's) @ Headspace online</p> <p><b>18<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>4.00pm – 6.00pm:</b> The Quiet Corner @ Kentish House  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Yarnspace Peer Group Chat (A&amp;TSI 12-25's) @ Headspace online  <b>6.30pm – 9.45pm:</b> Work &amp; Study Peer Group Chat (12-25's) @ Headspace online</p>	<p><b>5<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9.00am – 11.00am:</b> Social Craft Group @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am – 11.00am:</b> Cuppa &amp; Kids (Railton Parents Group) @ Limestone Bakery Cafe  <b>2.00pm – 3.00pm:</b> The Chatty Cafe @ Turnbull's Pharmacy  <b>4.30pm – 5.30pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (ages 10 &amp; under) @ Sheffield School Gym *  <b>5.45pm – 6.45pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (all ages) @ Sheffield School Gym *</p> <p><b>12<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9.00am – 11.00am:</b> Social Craft Group @ Kentish House  <b>10.00am – 11.00am:</b> Cuppa &amp; Kids (Railton Parents Group) @ Limestone Bakery Cafe  <b>2.00pm – 3.00pm:</b> The Chatty Cafe @ Turnbull's Pharmacy  <b>4.30pm – 5.30pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (ages 10 &amp; under) @ Sheffield School Gym *  <b>5.45pm – 6.45pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (all ages) @ Sheffield School Gym *</p> <p><b>19<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>2.00pm – 3.00pm:</b> The Chatty Cafe @ Turnbull's Pharmacy  <b>4.30pm – 5.30pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (ages 10 &amp; under) @ Sheffield School Gym *  <b>5.45pm – 6.45pm:</b> Munting Taekwondo (all ages) @ Sheffield School Gym *</p>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Saturday</b>  <b>8.50am:</b> Railton Park Run @ Sykes Sanctuary, Kimberley Rd  <b>9.00am – 12.00pm:</b> Kentish Men's Shed  <b>12.30pm:</b> Social Bowls @ Sheffield Bowls Club *</p> <p><b>13<sup>th</sup> Saturday</b>  <b>8.50am:</b> Railton Park Run @ Sykes Sanctuary, Kimberley Rd  <b>9.00am – 12.00pm:</b> Kentish Men's Shed  <b>12.30pm:</b> Social Bowls @ Sheffield Bowls Club *</p> <p><b>20<sup>th</sup> Saturday</b>  <b>8.50am:</b> Railton Park Run @ Sykes Sanctuary, Kimberley Rd</p> <p><b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>  <b>10.00am – 3.00pm:</b> Sheffield Car Show &amp; Shine @ Car Park next to Sheffield Bowls Club</p>
<p><b>Rural Health Kentish will be closing COB on 24th December &amp; re-opening 5th January 2026.</b></p>	<p><b>Sheffield Medical Clinic will be closed on public holidays; open all other days.</b></p>	<p><b>Proudly sponsored by:</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>ACCESS 2 <b>Health Services</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Tasmanian Government</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">The Access to Health Services Project received funding from the Australian Government</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Kentish House</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>TasNetworks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Powering a Bright Future</p> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <p>THE <b>Kentish VOICE</b></p> </div> <p><b>Kentish House will be closing at 12pm noon on 24<sup>th</sup> December &amp; re-opening 9am on 19th January 2026.</b></p>

# Int'l Men's Day celebrates truckers

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) marked International Men's Day on November 19 by acknowledging the vital contribution men make across the heavy vehicle sector, and reinforcing the importance of wellbeing, connection and safety - both on and off the road.

NHVR's Steven Miller said the day was an opportunity to recognise the thousands of men who keep Australia's road network moving and ensure essential goods reach every corner of the country.

"International Men's Day is a moment to celebrate the commitment of heavy vehicle drivers who often work far from home under challenging conditions – the drivers, operators, planners, officers and so many others," he said.

"They play a major part in ensuring the supply chain continues to meet demands and businesses continue running, ensuring they operate and drive safely on our roads.

"It's also a timely moment to remind everyone in our industry that safety starts with people. Checking in on your mates, looking after each other and seeking support when you need it are just as important as vehicle maintenance or good rote planning."

Mr Miller said promoting a healthy, safe and supportive culture among Australia's heavy vehicle industry is a shared responsibility, particularly as ongoing driver shortages and an increased freight task are predicted to impact the sector.

"One in 3 drivers have reported living with multiple health conditions – with mental health among the most common."



December is a time of reflection for many, as 2025 dips below the horizon and a fresh and shiny 2026 emerges.

The end of the year is a time when many of us reflect on how we've spent the last 12 months: what we've learned, how we've grown, our wins and successes, and also the things that haven't gone as planned, the people or things that have hurt or disappointed us, and the ways we haven't lived up to the past year's goals.

It can be a difficult time of year emotionally. Reflecting on loss, relationships and those around us who have left our lives. This can be compounded when faced with social isolation and loneliness.

It is important to take time for rest to avoid burnout during the "silly season", rushing to meet the final deadlines and commitments of the year.

Keeping active, maintaining healthy intake, and getting adequate rest during the festive season will help you face the new year ready.

We can take simple steps to maintain positive mental health and plan a healthy new year

- write down your goals
- celebrate the small wins and positive changes
- plan self care time and healthy habits
- book in an annual health check (Rural Health Tasmania offers free blood pressure checks and nursing assessments)

Whatever your year was, the team at Rural Health Tasmania wish you a safe and healthy festive season.

We also hope to see many of you at the December 12 Christmas Parade, as we gather to celebrate our community in Sheffield.

Our team will be taking a break from December 25 until January 4, with the clinic reopening at 9am January 5, 2026.

Kentish Rural Health wishes clients & staff a happy festive season

North West Film Society screens at **Reading Cinemas Best St Devonport**

Preview all films at: [www.nwfs.org.au/upcoming-films](http://www.nwfs.org.au/upcoming-films)

**11<sup>th</sup> February @ 7pm**  
**Sentimental Value**  
 M | 133 mins | 2025 | Norway | Comedy, Drama

In a sprawling, bittersweet family drama, an ageing film director re-enters the lives of his estranged adult daughters to shoot a film in the ancestral family home. The two sisters must navigate their relationship with their father and deal with an American star dropped into the middle of their complex family dynamics.

