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July 2026

Edition of

The Kentish Voice

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Winter means Christmas in July



Imagine Main Street in Sheffield twinkling with lights, adorned with festive decorations, and radiating the warmth and cheer of Wintermas. To help bring this vision to life, Kentish Arts Commerce and Tourism (KACT) is offering assistance with lights and decorations. If you need help getting started or would like some creative ideas, please call us on 0427 475 113. To add a little friendly competition, KACT will be holding a

contest for the Best Decorated Residence in Sheffield and the Best Decorated Shop Front on Main Street. Let your creativity shine and show off your Wintermas spirit!

Voting will take place at the Sheffield Post Office from July 13-31. Residents planning to decorate their homes in Sheffield are asked to register their participation by emailing info@muralfest.com.au.

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Editor : *Heather Eiszele*
Phone: 0407 546 486
Assistant Editor : *Lesley Begg*

Contact for Editorial:
editor@thekentishvoice.com.au

Contact for Advertising: *Lesley Begg*
advertising@thekentishvoice.com.au
Phone: 0408 451 107
Website: www.thekentishvoice.com.au

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Join the festivities & celebrate winter in Kentish



Join us for a fun-filled Christmas in July Trivia Night on Monday, July 20, at the Sheffield RSL. Test your knowledge, enjoy some festive cheer, and help raise funds for Tandara Lodge. To book a table or reserve your place, please contact the Sheffield RSL directly on 6491 1393.

Redwater Creek Railway Steam Train

Experience the charm of a steam train ride with the Redwater Creek Railway, operating on July 4-5. Departures are from the Sheffield Railway Station on the corner of Main and Spring Streets.

The return journey takes approximately 25 minutes. Fares: Adults: \$10; Children & Concession \$8

Support Local This Winter

Throughout July, we encourage everyone to support the many cafés, restaurants, shops, and businesses across the Kentish Municipality. Warm up with a specialty coffee and sweet treat, enjoy a hearty meal with family and friends, or find the perfect scarf, sweater, or gift for the colder months.

Your support helps our local businesses thrive during the winter season.

** The Kentish Voice wishes to thank columnist Geoffrey Curtis for his contributions and analysis over many years. Geoffrey's columns can be read in The Central Coast Voice.*

Artists reflect on Town of Murals beginnings

Over the past 40 years, Sheffield has earned a well-deserved reputation as the “Town of Murals”, with many talented artists commissioned to create the remarkable outdoor gallery that has become one of Tasmania’s most recognisable attractions. The very first mural, *Stillness and Warmth*, was painted by artist John Lendis (pictured left with Julian Bale).

Recently, filmmakers had the opportunity to interview John during his return to Tasmania for a solo exhibition of his paintings in Evandale. Now living in the Cotswolds, England, John reflected fondly on his time painting murals in Tasmania.

He recalled feeling uncertain about how the first mural would be received by both locals and visitors. However, as more murals depicting the history and character of Sheffield and its surrounding district were added, the project quickly gained widespread community support and positive feedback.

Joining John during the filming was Julian Bale, who has served as curator and restorer of the Sheffield murals for the past 20 years. Julian said it had been a privilege not only to restore and preserve John’s murals but also to contribute his own work to the collection.

The pair shared stories of their involvement in the mural project and discussed the impact it had on their artistic careers. John explained that, like many public art commissions, mural painting came with its challenges.

“In the early days, when funding was limited, it was often difficult to produce large-scale murals within a tight budget,” he said. He also noted that copyright and intellectual property rights presented ongoing challenges for artists.

Despite these obstacles, John said he was delighted to see his



murals still standing as Sheffield celebrates the 40th anniversary of the mural project.

The Robinson brothers, who are producing the documentary, have also enlisted mural historian Martyn Whiteley to provide historical context, artist interviews and background information. Their aim is to showcase as many of the contributing artists and their murals as possible.

A vibrant advertisement for 'Crackpot Critters!'. The main title is in large, bold, white and yellow letters on a wooden sign. Below it, a purple banner reads 'HIDDEN THROUGHOUT THE MAZES!'. The background features a lush green maze with a small wooden tower and a thatched-roof hut. Various animals are depicted: a black bear with its mouth open, a wallaby, a possum, and a hedgehog. A magnifying glass with a paw print inside is positioned on the right. A purple tag with a white border says 'FREE SCAVENGER HUNT INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION'. A yellow circle with a trophy icon says 'PRIZE ON COMPLETION!'. At the bottom, three icons represent the steps: 'SEARCH THE MAZES', 'FIND THE CLUES', and 'COLLECT YOUR PRIZE'. A purple banner at the very bottom says 'A FUN HOLIDAY ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!'. The bottom right corner features the logo for 'TASMAZIA & the VILLAGE OF LOWER CRACKPOT'.

Squash court to bounce back as gym

Devonport-based Island Sport & Performance has been named the preferred operator of the former Railton squash centre at 30 Giblin Street after councillors voted to begin the negotiation process.

This will include lease terms and conditions, including rental arrangements, tenure, capital investment commitments, maintenance responsibilities and community benefit outcomes.

Operated by exercise scientist Nita Walker, Island Sport & Performance proposes the staged development of the centre into a health, fitness and community recreation facility.

This is proposed to include gym facilities, youth and wellness programs, recreation activities and mountain bike support linked to Wild Mersey.

The company plans to invest \$25,000 to \$60,000 into the centre and integrate it more into the community.



Membership is expected to be \$15/week for 24/7 gym access.