**11<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm**  
**The Count of Monte Cristo**  
 M | 178 mins | 2024 | France | Action, Adventure

After escaping from an island prison where he spent 14 years for being wrongly accused of treason, the Count of Monte Cristo returns to exact revenge on the men who betrayed him.

Annual or Part Memberships available  
 For more details visit the NWFS website - [www.nwfs.org.au](http://www.nwfs.org.au)  
 Our membership recruitment desk operates between

**Cuppa & Kids**

For parents of young children to come together over a coffee and chat. Visiting services to attend, providing information & support.

**Fridays at 10 am**  
 Limestone Cafe Bakery  
 16 Foster Street, Railton Tasmania 7305

The 2024 project received funding from the Tasmanian Government

ACCESS 2 Health Services

# Signage clears up identity problems

After 96 years, the Lower Barrington Community Hall finally has a clear identity.

The main hall is now proudly adorned with a beautiful sign, designed in traditional colours and a style that complements the building's character.

Having two halls in Kentish with similar names has caused plenty of confusion over the years but with this new signage, we hope that will now be a thing of the past.

We're also delighted to see the recent installation of a free-standing sign, designed in a similar style to the main hall signage. This new addition will allow us to promote upcoming activities and events, helping both our local community and visitors to the region stay informed and connected.

The Lower Barrington Hall Committee is thrilled with these enhancements to our outdoor space. A special thank you goes to local resident Jann McKay for her creative work on the design of both signs.

This project was made possible through the generous support



of the Kentish Council's Community Grants Scheme, and we extend our sincere thanks to the Council for their assistance in bringing this project to life.

## COMMENT - WHAT'S IT WORTH?

By Geoffrey Curtis

How much are you worth? Some might reply to this question, 'I am worth a lot of money' or 'Mind your own business'. For most of us, using the word 'worth' means something to do with finance or money. In fact, this word has evolved from its Old English root, 'Weorþ', which means 'valuable, worthy or esteemed'.

Perhaps a different question might be 'How much wealth do you have? Once again, this evokes something related to money and finance. The word 'wealth' has its origins in Old English, from 'Wela', meaning 'wellbeing' or 'welfare'.

In both cases of using Old English words, it had less association with money. However, the shift towards the word 'wealth' began around the 15th century to mean an abundance of valuable possessions or money.

If you ask how you measure wealth apart from financial wealth, most of us might be stumped as to what else could there be? In fact, there are many different ways to express 'wealth', from Natural Wealth, which are the resources used from the land, air, water and minerals and the natural ecosystems that exist.

Then there is Human Wealth, which is access to, and use of, personal goods and services owned privately generated by health, skills and abilities.

Social Wealth is the access to publicly owned use of personal goods and services. It is composed of networks of people in high-trust relationships, such as your doctor.

There is Intellectual Wealth, which includes access to, and use of, created goods owned publicly or privately. These consist of ideas, designs, knowledge and descriptions.

And finally, Manufactured Wealth is access to or use of either private or publicly owned goods and services, including machines, buildings and tools.

Does it really matter after all, you are mostly responsible for yourself? And will it make any difference to your life? Well, that depends on how you measure 'Wellbeing' and the Federal Government is keen to find out.

Many governments, including our own, are now aware that it is in the nation's best interest to know how well

or not things are going. A prime example is what happened to many citizens during and after COVID-19, when many people became anxious, depressed, experienced income loss and 'Robodebt' among others during this period.

To put it into perspective, it's like going to your doctor for a check-up on the mental and physical health of our nation state. To enable our Government to find out, they are eager to hear from you, including academia, businesses, and communities, in an effort to create better lives for all Australians. Visit:

<https://treasury.gov.au/policy-topics/measuring-what-matters>



### Wanted Local Volunteer Committee Members

**Taste of the N W supports local producers on the Tasting Trail and community events in Sheffield. We have local groups that support our event on the day, so organisational skills are valued in the lead-up to the event/s.**

**So even if you are committed to another event on the day, your skills will be invaluable to Taste of the N W. Help promote local and help feed the many visitors who come for SteamFest and Mural Fest in the future.**

**For more information please contact Phil Dolan on 0455 502 542**



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Tim Padman 0439369455 / 64911181

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# Online safety training for seniors



**Cyber security guards: Care Forward's Jacqie Gleeson, Deep Singh and Lyndall Edwards.**

Care Forward has received a grant from the Australian Government to deliver cyber-security workshops for older Tasmanians.

The sessions, using advice provided by the government's Australian Signals Directorate, give people the skills and confidence they need to safely enjoy the advantages of being online, such as staying in touch with family and friends, using social media, shopping and accessing services.

Workshop facilitator Lyndall Edwards said that people over 65 were often pushed toward online services with little understanding of how to protect themselves online.

"We recognised that many of our clients were vulnerable to hackers and other malicious online actors because they weren't aware of the basic steps needed to protect themselves, so when we saw the opportunity to offer these workshops, we grabbed it! The feedback we've received so far has shown us that what we're doing is useful and really appreciated. We've delivered workshops from New Norfolk to Wynyard to date."

The workshops are conversational and respond to the real needs of people who attend. Attendees need to be over 65 or over 50 if they are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders.

"The workshops are designed so there is plenty of time to work with people on their devices if they wish," Ms Edwards said.

"The idea is to empower people by the experience, so they can pass on their knowledge to others. People can enrol as individuals by phone or online."

Community clubs or organisations are encouraged to request a workshop by calling 1300 364 876."

Care Forward is a locally owned and operated Tasmanian not-for-profit community service provider. We've been helping older Tasmanians across this State live well at home since 1999.

As Tasmania's largest provider of in-home care to older Tasmanians, Care Forward provides more than 80,000 hours of home support services every year.

## REDWATER CREEK STEAM & HERITAGE CENTRE

The next running days will be Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7, from 11am to 4pm. We will also be running from December 27 until Sunday, January 4. The Miniature and Model trains will also be running those days.



# KENTISH CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

**WEDNESDAYS: 2.00PM - 3.00PM**  
**INFORMATION, SUPPORT, REFERRALS - AND A CUPPA!**

**10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**  
**10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**  
**11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**  
**10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026**  
**8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2026**

**Rural Health (Kentish Health Centre)**  
**1B Henry Street, Sheffield**

# Mini Bakes

**12-17yrs**  
**Tue. 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb.**  
**11 am - 12:30 pm**  
**At Kentish House**

Bookings required  
 0447 325 343

# School Holiday Activities January 2026



**All-ages BBQ,  
Scoot & Skate**

**FREE**

Railton  
Skate Park  
Tue. 20<sup>th</sup> Jan  
11:30 am

Please note this event is weather-dependent.  
If it is raining or there are heavy winds, we will need to cancel the event. Financially supported by Kentish Council



Wed. 21<sup>st</sup> Jan

**FREE**

all-ages  
**water  
fun**

12-1:30 pm @ Kentish House.

Snacks included

Please note this event is weather-dependent.  
If it is raining or there are heavy winds, we will need to cancel the event. Financially supported by Kentish Council



**Canvas Chaos**

Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> Jan  
12-1:30 pm  
Railton Skate Park

Open to all ages. Snacks included

Please note this event is weather-dependent.  
If it is raining or there are heavy winds, we will need to cancel the event. Financially supported by Kentish Council



**Fondant  
Creations**

Unleash Your Sweet Side —  
Create Fondant Magic at  
Kentish House!

Ages 12-17 yrs. Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan.  
10 am- 12 pm  
Bookings required on 0447 325 343

Financially supported by Kentish Council



**NATURE  
NOOKS**

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan  
10 am – 12 pm  
12yrs and under  
Kentish House

Create Garden Signs  
Decorate Pots  
Planting  
Paint Garden Rocks  
& More

Financially supported by Kentish Council



**Plant Away**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan  
10:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Kentish House

Ages 12-17 yrs.  
Bookings required 0447 325 343

Financially supported by Kentish Council



# Kentish U3A marks 10 years of adventures and advancements

By Kentish U3A President Don Thwaites

December 2025 marks the end of Kentish U3A's 10th year. A big shout out to all the early members who saw the need and had the vision and energy to get it started.

After Adult Education courses got so expensive that the whole program folded, there was a large unfilled need in many communities. People still wanted to find out how to do things, or get some help, or understand something, or simply join with others to enjoy an activity. After retirement this can get a little harder as work contacts are lost.

Cryptically known as U3A, University of the Third Age groups started springing up all over the country. Not a real university. Third Age refers to something after secondary school and (mostly) after retirement.

U3A groups are about getting people together - maybe some learning, maybe a physical activity, but always making new contacts and enjoying some social time.

U3A groups had already started in Port Sorell and Ulverstone so, after visiting those, our first committee agreed that there was a need for something similar in Kentish.

A Kentish Group needed a constitution, to be Incorporated,

have a budget and a place to operate, some tutors (or, as we now call them, Course Leaders), before they could put out the call for members.

Fees were set at \$30 per year and for this small fee members could join one or as many activities as they wished. Great value. Great fun. Good for the brain. Good for the body. And it was successful right from the start, which was in January 2016.

Ten years on fees are a bit higher, courses and activities are different but the goals are the same. There is something for everyone. Almost. And we are always looking to introduce new courses. Membership is growing but there is room for more.

I am sure I speak on behalf of every course leader and every U3A member over the past 10 years in thanking the initiating committee for getting Kentish U3A off the ground.

What a great addition to our community.



*Kentish U3A members conquer mountains and explore amazing landscapes. Summer School courses \$10*

**U3A - the University of the Third Age - is a global movement for retired or semi-retired people wanting more out of life.**

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The Kentish U3A Committee wishes all members a happy festive season

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Authorised by Mark Shelton, Parliament House, Hobart TAS 7000

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## Market Moves

with Corinne Nicholson  
Principal  
Roberts Nicholson



As Christmas lights twinkle across our beautiful Kentish valleys, I've found myself reflecting on what an extraordinary year it has been for Roberts Real Estate Nicholson, a year of courage, growth, and quiet confidence.

As with any change, there were adjustments along the way, but my focus has always been on what matters most, my clients, my team, and this community I'm proud to serve.

Together, Sandy and I have been a part of many sales moving through the Kentish area.



Beyond the numbers, the real story has been about people, the laughter around the kitchen table, the happy tears when keys change hands, and the privilege of helping locals move forward in life.

Through it all, I've focused on providing a professional service, showing up with care, working with integrity, and giving every client my best. The journey hasn't always been smooth, but it's been meaningful, and I'm proud of how far we've come.

Thank you for your trust, kindness, and support. Wishing you a peaceful, happy Christmas and a bright 2026 ahead.

*\* Flip to the back cover to view this year's beautiful Kentish properties we've proudly sold.*

## KENTISH GARDEN CLUB

The next meeting of the Kentish Garden Club is Sunday, December 14, from 12 noon for the Club's annual Christmas lunch at Claude Road Hall amid the festive decorations.

All welcome (non-members \$20).

Bring a salad and/or dessert to share. RSVPs Jennifer Stackhouse (KGC President) on 0488 047 011.

## RAILTON N'HOOD CENTRE

Craftspeople in the Railton area are encouraged to display their creations for sale in the Neighbourhood Centre. Commission is by donation. Craft days are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 3pm. We welcome new participants and new ideas. We are also looking for more green thumbs for our garden.

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# CASEY HISCUTT MLC

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MONTGOMERY

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

OFFICE CLOSING: 4:30pm on Tuesday 23 December, 2025,

REOPENING: 9am on Monday 12 January, 2026.

To contact me, please email or call the office to leave me a voice message.

✉: [casey.hiscutt@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:casey.hiscutt@parliament.tas.gov.au) ☎: 6425 8300



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## Brian Mitchell

Labor Member for Lyons



I'm here to help! Please get in touch by emailing me at

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@parliament.tas.gov.au

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## Guy Barnett

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*Merry Christmas*

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## Jane Howlett

Liberal Member for Lyons

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas*



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a very Merry Christmas!  
Thank you for your support.

# Gardens filling with colour - and weeds

By Robert Gower

What will I write about the December garden? It has come around so fast.

As I write this article, everything is flowering beautifully. I have a Ceanothus Blue Sapphire – a dark blue flowering prostrate ground cover that looks incredible when in flower. It spreads 2m wide.

Close by are the NSW waratahs. I have both the red and the yellow, and they are flowering really well this year.

In the front garden I have a range of bearded irises in flower as well as Rhododendrons. These always start flowering around my mother's birthday in October.

Near the rose garden I have a horse chestnut with ruby coloured flowers just starting to open, and within the rose garden is a whole lot of Russell lupins and Dutch irises as well as an Allium called Purple Rain.

A large number of lilliums are starting to do well, and the roses are starting to bud up and flower. I'm sure, like last year, I will get lots of aphids, but I let the beneficial insects take care of that problem.