In a report to Kentish Council's June 17 meeting, council officers recommended Island Sport ahead of the North Western Pistol Club's proposal for an indoor air pistol range due to its stronger alignment with council's broader strategic goals.

"The proposal activates the entire facility, provides broad community participation opportunities and presents a staged and financially considered approach," the report stated.

Council will consider the negotiated lease at a future meeting.

On Facebook, Island Sport & Performance posted: "For us, this isn't simply about opening another gym.

It's about creating a space where people can connect, move, learn, improve their health, support one another and access opportunities that may not otherwise exist in smaller regional communities.

Our vision includes:

- Community gym access
- Continued support for existing programs
- Yoga, mobility and wellbeing activities
- Mountain bike support and repair facilities in partnership with local cycling groups
- Youth engagement and community programs
- Healthy ageing initiatives
- Partnerships with local clubs, organisations and community groups
- Recovery space featuring a sauna

This facility belongs to the community.

We are not coming into Railton with a set in cement pre-determined model.

We want to work alongside local residents, sporting clubs, community organisations and facility users to understand what is needed and what opportunities exist.

Island Sport & Performance was founded on a simple belief: Strong Communities Create Strong People.

As a Tasmanian-owned organisation, we already operate community fitness facilities and support athletes ranging from local juniors through to elite motocross, supercross and freestyle motocross competitors.

However, our greatest passion remains creating opportunities for everyday people to improve their health, wellbeing and connection to their community.

Over the coming weeks we will continue discussions with Council and begin engaging with the community regarding future opportunities within the facility.

We are incredibly excited about what can be achieved together and look forward to sharing more soon.

Community groups, sporting clubs, instructors, volunteers and organisations interested in partnering with Island Sport & Performance are encouraged to contact us at: admin@islandsportandperformance.com

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Wilmot based

TASMANIA'S PREMIER FAMILY ATTRACTION



Councils appoint Morgan joint GM



Kentish and Latrobe Councils have appointed Jeff Morgan as the new Chief Executive Officer following an extensive national recruitment process.

Latrobe Mayor Peter Freshney and Kentish Mayor Kate Haberle described Mr Morgan as an experienced local government leader with a

strong commitment to regional communities.

Mayor Freshney said Mr Morgan would officially commence in the role on 6 July under a five-year performance-based contract.

“We are delighted to announce the appointment of Jeff Morgan as our new Chief Executive Officer,” Mayor Freshney said.

“Jeff brings extensive experience across local government and the private sector, along with a collaborative leadership style and a genuine passion for community outcomes.”

The recruitment process attracted applications from across Australia and was facilitated by an independent local government recruitment specialist.

Mayor Haberle said the unique shared leadership arrangement between Kentish and Latrobe Councils had attracted a strong field of candidates.

“Jeff impressed both the recruitment panel and councillors with his breadth of experience, calm and considered approach, and clear enthusiasm for our municipalities and communities,” Mayor Haberle said.

Mr Morgan has previously worked across local government organisations in Victoria and New South Wales.

He has also held senior private sector roles, including with the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation.

Since relocating to Tasmania in 2023, he has worked as Director of Major Projects and Infrastructure with the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service and most recently as Business Manager with the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania.

Mr Morgan said he was looking forward to working closely with staff, councillors and the broader community.

“I am excited by the opportunity to work with Kentish and Latrobe Councils and to support the delivery of strong services and positive outcomes for the community,” Mr Morgan said.

“A key priority for me will be building strong relationships with staff, community organisations and residents, while continuing to advocate for the future of the region.

I also look forward to listening to the community and identifying opportunities to strengthen services and support the ongoing growth of both municipalities.”

Mr Morgan will relocate to the region with his wife Emma ahead of commencing in the role.

Railton Rec Ground set for \$1.5m redevelopment

The proposed redevelopment of Railton Recreation Ground facility is designed to deliver a modern, flexible and inclusive community facility that supports local sport while also creating a space for broader community use.

The concept has been developed to better meet the needs of players, officials, spectators and community members, while improving the functionality and long-term value of the site.

The redevelopment proposes a multi-purpose building that brings together sporting facilities and community spaces. The design includes team change rooms, an accessible change room, umpire facilities, toilets and showers, undercover viewing areas, player seating, a function room, and kitchen and bar facilities.

These spaces are arranged to support match-day use while also making the building suitable for social events, club activities and community gatherings throughout the year.

Kentish Council says one of the key strengths of the concept is its flexibility. The changeroom layout can be adapted to suit different teams and sporting codes, making the facility more practical for regular competition, tournaments and shared use.

The building has also been planned so that some areas, such as showers, may be isolated when not required, which can improve day-to-day efficiency and help reduce operational costs.

Importantly, the inclusion of a central function room and supporting kitchen facilities means the building can remain active beyond sport, giving the wider Railton community access to a valuable multi-use venue.

The concept demonstrates a strong commitment to inclusive design, with accessible amenities and circulation paths intended to support a wide range of users. As the design develops further,

Council may also consider additional site security measures such as fencing and CCTV to help address ongoing concerns about vandalism, theft and unnecessary loitering.

By combining player amenities, spectator facilities and flexible community spaces in one integrated design, the proposal aligns with Council’s goal of creating a facility that can serve Railton well into the future.

To have your say, visit kentish.tas.gov.au

TRIVIA Fundraiser
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Dress Your Tables!

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Same place: RSL Club 6491 1393
Same time: 6.30 for 7pm start
Same cost: \$10 per person

Railton Junior Cadet program turns five

The Railton Junior Cadet Program (JCP) has marked its five-year anniversary, celebrating a strong foundation in youth development and community engagement.

Over this time, more than 32 young people have participated in the program, with one youth member, Gideon, and two coordinators proudly serving across the full five years. Cadets have played an active role in the community, including serving as flag bearers at the Railton ANZAC Day march and supporting events such as the Railton Christmas celebrations, Taste of the North West, and Apple Isle Horse Carriage event.

The program has also achieved success in competition, with cadets participating in two State and three North West TFS Fun Day events, bringing home several trophies.

Acting District Officer Ben Wilson said the program plays an important role in building the future of volunteer firefighting.

“The Railton JCP is vital to the long-term success of emergency services. It provides young people with valuable skills, confidence, and a strong sense of community, while also creating a clear pathway into volunteer firefighting.

“This is especially important in smaller communities, where attracting and retaining volunteers can be challenging. Programs like this help build capability early, ensuring brigades remain strong and sustainable into the future.

“It’s fantastic to see so many young members stepping up,



progressing through the program, and continuing their journey within the brigade. Their commitment, along with the support of the brigade and community, is helping shape the next generation of volunteers.”

Railton Brigade members have played a key role in supporting the program, alongside community partners, including Clive McWhir from First Aid in Schools, who has regularly delivered CPR and first aid training.

The program’s success is also supported by valued contributions from TasRail, Cement Australia, Railton Neighbourhood Centre, and Kentish House through community grants.

- **Stephen Niaura, Railton Brigade Chief**

New recruits join cooperative brigades

Tasmania Fire Service Roland Group, representing Claude Road, Lorinna, Beulah, Kimberly, Railton and Sheffield Fire Brigades.

Acting Mersey District Officer Ben Wilson attended the Roland Group officers meeting last month in Sheffield, hosted by Roland Group Officer Allan Hamilton. Discussions around the table included:

- Report of a healthy number of new recruits, plans for the next Group training day for all the brigades and pleasure in how the brigades in our Group work cooperatively during call-outs.
- Thermal imaging Camera training was held in Sheffield for all brigades and solar panel safety information talk was held in Railton for Roland Group Brigades.
- Claude Road has been selected as a rural brigade to trial full face masks for TFS to evaluate.

If you’re interested in volunteering, visit our website (fire.tas.gov.au/volunteer/become-a-volunteer/) to see what’s involved or contact the TFS North West Regional Office on 03 6477 7250 to discuss the next steps. Or chat with your local fire Chief and local firefighters.

- **Vanessa Cooper, TFS Community Engagement Volunteer**

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WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL - 9.30AM - 1:30PM
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL - 9.30AM - 1:30PM
WEDNESDAY 6 MAY - 9.30AM - 1:30PM
FRIDAY 29 MAY - 9AM - 2PM
FRIDAY 12 JUNE - 9AM - 2PM
FRIDAY 26 JUNE - 9AM - 2PM
FRIDAY 10 JULY - 9AM - 2PM
FRIDAY 24 JULY - 9AM - 2PM

Also

TUESDAY 23 JUNE - 1PM-2PM in Lorinna
TUESDAY 30 JUNE - 12:30PM - 1:30PM in Wilmot
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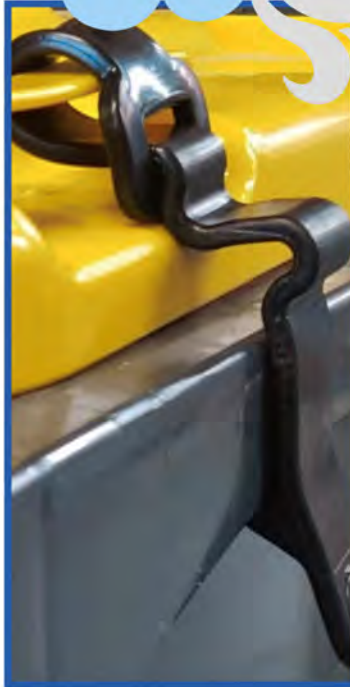
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cradle coast
waste management group

Tasmanian Waste & Resource Recovery Board

*Numbers are limited and participants agree to complete a user survey in September

"The latch is designed to keep your lid closed until it is released automatically when the truck flips the bin to empty it"

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group wants to know how well they do what they say they'll do.- can you help?

Quilting workshop brings drought relief



The Fabric for Drought Project will be holding a weekend workshop to finish and make charity quilts on July 11-12 at Claude Road Hall.

We have a large number of quilts to deliver in July to fire-affected areas in Victoria through the Victorian Quilting Guild. Can you help one or two days or for a few hours? We will supply all the fabric wadding and threads but please bring along your machines. Maybe you can iron or make a cuppa or a sandwich for the sewers.

This project was started in 2018 by Coralanne and David Walker to support women quilters in rural and remote areas of Australia to be able to continue quilting in times of Drought. We have supplied nearly 400 packs of fabric to women and groups. We have now added Fire Flood and or Hardship in rural areas.

To date, nearly 100 quilts have been donated to a range of services across Australia. Contact Coralanne & David Walker stockman5956@gmail.com or phone 0488 089 001.

Taz Drone takes off

Taz Drone Solutions has been awarded \$20,000 in funding through Tasmania's Advanced Manufacturing Productivity Grant Program to pursue quality accreditation,

Founder Andrew Davies said the state-backed ISO 9001 certification would lift standards and support expansion, opening doors to contracts with global mining giants such as BHP and Rio Tinto.

Business, Industry and Resources Minister Felix Ellis said the grants help local manufacturers reach new markets

"With Government support, Taz Drone Solutions will progress ISO 9001 certification, strengthening its quality management systems, improving operational efficiency and supporting access to new markets," Minister Ellis said.