One thing I have plenty of, which I don't want, like any other gardener, is weeds, especially this year. The grass is growing so fast as well. I'm time poor and the garden is getting out of

control, so I think I'll call it my "distance garden" as it looks good from a distance.

I am now working my way around the gardens, tackling the larger weeds as I go, those that are coming into flower and setting seed.

I'm also trying to keep on top of the lawn mowing. Over summer things will slow down so, hopefully, I will be able to get on top of the weeds and put down lots of mulch to help reduce the weed explosion. What mulch I had put down before winter has broken down and needs to be topped up.

Have a relaxing Festive Season and Happy Gardening.



# Tenants now allowed pets in rentals

By Guy Barnett Deputy Premier, Minister for Small Business, Trade and Consumer Affairs and Liberal member for Lyons

Renters should not have to choose between having a place to live, and the pet they love.

This delivers on one of our key 2024 election commitments and has been welcomed by renters in all corners of Tasmania.

Recently our legislation delivering pets in rentals passed the Parliament with broad support.

This legislation ensures Tasmanian renters can have their treasured family pet living with them, as a right. Importantly, our legislation also contains safeguards for landlords to lodge an application to TASCAT for permission to refuse a pet on reasonable grounds.

Our Government has been working to deliver the things that matter to Tasmanians, just like this reform.

Tasmanians have one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world and pets are integral members of many of our families.

Roy Morgan research shows around 44 per cent of Tasmanian residents are living with at least one dog, 34 per cent living with at least one cat, and 16 per cent living with at least one of each.

My family's pet budgie, Bob (in honour of Sir Robert Menzies), is blue and white and brings a lot of character to our home. Now Tasmanians renters can share the joy a pet brings.

Beloved pets are more than just animals, they represent a significant and meaningful relationship. For many Tasmanians, pets are a source of stability in stressful times. They provide companionship and a sense of purpose, supporting better mental health and overall wellbeing. Tasmanians with pets are also more likely to achieve recommended levels of daily exercise. A healthy, active lifestyle is the way to go.

We've heard Tasmanians concerns that finding a rental in

this market with a pet is difficult and so we have acted and delivered. Animal lovers have welcomed this change, they're excited by this.

That's what this Government is all about, delivering for Tasmanians as they deal with the challenges that they face with compassion and commonsense.

The Government is now finalising the application processes to make it as simple as possible for tenants, property owners and property managers to make and respond to applications for pets in rentals, ahead of the expected commencement of the provisions in early 2026.

This is a great example of our Government getting on with the job, and working to deliver the things that matter to Tasmanians.

## Justice of the Peace

**A registered JP attends Kentish House every fortnight between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

**You don't need to make an appointment.**

Upcoming dates  
13<sup>th</sup> October  
27<sup>th</sup> October  
10<sup>th</sup> November \* 9-10:30 am  
24<sup>th</sup> November  
8<sup>th</sup> December  
22<sup>nd</sup> December

\*Other days/times can be arranged as needed.

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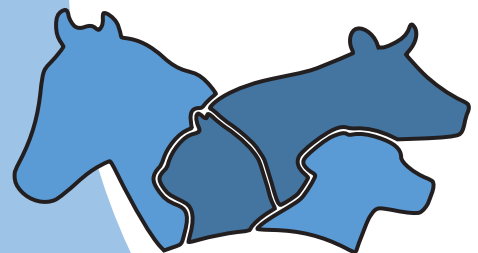
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## COMMUNITY NOTES

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### WORKING ART SPACE SHEFFIELD

Sheffield Art Gallery – 6 Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield

PASTELS BY KATHLEEN BENTLEY

The exhibition for the months of December and January showcases the works of Kathleen Bentley, a talented Pastel Artist. The opening will be on December 10 and will run until February 10. Opening hours: 10am- 3pm daily, free entry.

Working Art Space – 4-6 Albert Street, Sheffield

Printing classes: Tuesdays 10.30am-2.30pm. \$3.00 per person to cover inks and paper. Contact Fay on 0400 491 272 or email faylilly@hotmail.com

Botanical Drawing: Saturdays 1.00-3.30pm. Contact Colette Binder on 0439 426 665 for more information.

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please feel free to pop by our Albert Street Gallery to view our art displays.

---

### HUB REPORT

The year is drawing to a close, so thank you everyone for your support. We will close for our holiday break Friday 20th December, we'll be back Monday 6th January.

Recent Donations:

- Tandara Lodge \$1000
- Railton Kings Hall \$1000
- Kentish Harp Combo \$1000
- Futsal Championship Q.S. \$1000
- Tasmanian Junior Beef Expo \$1000
- Junior Simental Breeders Camp R.S. \$1000
- Tasmanian Junior Darts Championship T.R. \$1000

May you keep well and safe over the Christmas and Holiday Season. Thank you for your support as we donate into our Kentish community.

- The Committee

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### KENTISH LIONS

We have provided financial support to a number of locals who have found themselves in need. This is one of the ways that We Serve our community.

We have recently held two working bees at Tandara helping them clean up a recently acquired neighbouring property.

In 2025 we vision screened 863 Kinder to Year 6 children. Of those, we referred 145 to an optometrist for professional assessment. This program is growing quickly.

In 2026 we plan to screen more than 1000 children. We would welcome anyone who is keen to help with screening. You do need a Working with Vulnerable People card but aside from that, Lions provides all required training. We are grateful for the support of our sister club Lions Club of Devonport-Mersey,

With Christmas coming soon, the club is busy organising the annual Lions Christmas Parade on Friday, December 12. There will be lots of floats finishing at King George Park with a free BBQ and Fairy Floss. And, of course, Santa will be there. If you would like to enter a float in the parade, contact us at kentishlions@gmail.com. Old or unusual vehicles are welcome, along with community group floats, walkers and anything else.

Our meetings are second and fourth Mondays of the month. Guests are welcome. Contact kentishlions@gmail.com.

---

### WILMOT COUNTRY MARKET

After the wonderful success of the Spring Market, Wilmot Country market is back on Saturday, **December 6**, with a wonderful twilight market!

The Summer market is packed full with over 30 stalls, including, hot food, coffee, gourmet treats and gifts.

Combine this with the Bricktasia event hosted by Brick Sandwich in the back room and the wonderful geology display on the stage and you have a shopping wonderland for all ages!