Taz Drone recently hosted Minister Ellis at its Sheffield workshop where he was given a demonstration of the newly launched BFD (Big Friendly Drone) - at 150kg maximum take-off weight, one of the largest commercial drones built in the world, designed for utility infrastructure and disaster management operations.

Andrew Davies said: "It means a lot to have the state government back what we're building here. Sovereign manufacturing capability in regional Tasmania isn't just possible - it's happening."

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ADVERTORIAL

Simply Helping Northern Tasmania provides personalised in-home care and support for people of all ages. We assist people accessing NDIS supports, aged care services, or privately funded help at home, to live safely and comfortably, or as a lifestyle choice. Our caring and reliable team supports individuals and families across Northern Tasmania, including Launceston, Devonport, Burnie, and Ulverstone.

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Contact us on (03) 6724 4841 to speak with one of our friendly team members, or visit simplyhelping.com.au to learn more.

medicare

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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.

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Wilmot's social set spoilt for choice

By Idell Wadley

The picturesque village of Wilmot might have a small population but it has a very big community spirit.

With weekly activities and social events locals are spoilt for choice with a varied array of leisure and recreational activities on offer throughout the year usually held in the Wilmot Memorial Hall.

On Monday nights from March to October, you can join the local Indoor Bowls club that has been operating for more than 50 years.

On Tuesday mornings you can get your heart pumping with CrossFit classes all year around.

If you're feeling crafty (or even if you aren't), you can head down to the Wilmot craft group (*pictured right*) who meet every Wednesday for a cuppa and chat. Sometimes they even do craft!

With everything from a monthly book club to a thriving seasonal market, this community welcomes newcomers and any chance to socialise.

All organised by volunteers and offering people the chance to connect and support each other.



King's Hall hosts How to Train Your Dragon

A family movie night will be held at the King's Hall in Railton on Friday, August 21, from 7pm.

Featuring *How to Train Your Dragon*, the screening is part of the centenary celebrations at the historic hall, designed to introduce more people to its charms.

Entry will be \$5 per person or \$20 for a family. We will have

lollies for sale - maybe even popcorn!

The first centenary event will be on Sunday, July 26, for the Back to Railton Reunion.

The reunion is open to all ages and any current or former residents. Contact Dianne Atkinson on 0428 144 795.

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SMALL COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

A limited number of small grants (up to \$500.00) available for Kentish Community Groups

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP HAVE A HEALTH & WELLBEING ACTIVITY OR EVENT PLANNED FOR AUTUMN OR WINTER 2026?

Note: Successful activities / events must be held and acquitted prior to 30th August 2026.

For more information, contact Ruby @ Kentish House :
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Tasmanian Government

NORTH WEST FILM SOCIETY June / July 2026

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

Preview all films at: www.nwfs.org.au/upcoming-films

10th June @ 7pm
Father Mother Sister Brother
M | 110 mins | 2025 | USA | Comedy, Drama
Three loosely connected family stories set in rural east USA, Dublin and Paris, quirkily observing the relationship between adult children and their parents.

8th July @ 7pm
The Ice Tower
PG | 117 mins | 2025 | France | Drama
A 15-year-old orphan runs away from home, finding refuge in an abandoned building only to find herself actually on a film set. Surrounded by the snow and lights of the fairytale film set, the real and imagined begin to blur.

Annual or Part Memberships available
For more details visit the NWFS website - www.nwfs.org.au
Our membership recruitment desk operates between 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm at every screening. Find us on Facebook - [nwfilmsociety](https://www.facebook.com/nwfilmsociety)

Damian spreads cheer through halls

Laughter filled the room as Damian Callinan brought his show Hall Stories to the Lower Barrington Community Hall.

A well-known Victorian actor, performer and comedian, Damian had a full house in stitches with his engaging performance.

Lower Barrington was the first hall outside Victoria to be featured in Hall Stories with Damian Callinan. After an unbroken run at 33 Victorian halls, the project went national.

The first half of the show featured a collection of humorous images, observations and anecdotes gathered from Damian's travels through country Victoria's community halls.

In the second half of the show, Damian turned his focus to Lower Barrington, weaving together stories from local residents - past and present - sharing their fond and quirky memories of growing up in the district.

We learned that in the 1960s one of the kids had to drive the school bus home from Sheffield after the driver had spent the whole day in the pub and that Tony Viney had had enough after a run of terrible gifts from Santa Claus at Christmas, so gave him a whack in the guts, only to look down and realise that Santa was wearing the same shoes as his dad.

Damian shared observations from his journey through Kentish, presenting the village in a way the audience won't soon forget. It's fair to say Lower Barrington may never quite be seen the same way again! Travellers passing through the area are now encouraged to keep an eye out for the elusive zebra - particularly around New Year's Day.

The evening concluded with a traditional country supper enjoyed by all, with the joint organiser Bronwyn Watson's passionfruit sponge proving especially popular.

This marked the first time Damian's show has been performed in Tasmania, and it certainly did not disappoint. The Lower Barrington Hall Committee was proud to host such a memorable event. For those who missed it, a podcast is currently in production and will be shared with the community once available.

This event was made possible through the support of Artsbridge, the Tasmanian State Government, Hon Jane



Yarn spinner Damian Callinan with organiser and committee member Christine Williams ... his cousin!

Howlett, Hon Carlo Di Falco and Deputy Premier the Hon. Guy Barnett. We also extend our sincere thanks to Damian Callinan, and Stuart Holmes from Dynamics Productions for their outstanding contribution to a fantastic evening.

The hall committee led by Christine Peta Williams & Bronwyn Watson did a sterling job in preparing the community for the project. They even had to get extra chairs from Latrobe!



Sheffield Fruit & Veg

Mon - Fri
8:30am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm
Closed Sunday

Phone - 0419 506 405
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An advertisement for free legal advice. The background features a scenic view of a lake and mountains. The text reads: 'North West Community Legal Centre Inc. Free Legal Advice at Sheffield. Appointments with a lawyer are available each second Monday at Kentish House about any legal topic. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL: PLEASE CONTACT NWCLC ON 6424 8720. Kentish House 16/18 Station St, Sheffield'.


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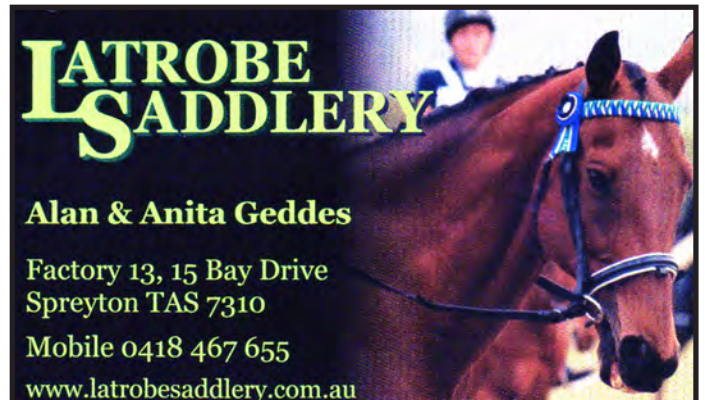


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Mayor's message: face challenges together



We have now passed the shortest day for the year and can now look forward to longer days. The recent rain was a welcome relief for farmers and residents around our municipality. It has been quite dreary with the wet days but we can still appreciate the beautiful place in which we live.

I would like to welcome Council's new CEO, Jeff Morgan, who will begin work on the July 6. We are looking forward to Jeff and his wife Emma settling into our area and being integral members of our community.

Jeff brings with him a wide range of experiences having worked at the Snowy Monaro Regional Council in New South Wales. He has not only worked across local government but the private sector, including his recent employment with the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania.

Jeff is excited by the opportunity to work with Kentish and Latrobe councils and to support the delivery of strong services and positive outcomes for the community.

Congratulations once again to Kody Steers who was third in his wood chopping event on the world stage in Budapest. As a community we are very proud of Kody's achievements and wish him well in any future competitions.

It has been very quiet over the last few weeks but hopefully as the weather settles down somewhat, we will see our visitor numbers increase. The school holidays begin on July 10, so I wish all the staff and students a well-earned break.

As a member of the School Association, I attended our meeting in June and it is very encouraging to listen to the conversation around the table and witness the enthusiasm of the members as they oversee the future direction of the school under the leadership of our principal, Wendy Leonard.

The school is a reflection of the community and it is important to see parents/carers taking an interest in the variety of educational opportunities that are available to our students.

As you are all aware, the Local Government elections will be held in October this year. After much thought and deliberation, I have decided to run again for Mayor of Kentish. The past four years have proven to be very productive and I have invested a lot of time and effort into fulfilling my role to the best of my ability. We have faced a few challenges but together, as a team of councillors and staff, we have weathered the storms to ensure the daily operations of council run smoothly and effectively.

Stability within the council is of paramount importance and with Jeff beginning in his role as CEO, we can continue to provide the services to our ratepayers in an efficient manner.

I am very thankful for the honour and privilege to represent this community not only here but at coastal, state and interstate events. I value your support and if I am elected, I will continue to serve this community with honesty and integrity.

Stay warm and safe over the winter months and endeavour to be involved in many of our community activities to connect with one another and enjoy the social aspect of these events.

Community groups invited to apply for funding

Eligible community organisations across the Kentish Council area are encouraged to apply for the final round of 2026-27 funding through Kentish Council's Large Community Grants Program, with applications open on July 1.

The program provides grants of between \$501 and \$2500 for projects that strengthen community connections, improve wellbeing and create new opportunities for local residents.

Kentish Council Mayor Kate Haberle said the grants were designed to help community groups turn good ideas into projects that deliver lasting benefits for the municipality.

"These grants support local initiatives that bring people together, build community resilience and enhance the vibrancy of Kentish," Mayor Haberle said.

"We know there are many volunteers and community organisations doing outstanding work across our municipality. This funding can help transform ideas into projects that make a real difference for local people."

The grants are available to not-for-profit and community-based groups, sporting and recreation clubs, and organisers proposing new events or new components to existing events.

Projects must demonstrate a clear benefit to the Kentish community and align with Council priorities including community connection and cohesion, health and wellbeing, accessibility and inclusion, environmental sustainability, economic development, youth initiatives and healthy ageing.

Council encourages applicants to discuss proposals with Community Development Officer Massi Zadeh before submitting an application to ensure eligibility requirements are met.

Applications will be assessed on their community benefit, alignment with Council priorities, project planning and

financial viability, as well as the capacity of the applicant to successfully deliver the project.

Previous grant rounds have supported a diverse range of community projects, events, resources and initiatives that have strengthened social connections and enhanced opportunities for residents throughout the municipality. Recently approved for the 2026-27 financial year are:

- Kentish Regional Clinic for furniture upgrades to accommodate the expansion of their services;
- Railton Neighbourhood Centre auspicing the King's Hall 100 Year Committee's purchase of promotion flags;
- Weindorfer Association and Wilmot Community Committee for the purchase of event items to enhance their existing events; and
- Mount Roland Folk Festival to purchase products that enhance their move to reduce single-use waste.