Adding to the spirit of Christmas, market newcomer Wilmot Hills Distillery will be joining the market with their wonderful range of gin products and wines.

Come along and enjoy an evening under Mt Roland while you enjoy great food, live music and a spirited vibe.

---

### CLAUDE ROAD MARKET

Our Christmas market will be held on Saturday, **December 13**, from 9am to 1pm. We will have a hall full of stallholders – and lots of stallholders outside if the weather is fine.

This will be an excellent opportunity to do some Christmas shopping with a unique range of gifts and hand-made treasures.

Come along and spend some time browsing the stalls and interacting with our incredibly talented craftspeople then find something delicious in the kitchen.

For those of you who are unable to attend our Christmas market, the Claude Road Memorial Hall Committee wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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### KENTISH MUSEUM

Kentish Museum is re-opening in January 2026 and volunteer staff are needed. A Training Day will be held at the museum on **December 15** from 11am to 2pm.

To register, please contact Kentish Council, Economic Development Officer Greg Fenwick on email: council@kentish.tas.gov.au or phone: 6491 0200, mobile: 0499 887 188.

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### STEAMFEST

**March 7-9, 2026, Spring Street, Sheffield**

SteamFest 2026 is just around the corner, and we're calling on our wonderful community to help make it happen. Each year, volunteers are at the heart of SteamFest helping everyone enjoy this celebration of steam heritage and innovation.

Whether you can spare a full day or just a few hours, your time makes a real difference. To find out more, please contact Jill Ridgway on 0448 631 922.

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### KENTISH PROBUS CLUB

There will be no meeting in December for the Kentish Probus Club as it's the Christmas luncheon at the Sheffield RSL Club on Tuesday, December 9, from noon. We will resume normal meetings in 2026 on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sheffield Bowls Club from 10am. Visitors are always welcome. For further information, please contact Annelise on 6496 1220.

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### WILMOT HISTORIC MUSEUM

Opening hours Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 3pm.

# Dolcoath Hill, Shepherd & Murphy

This month we will consider the mines west of the Forth River in the vicinity of the major road junction at Moina, where the Cethana link road climbs steeply up from Cethana Dam to join the busy tourist road to Cradle Mountain. Once called Lincoln's Corner, in recent times the tourist-related businesses on this busy corner have reclaimed the obsolete name 'Moina' from the old, abandoned mining township 2kms away. The chief mines were the All Nations on Dolcoath Hill, Shepherd & Murphy at old Moina and the goldfields at Bell Mount.

Dolcoath Hill comprises rugged country south of Cethana Link Rd, east of the Cradle Mountain Rd and west of the Forth River. It was here, in the early part of 1891, that prospector *Bart L Thomas* first found tin, resulting in a rush of prospectors and leases across this remote, unexplored region.

**Dolcoath Tin Mining Co, 1891.** When *John Levings* and *Thomas Brennan* found tinstone instead of gold, they named the area 'Dolcoath Hill' after the oldest and richest tin mine in Cornwall, England. Some tunnelling was done into very rough ground, but after government geologists judged it not valuable, a few years later it closed. Around 1919, when tin prices were much higher, Ulverstone speculators worked it for some time.

**Iris Mine, 1892.** On the south side of Dolcoath Hill, *Michael Hearps* discovered alluvial tinstone and wolfram in 1892. When the Iris Tin Mining Co was formed, most of the 1200 shares were held by three Launceston doctors. This mine was marked with tragedy. In Mar 1894, three miners – *Callagan, Joyce & O'Toole* – sent their fourth mate, *Wm Inall* (50), into their hut to boil the billy. When they went for a 'cuppa', they found him dead of a heart attack.

Taken over by *Charlie Adams* and brothers *Syd* and *Edmund Davis*, the company had their first alluvial load ready for shipment in May 1913. But while cutting the roots of a large stump overhanging their open cut mine, Syd Davis (33) was crushed when the stump fell on top of him. When Dr Ratten arrived by motorcar from Sheffield, Davis was already dead, leaving behind a wife and two small children. In the 1920s, *Thomas Kitto* began managing the mine until it closed in 1925. *Fred Townsend* reopened it during the 1940s and worked it profitably until 1950.

On the north side of Dolcoath Hill, a series of mines opened along Narrawa Creek. *Warwick Castle* discovered three of them: Princess Mine in 1908, Squibb Mine in 1909 and Sayers. *Ben Gurr* commenced production in 1912 at the Squibb Mine. It was the first mine in the district that paid its way from the start without resorting to floating a public company. It closed in 1920. Other nearby mines were Higgs, Narrawa Reward and Povey & Johnson.

## **All Nations mine, 1900**

All Nations mine was one of the three big mines in this area and the largest producer of gold, silver and bismuth. The site was discovered by *Tom Shepherd & Tom Murphy* just off the eastern side of the Cradle Mountain Rd, close to Moina. Its multi-national name came from the composition of the original gang of workers.

By July 1904, our intrepid Sheffield storekeeper and Lorinna mail contractor *Thomas J Clerke* took out a 25-year conditional lease over the All Nations mine that depended on him obtaining English investment money for extensive development. Clerke paid his partner, *Richard Mitchell* (50), to go to England with specimens to obtain funds for the All Nations Wolfram

Mine Company. Tragically, during his first night in his London hotel, Mitchell died of pneumonia. Clerke continued working the mine until 1907 but was unable to comply with the conditions of his lease. He lost the subsequent court case, lost his lease and lost a large amount of money. (A similar thing happened to TJ Clerke back in Jan 1891, when he lost money after forming The Australasian Gold Mining Co at the Golden Hill mine near Lorinna.)

*James Rowland* installed six tons of mining machinery in the All Nations mine, but it was burnt out in 1914. Various syndicates mined the All Nations mine through the decades as the prices ebbed and flowed. In 1959, *Jock Smith* of Erriba leased the mine for 20 years followed by *Kidd and McGraw*, making it the longest working mine in the area.

Just south of the All Nations lease was the Lady Barron mine, managed by *Wm Goldsworthy* for a Melbourne syndicate, and the Pig & Whistle mine, worked by *Harry Lawson*. Originally, the only way to access the Moina and Dolcoath mines was by

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## ‘Moina’s sports activities was the recreation ground.’

---

crossing the Forth River at Lorinna and climbing up the Five Mile Rise. A second crossing – a cage crossing from the Forth Gates – was put in between Campbell Reward Mine on the east and Dolcoath Hill on the west side. For years, this shortened the trip for individual miners until the wire broke and let one miner into the river. A flood finished it off in May 1916. In 1916, *Alex Sloane* with his gang cut an 8-mile direct cart-track road from Moina to Lorinna, but by this date an alternate road, north through Wilmot, was opened, and some ore was shipped from the Roland railway station.

## **The Shepherd & Murphy mine, 1892**

One of the largest wolfram and bismuth mines in Tasmania was the Shepherd & Murphy mine on Bismuth Creek at Moina. Discovered by *Tom Shepherd* and *Tom Murphy* of Railton, it operated from 1892 to 1957. The Shepherd & Murphy Tin Mining Co was formed in Royal Hotel, Latrobe, in Feb 1893 with a capital of 600 £1 shares. *George Rudge* became legal manager, with mostly Latrobe businessmen, solicitors and doctors as shareholders. The only Kentish shareholders were Tom Shepherd, Tom Murphy, *Arthur Hammant* (all prospectors) and *Robert Manning* (farmer).

Operations began in 1897 with above-ground manager *Richard Mitchell* erecting various buildings and underground boss *Watty Townsend* doing the tunnelling. In 1902, *William Hitchcock* took over the management of the mine and remained with the company for 27 years. Hitchcock commenced at Mt Lyell in 1898 and managed mines in Victoria and NZ before returning to Tasmania in charge of the Shepherd & Murphy.

In 1906, metallurgist *Hartwell Condor* had four tons of concentrates shipped with him to England and was successful in gaining English capital to develop the mine, which changed the company's future. The English injection of capital allowed for the purchase of machinery and the building of a large milling plant. The company had been employing 30 men, but this rose to 200 at the peak of activity, when underground mining extended for two miles on three different levels. Between 1906 and 1920, the Shepherd and Murphy ran as a

# and Bell Mount mines

By Alan F Dyer

very successful company, mining wolfram, tin and bismuth, and paying dividends to English and local shareholders. This all came to an end on Sat 24 Jan 1920 when, tragically, a raging bushfire destroyed the company's operation and brought all work to a standstill.

A new concentrating mill was eventually erected, but in the meantime, world metal prices had slumped so much that full production was never resumed. Only skeleton staff remained until the mine closed in 1926. The new mining plant was sold to Storey's Creek Tin Mining Co and taken to Rossarden. Interestingly, Wm Hitchcock went there as well and managed the Aberfeldy Tin Mine between 1930 and 1945. Hitchcock died in Melbourne in 1945 without children.

## Old Moina township

Moina was a mining company village, with streets named after company directors – Soper, Hinman, Wright and Murphy Streets – and 47 allotments for miners and their families. Located in a commanding position, Wm Hitchcock's very comfortable manager's residence had a pine-lined living room and carpeted floor. He served on the Kentish Council from 1914 to 1923 and was warden in 1923. Hitchcock purchased the first car in Moina to travel 23 miles one way to council meetings in Sheffield. After the Shepherd & Murphy Tin Mining Company left Moina, his house was auctioned off to *Les Cox* for £50, moved to Staverton and later became the home of *Carl & Jean Cox*.

**Moina Post Office, 1910:** The mine manager's wife, *Caroline Hitchcock*, commenced as first postmistress on 1 Jan 1910. Then Ben Gurr 1911, *Tom Dutton* 1912, *Elsie Jubb* until 1920, *Ruby Goldsworthy* 1921–1929, her son *Alfred Goldsworthy* until 1936, *Mabel Godwin* until 1937, her husband – *George Godwin* – until 1957. The PO closed permanently in 1958.

**Moina Public Hall, 1911:** Moina Public Hall/school was built for the Kentish Council and was opened in June 1911 by the *Hon John Hope*. Hope and his councillors had made a difficult 3-hour rain-soaked journey from Sheffield for the occasion. The building contractor was young *Will England* of Wilmot, who erected a substantial 48ft x 20ft weatherboard hall with an iron roof for £150.

Orphaned as a child, Will England (14) accompanied his uncle TJ Clerke back to Tasmania in 1900 after Clerke visited the UK. After an apprenticeship with *JT Gunn*, England came to Wilmot for a while, where TJ Clerke had opened a new store. England built both the Moina Hall and Wilmot Wesleyan Church. Schoolchildren remained in this unheated hall until the new Moina school was built by *Arthur Bailey* of Sheffield for £300; Wm Hitchcock was instrumental in getting it constructed. The school commenced in 1915, with *Miss Lily Townsend* in charge, but closed nine years later, in 1924. The Moina Hall was destroyed by fire on 27 Nov 1946.

Town life reached its peak during the First World War. The centre of Moina's social life was the public hall, and the centre of Moina's sports activities was the recreation ground, now submerged beneath Lake Gardiner.

*Wm (Bill) & Ruby Goldsworthy*, with their young family, arrived in Moina in 1910. Bill was manager of the nearby Lady Barron mine, while Ruby became the pianist for all church services and concerts and was on-call as the local midwife. Ruby, with her daughter *Irene*, took over the post office and added a small shop. Bill won the contract for the mail run to Wilmot and

bought a T Model Ford, which he adapted to carry passengers and parcels. As his boys – *Alf* (b1904) & *Arthur* (b1905) – grew up, Goldsworthy bought 227 acres and began farming with them. They were given charge of the Moina salmon hatchery to build up the stocks in the surrounding mountain rivers. In 1925, the Goldsworthys were the first to buy a large wireless set from Slaters at Sheffield.

After the Shepherd & Murphy mine closed, a lot of land was purchased for cattle grazing, farming and hunting. A dispute over hunting areas led to a double murder in April 1938, when *Gordon Francombe* (29) and *Henry Dawson* (57) were shot by rabbit-trapper *Donovan Packett* (33) on the Moina roadside. Found by *Norm Croome*, a skin merchant from Sheffield, the bodies had two shots in each head.

In 1953, during the Korean War, the Shepherd & Murphy site was taken over by the Moina Tungsten Tin Co, who built a prefabricated village with new machinery. Unfortunately, metal prices again fell, and when water entered the mine, it closed permanently in 1956.