Application forms and guidelines are available online at <https://www.kentish.tas.gov.au/community/community-grants> or by speaking with Council's Community Development Officer on (03) 6491 0200 or email council@kentish.tas.gov.au.

Eligible applicants include not-for-profit organisations, community groups, sporting clubs, and eligible event organisers.

Funding is a partnership. Applicants self-contribution will enhance success.

Projects must benefit the Kentish community and align with Council priorities.

Applications close on July 31, 2026.

Project completion and acquittal required by June 30, 2027.

KENTISH COUNCIL

SEAFOOD COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELLING

From 1 July 2026, hospitality businesses that sell or serve seafood must comply with new Country of Origin labelling requirements under Australian Consumer Law.

These rules are designed to ensure consumers are clearly informed about whether seafood is Australian, imported, or of mixed origin before they place an order. When consumers eat out at a restaurant, café, or takeaway, each dish containing seafood must be labelled as:

- Australian (A) – harvested within Australia or its territorial sea
- Imported (I) – harvested outside Australia
- Mixed (M) – contains both Australian and imported seafood.

The label will most likely be on a menu, or signage such as a menu board.

These new rules do not apply to hospitals, schools, medical institutions, prisons, or retail packaged seafood products such as seafood sold in supermarkets.

For further information, please see the [Consumer Building and Occupational Services \(CBOS\) website](http://www.cbos.tas.gov.au) www.cbos.tas.gov.au.

WASTE BINS REMINDER

Waste bin collection services do not operate at set times. While collections may have previously occurred at consistent times, these can change at any time due to operational requirements of the contractor.

Collection hours are between 6:00am and 5:00pm.

To avoid missing your collection, please place your bins out the night before or by 6:00am on collection day. For your collection day calendar, please refer to [North West Resource Recovery and Recycling](#)

RATES REMINDER

Ratepayers should receive their rates notices for the 2026/2027 financial year before **31st July 2026**. Please ensure Council has your current postal details. You can also have your rates notices sent to your email address. To register complete the Email request from which is available on Council's website or contact the customer service desk to obtain a form. If you have not received your rates notice by the end of July, please contact Council on 6491 0200.

PENSIONER RATE REMISSIONS

Are you eligible for a pension remission on your rates account for the 2026/2027 financial year? To be eligible for a remission you must be responsible for the payment of rates on the property, have a Pension Concession, Health Care or Department of Veteran Affairs card valid as of **1st July** for the financial year in which you are making a claim, and it must be your principal place of residence on the **1st July 2026**. If you received a pension remission in previous years and your circumstances have not changed, you will not

need to provide your concession details again and the remission will be automatically applied.

DOG REGISTRATIONS

Registering your dog helps us reunite you quickly if they become lost.

- All dogs over the age of 6 months must be microchipped (unless legally exempt), and registered.
- If you do not register your dog within a reasonable time, you may receive a fine.
- If you have more than 2 domestic dogs or 4 working dogs, you must also apply for a Kennel Licence.

If your dog is already registered with Council, we will be mailing out dog renewal notices on July 1st, 2026. It is important to keep your microchip details up to date. Council cannot update your microchip details for you, so if your circumstances change, please contact the relevant microchip register.

Friendly reminder to ensure your details are correct.

Council needs to know if:

- You have moved to a new address in the Council area with your dog.
- You have moved to a different Council with your dog.
- You no longer have your dog.

You can update your details by filling in the Change of Details Form, located on the Council website or in person at the Council Offices.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AWARDED

At its June meeting Council approved Round 1 recipients, for its 2026/27 Community Grants Program totalling \$9,463.98

Recipient	Purpose	Amount
Kentish Regional Clinic	Tables, chairs, smart TV	\$2,500
Railton Neighbourhood Centre	Custom flags and steel bases-Kings Hall Centenary	\$733.98
Weindorfer Association	Purchase of rubber mats, gazebos, safety items, copies of images and frames.	\$2,500
Wilmot Community Committee	Purchase of marquees, performer payments, bins & safety equipment	\$1,230
Mt Roland Folk Festival	Bin decals, signs reusable cups and tumblers	\$2,500

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held at the Council Office, 69 High Street, Sheffield on **Wednesday, 22nd July, 2026** commencing at 6:00pm.

PO Box 63, SHEFFIELD Ph. (03) 6491 0200 Office Hours: 8:00am – 4:30pm week days

Following an emergency e.g. flood, fire, wind storms etc. Council can be contacted for information and referral to support services.

Callie conquers ultra marathons

Railton's Limestone Café owner and operator Callie Rand runs ultra marathons for fun. The Kentish Voice asked her about the latest challenge.

What was the name of the event you competed in?

The Ultra Trail Australia by UTMB in the Blue mountains NSW from May 14-17.

How long was the race? What was the course like? 100k with elevation of 4800m - the course is made up of stairs, fire trail, single trail and more stairs with a lot of elevation.

What was your time? Where did you place?

My time this year was 20hrs and 30min which qualified me for a bronze buckle. In 2026 I completed the same event and got a time of 25hr 14min - so a pretty big PB for me this year!



How did you possibly shave four hours off your previous time?

I worked really hard at a few key elements of ultra running to take on this run again. I run 99% of my training runs by myself so I was used to having only myself mentally to rely on. I also got myself qualified as a level 1 running coach to better understand what type of training would benefit the most.

How many times have you competed in this event?

I have completed the UTA 100k twice now. I also have completed Gone Nuts 101k which is held from Stanley running through to Wynyard. I have also completed a couple of local 50k runs and lots of smaller local events.

What motivated you to get involved in this type of event?

Firstly I wanted to get fit again after having my daughter four years ago. It started as entering the Great Train Race, a 3.5km run in Devonport and then it just grew from there. I trained for the Devonport Light the Night Glow, a 8km run, and then my



next run really escalated and I entered Gone Nuts 50km and that's when I fell in love with running ultra runs.

What is your training regime?

I currently run 5-6 times a week and a couple of strength training sessions a week also. I'm a qualified personal trainer so that has come in handy to develop a strength training program to accommodate my run training.

How do you find time with the café and family?

How do I fit in training?... Hahaha I have the most supportive husband! He is also my support crew for these ultra runs.

How do you handle the mental challenges of such a gruelling event?

Building mental toughness from and for running has been a massive benefit, not only in a run but for everyday life. I have done a lot of work in the background for building my mental strength. I have also learnt a lot from previous runs, taking that race knowledge into the next using what works and removing what didn't.

You need to make sure you have a Plan A, B, C and in some cases a Plan D, also the ability to adapt to the race is essential. I have learnt a lot from my coach about race planning, and implemented that into my race preparation. You don't need any of the above to enjoy running and be a runner. It's all about getting out there, having fun and giving it a go.

First Black Belt grading for Taekwondo club



Dauntless Taekwondo is thrilled to announce that Ember and Ochre have successfully completed their Junior Black Belt Grading.

Both have dedicated more than five years of hard work and commitment to their taekwondo training and are now internationally recognised by Kukkiwon as 1st Poom Black Belts.

Instructor and Club owner Lisa-Marie Stapleton said: "I couldn't be prouder of how the girls showcased their skills and knowledge on grading day."

SHEFFIELD BOWLS CLUB

Following the recent AGM, we would like to congratulate the incoming Office Bearers for 2026-2027.

President: Tony Clark; Vice President: Helen McCoy; Secretary: Rosie Bassett; Treasure: Lyn Raddatz

Committee members

Carl Cox, Jill Charleston, Marilyn Rappell, Tracey Clark, Judy Cocker, Steve Charleston, Jenny Manson.

The incoming committee will lead the club through its administrative duties, community activities, and competitive campaigns from our scenic home base under Mount Roland.

Come and Try Saturday Social Bowls!

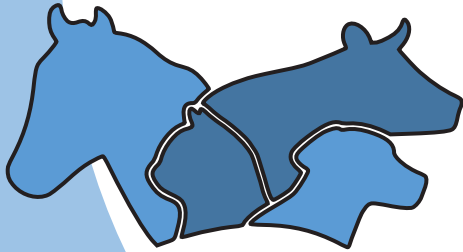
We are currently running Social and Community Bowls every Saturday, starting at 12:30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come down and have a try - no previous experience needed. Wear flat-soled shoes.

Spare bowls are available at the club.

- Rosie Bassett, Secretary

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Saturday

8:30am - 5:00pm
9:00am - 12:00pm

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(Call only, no text, after-hours fees apply)

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Disability Support

Life could not be better living in the North West. We are a local disability support provider based in the Kentish region.



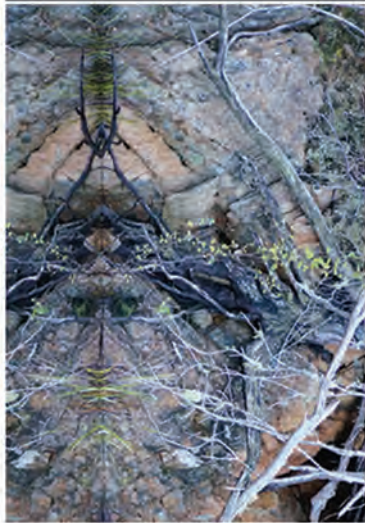
We specialise in targeting support to individual needs and we invite you give us a call on **0458 544 561** or visit our website at **4ts.com.au**



Sheffield Art Gallery

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Working Art Space
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Under 10 Free

KENTISH MEN'S SHED



By Peter Willcox

At the Shed just the other day there was an animated discussion following a question about our rather longish name. Kentish Community Men's Shed? Bit of a mouthful and what seems to be missing is Sheffield.

This absence seemed to be important and deserving of explanation and for this we need must go back to a community meeting in our town hall on the second of August 2008.

This forum had just one question. Did we need or want to establish a men's shed in Sheffield? This proposition had already secured support from Redwater Creek Steam and Heritage Society which had offered space within their locomotive shed.

Among the many supporters present was our guest speaker, the late Mr Ron Coxon. I was fortunate in that I soldiered with Ron in the sixties and later re-connected with him in South Australia where Ron had become prominent, advocating for Vietnam Veterans.

It was from this perspective that he talked of the enormous benefits of community men's sheds in countering social isolation, which often leads to depression and, sadly, suicidal thinking.

There are many benefits arising from men's sheds activities and the forum was unanimous in deciding there was sufficient need and support for the idea to progress.

A steering committee was appointed and included Michael Taylor, Len Dixon, Martin Vinnicom, Felixs Klavins and Coralanne Walker whose organisational skills laid the groundwork for the forum.

Then the need for a name came up. Clearly, we could not be the Sheffield Men's Shed because it would clash and become confused with the hardware store.

Suddenly the issue was resolved. We were to be a community shed serving Kentish and so we are to this day.