## Bell Mount Goldfields, 1892

*Malcolm Campbell* found alluvial gold in the Bell Mount goldfields, and when he took out a 50-acre lease at Bell Mount in Feb 1893, it started a gold rush. By May 1893, some 100 prospectors were in the area; Sheffield and Latrobe speculators being prominent among them. *Elvin Atkinson* commenced packing supplies in and out of the Bell Mount goldfields. Parties and syndicates formed to peg out their claims averaged three men each, including *Malcolm Campbell & Sykes*; *Bound & Glover*; *Sweeney, Brampton & Bott*; *Donnelly Bros, White & L Thomas*; *Johnson & Ross*; *Allen, Shepherd & Hammond*; *Henry Weeks's party, Maddox's party and Dooley's party*.

The nuggets discovered at Bell Mount were the largest discovered in Kentish's backcountry. *Llewellyn Thomas* found one 4oz nugget, and Sheffield storekeeper *Wm Lade* found one that was 5oz. A 22oz nugget topped the scales until *George Inverarity* found a 50oz nugget in Bell Creek. During the boom period, Bell Mount paid good money. It was estimated about 4,000 ounces of gold valued around £3/17/6 per oz were taken from Bell Mount. All gold nuggets were deposited with manager *Edward Lamb* of the National Bank in Sheffield. But after a year or so, little new gold was found.

Long after the Bell Mount goldfields had been deserted, *Alex Campbell* continued sluicing there and just paid his way. Alex never married. He stayed on at Bell Mount for two decades, supporting his widowed sister and her children in Deloraine. Alex died in July 1936 and was buried in Deloraine. Malcolm Campbell and wife Margaret (nee Johnson) returned to the Minnow River at Lower Beulah – where it all began. Malcolm died there on his son *Claude Campbell's* farm in April 1938, aged 79, and was buried in Sheffield.

Mining that once thrived throughout this region has gone, but the tourist industry around Moina is still thriving. The popular Lemonthyme Wilderness Retreat built by *Darrell Stafford* back in 1989 for the 1990 World Rowing Championships, still continues to attract its wilderness clientele. And the Cradle Forest Inn at Moina, destroyed by fire in May 2022, has been rebuilt and along with Cradle Alpine Retreat is a popular place to stay. This whole remote Dolcoath Hill region is soon destined to roar back to life when the enormous Cethana Pumped Hydro Energy Storage project gets under way.

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# Dr Ratten's long fraud under scrutiny



Dr Victor Richard Ratten (*left*) was the well-regarded doctor in Sheffield from 1908 until 1916 and there have been several articles written about him in *The Kentish Voice* by Mr Alan Dyer, the most recent being in the March 2025 issue.

Ratten's house and Ratten's hospital remain on the corner of Main and Henry streets and there is a mural involving him.

Ratten was a fraud with a bought American medical diploma.

I became interested in Ratten some 40 years

ago and have been quietly researching him since then and have now published a book on his life which is advertised opposite.

The back cover of the book reads: "There are many historical examples of medical fraud. Some have gone undetected, others have come to light and were dealt with quite quickly.

"Why did this case of medical fraud go on for 19 years before it was resolved?"

Victor Ratten bought his medical diploma from a college that had been closed for two years, but a Royal commission determined that it was genuine.

Ratten broke a strike and was appointed surgeon superintendent at the Hobart General Hospital. The British Medical Association (now the Australian Medical Association) wanted Ratten deregistered as a medical practitioner; the Tasmanian Government, who wanted his services, legislated so that he couldn't be.

How could someone with no medical qualifications or training become a successful surgeon? Could it happen again?

The title of this book, 'Trust me, I'm a doctor' derives from his slogan when he sought election to the Tasmanian Parliament: "You have trusted me with your life – trust me with your vote."

- *Michael Hodgson AM. Retired Anaesthetist. Hobart.*

## World AIDS Day - Dec 1

**Tasmania has seen an 82% drop in new HIV cases since 2015, with only three new notifications in 2024, yet stigma and barriers to testing and care remain. About 8% of people living with HIV in Australia remain undiagnosed. HIV is now a manageable condition with effective treatment and prevention available.**

**Landmarks around Tasmania will be lit red during World AIDS Day, including the Tasman Bridge. A new HIV-specific confidential support platform will be introduced; a podcast will be launched and a poster campaign introduced to hospitals, prisons, and public spaces.**



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# December Crozzle

All words go in a straight line but in any direction – Up, Down, Left, Right, Diagonal. Most words are joined to another word by at least one letter, so any letter may be used in more than one word. Circle the words in the graph as you find them and when all the words are circled, there will be letters left over. Write these in the spaces below to discover the Theme Word.

- |              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Baby         | Kind      |
| Bag          | Log       |
| BBQs         | Mary      |
| Beach        | Meals     |
| Birth        | Music     |
| Buy          | Nap       |
| Cards        | Parades   |
| Care         | Parcels   |
| Carols       | Parks     |
| Celebrations | Party     |
| Concert      | Pax       |
| Cricket      | Peace     |
| Date         | Picnics   |
| Decorations  | Play      |
| Deer         | Rest      |
| Flame        | Robes     |
| Games        | Shepherds |
| Gift         | Shopping  |
| Holiday      | Sport     |
| Home         | Stable    |
| Hope         | Star      |
| Jesus        | Talks     |
| Joseph       | Tinsel    |
| Joy          | Trees     |

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P U B E A S N C Y
E B L P U O D I A
H S E M I O B N D
S B S T A R A C I
E I A P F R B I L
B R T V E I Y P O
C E C O T R M B A G H H R I B
A S C R H O T R E C N O C T E
R E E D H P E S O J E S U S A
D E M L E S N I T E K C I R C
S N O I T A R B E L E C A S H
G N I P P O H S L O R A C
    
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## CRYPTIC PUZZLE TASMANIA

1. Winter (8)
2. Frost peeping through (6,5)
3. Sounds like a shower, very heavy too! (7)
4. Post winter thaw (5,5)
5. Warm state forecast (4,5)
6. Everybody comes back inside tumble-down hut (6)
7. Hut ten remodelled (3,3)
8. Bare need ordered (8)
9. Has tins with a note inside (8)
10. Laid up on fireplace (4,5)     Answers: P43

**Our printers in Hobart will be closed for Christmas so we have an early deadline next month: December 10.**

**Thank you to all contributors who make The Kentish Voice such a vibrant, important publication. Your input is vital to an informed community.**

**Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!**

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## Timber industry gets funding boost

Australia's forest industries will receive a further \$11 million under the Federal Government's Support Plantation Establishment Program, with seven new projects to establish around 5500 hectares of hardwood and softwood plantations across NSW, WA, Tasmania and the NT to the Tiwi Islands.

The funding will help the industry respond to rising demand for domestically sourced timber, particularly for housing construction. Additionally, it will support private forestry, First Nations businesses, farm foresters, and state and

territory forestry bodies to reduce their carbon footprint.

Federal Minister for Forestry Julie Collins said the new plantations would play a crucial role in meeting housing demand and bolstering regional economies.

"These 5500 hectares of new plantations will assist in growing the timber that is needed for our future, including for more housing," she said.

"These projects will create new opportunities for our forestry sector, unlocking more jobs in our regions and helping to strengthen regional economies."

## POLICE REPORT

**Stealing:** The Avenue, Latrobe 04/11/2025  
The suspect has walked to the front of the property and removed a galvanised tub off of the property.

**Stealing:** Between 05/11/2025 & 08/11/2025  
Golden Gate Road, Beulah.  
Unknown persons have removed a generator and a crowbar from the shed situated at the front of the property. Brand of generator not known - it has a red tank and is on wheels. Valued at \$1250.

**Burglary & Stealing:** Astron Fuel Main Street, Sheffield  
At 1:48am on 19/11/2025, the suspect entered through the front door of the Astron Service Station. The suspect jumped behind the register, which triggered the cameras to start recording, notifying the RP, who called the police. Items stolen include lighters, packets of filters and

various confectionary. The total value of the items stolen was \$160.50. The suspect then left the store through the sliding door. The incident was captured on CCTV camera footage. Investigations ongoing.

**Burglary and Stealing:** Latrobe between the 09/11 & 10/11  
Unknown persons have committed multiple burglaries of motor vehicles, sheds and carports in the Gilbert, Last and Fenton street areas of Latrobe. Unknown persons have entered a number of vehicles either via unlocked doors or by forcing entry by smashing a window on the vehicle. Offenders have also gained entry to sheds and outbuildings at various locations via unlocked shed doors or forcing doors. Items stolen included: handbags, wallets, confectionary, sunglasses, cash and tools. Devonport Criminal Investigation Branch has carriage of the matters and investigations are continuing.

**Emergency**                    **000**  
**Sheffield Station**            **6478 6012**

**Non urgent**                    **131 444**  
**Latrobe Station**            **6478 4099**

### Lower Barrington Baptist Church

Sheffield Road, Lower Barrington  
Welcome to church - Sundays at 10am  
1st Sunday - Holy Communion  
Sunday, Dec 21 - Carol Service  
Thursday, Dec 25 - Christmas Day  
Service at 9am.  
Kid's church and Bible studies resume  
Feb. Enquiries: Steve 0409 944 296.



### Sheffield Baptist Church

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### Traditional Anglican Church

For service information,  
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### CHURCH NOTICES

#### Holy Cross Catholic Church

High Street Sheffield  
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#### Sheffield Uniting Church

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#### Sheffield Bible Chapel

45 High Street Sheffield  
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Youth Group Enquiries, phone Joy Tekinay on 0428 666 494.



#### St John's Kentish Anglican Community Church

92 Foster Street Railton  
'A light on the hill'  
Every Sunday at 10am.  
Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday  
Contact: John Gray - Honorary Priest - 0417 524 979; 47johngray@gmail.com

#### Roland Gospel Hall

152 Staverton Rd, Roland  
Serving the Christian Brethren community in the Kentish district.  
Sunday Worship 10am - 11am  
Fellowship (Family Service) 11am-noon



# WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

		<b>Scenes of Tasmania</b> by Kathleen Bentley, Sheffield Art Gallery
Sat-Sun	Nov29-30	<b>GardenFest</b> - various private gardens
Monday	Dec 1	<b>World AIDS Day</b>
Sat-Sun	Dec 6, 07	<b>Steam Engine rides</b> 11am-4pm, Sheffield Steam & Heritage Centre
Friday	Dec 5	<b>U3A Christmas lunch</b> noon, Sheffield RSL
Saturday	Dec 6	<b>Wilmot Country Market</b> 3-7pm, Wilmot Memorial Hall
Monday	Dec 8	<b>Justice of the Peace</b> 9.30-11.30am, Kentish House, Sheffield
Tuesday	Dec 9	<b>Community Morning Tea</b> 10.30-11.30am, Kentish House
		<b>Kentish Probus Club</b> Christmas lunch noon, Sheffield RSL
Wednesday	Dec 10	<b>Kentish Carers Support Group</b> 2-3pm, Rural Health, 1B Henry St
		<b>Early deadline for January edition of The Kentish Voice</b>
Friday	Dec 12	<b>Christmas Parade</b> 6pm, Main Street
Saturday	Dec 13	<b>Claude Road Market</b> 9am-1pm, Claude Road Hall, 787 Claude Road
		<b>Wilmot Community Christmas BBQ</b> 5.30pm, Pioneer Park
Sunday	Dec 14	<b>Kentish Garden Club</b> Christmas lunch noon, Claude Road Hall
		<b>Community Christmas Carols</b> 7pm, Sheffield Town Hall
Monday	Dec 15	<b>Kentish Museum</b> volunteer training 11am-2pm, 93 Main St, Sheffield
		<b>Healthy Outing</b> mini golf Devonport 10.30am (see p21)
Tuesday	Dec 16	<b>Kentish Council meeting</b> 6pm, Council Office, High Street, Sheffield
Thursday	Dec 18	<b>Bushfire Ready Workshop</b> 10.30am & 5.30pm, Claude Road Hall
		<b>Christmas Carols</b> 7pm, St Johns Anglican Church, 92 Foster St, Railton
Sunday	Dec 21	<b>Carol Service</b> 10am, Lower Barrington Baptist Church
Monday	Dec 22	<b>Justice of the Peace</b> 9.30-11.30am, Kentish House, Sheffield
Sat-Sun	Dec 27-Jan 4	<b>Steam Engine rides</b> 11am-4pm, Sheffield Steam & Heritage Centre

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday	Jan 18	<b>Harp Concert</b> 2pm, Sheffield Town Hall
	Mar 7, 09	<b>SteamFest</b> , Sheffield Steam & Heritage Centre

### Cryptic Puzzle Answers

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Westbury      | 6. Tullah      |
| 2. Epping Forest | 7. The Nut     |
| 3. Spreyton      | 8. Aberdeen    |
| 4. Wrest Point   | 9. Hastings    |
| 5. West Tamar    | 10. Dial Range |

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# Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!

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