By the 16th of February 2009 we had \$500 from the Hub, Cement Australia committed to supply cement to be delivered by Hansons and construction of a 12mx12m shed to be done by shed members and the build to be vetted by Steve Bramich from Braddon Building services.

The shed itself was funded by the Kentish Council using part of the cash splash from Kevin Rudd's Federal response to the GFC. Without the support of those folk we might still be occupying that draughty corner of the Loco shed!

Mention must be made of the dynamic duo who were Mayor

and Deputy at the time. Don Thwaites and Tim Wilson were seduced by the vision of a community men's shed over a cup of coffee at Mountain Mama's and the small miracle that was our first home was enabled.

We had 12 members on February 27, 2009, and today we are in excess of 40 and growing.

Our milestones are many and all in all the journey so far has been rewarding thanks to our community that has provided the support and encouragement that made it all possible.

The shed is open Thursdays and Saturdays 9am to 1pm and for information please call Peter on 0449 559 257.

PROBUS



Kentish Probud is celebrating Probud Australia's 50th Anniversary. Joining us in this celebration are other North West Tasmanian Probud clubs at our annual Quiz Day in July.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 14, at 10am at the Sheffield Bowls Club. The Guest Speaker will be Ashley Leonard from NBN who will speak on Artificial Intelligence - AI.

Visitors are always welcome. For further information, please contact Annelise on 6496 1220.

KENTISH LIONS

Kentish Lions has given donations to: Rural Alive & Well Tasmania; and Natalie Baldock. It makes us very proud to see the strong support from our community for Natalie.

We continue to raise funds at monthly Bunnings sausage sizzles. On June 20 we supported Tas Networks Bright Futures launch in the main street of Sheffield.

We continue to work to support a widow who needs to clean up all the stuff from her late husband.

Two working bees so far and more to come.

We are keen to gain more members so if you have a bit of spare time and want to help your community, please get in touch.

Our dinner meetings are the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Guests are welcome.

If you'd like to know more about Lions or come along to a meeting and see what we do, please contact kentishlions@gmail.com.

Our community is who we serve.

THE HUB

Thanks to our volunteers, we will open Sat, July 4, 10am-2 pm.

Recent donations:

- Kentish House \$2200
- Kentish Walks \$1000
- Boomerang Bags \$1500
- Darts Men's Rep to WA \$1000

We look forward to your next visit, keep well and warm.

- *The Committee*

WILMOT HISTORIC MUSEUM

Opening hours Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 3pm.

James (Jim) Michael Hayes
26/4/1941-7/6/2026



By daughter Jodie Davies

Dad was one of 10 children and grew up in a very different world from the one we know today. His mother Ivy and Father Jackie Hayes were farmers. Dad spent his early years at Kimberly Primary School, an experience he didn't much enjoy. Each morning, Dad was supposed to catch the train to school, but he had a habit of missing it and sneaking back home, hiding behind thistles so his mother wouldn't spot him. Dad left Kimberley primary school and went on to St Patrick's where he was taught by the nuns.

They weren't especially kind to him, particularly as he was left handed and often smudged his work. But dad was an excellent runner and would blitz the athletics carnivals. That speed also came in handy when it came to running from the cane.

At the age of 14 his mum pulled him out of school to work on the farm milking cows. It marked the beginning of a lifetime of hard work, something he never wavered from. He was kind and

gentle with the ladies in the cow shed, and he always kept his shed clean and well maintained. He was a true gentleman.

Speaking of gentlemen, one day a young lady from Geelong names Denise walked into a bar in Railton and caught the eye of a young gentleman sitting across the room. It was love at first sight, and the rest is history.

Mum and dad were married a year later, and mum always said she knew straight away that dad would be a beautiful father because she had seen how wonderful he was with his nieces and nephews. Before long six children followed. There was Cindy, the Chinaman, Teresa, The Frenchman, Leica, the mad blonde, the twins, Nip and Kym, then me who was Tuck. And finally came the long-awaited boy, Timmy. Please don't be offended by those nick names – they were dad's loving names for each of us and we cherished them.

Dad absolutely adored his 10 grandchildren, Melissa, Ethan, Caleb, Alistair, Michael, Will, Jack, Tilly, Holly and Ellie. He was the sweetest great grandpop to Oliver, Emilia and James. He always gave them the best advice and had a wonderful way of changing how you saw things.

Dad loved animals and as a farmer the responsibility of caring for them always weighed heavily on him. If he named an animal, you knew it was a keeper. He had a special bond with dogs and they loved him just as deeply as he loved them.

On Dad's 80th birthday, he was given a black kelpie pup, and he named him Dan. From that moment on Dan was more than just a dog, he was dad's loyal companion, his shadow and his best mate. The two of them worked side by side every day, sharing that quiet unspoken friendship that only comes once in a lifetime. Seeing dad with Dan was to see him truly content.

Dad would help anyone, bugger the consequences. Many a time strangers would come to the door and before we knew it, he'd be driving someone off to who knows where. He saw the best in people and was one of the friendliest people I've ever known.

Dad lived simply. He never asked for much and never wanted much. He was a genuine, kind, funny, sincere and a beautiful soul who always saw the best in everyone. Mum only discovered after 60 years of marriage that he didn't like mixed peas and corn. She had been serving them up to him for years and he never once complained or made a fuss.

I'll finish with the saying Dad used instead of goodbye: "See you in the soup, and we'll have a pea together."

Plant winter-flowering evergreens



Although July is the middle of winter, it is also when the days get noticeably longer as we move slowly towards spring. This lengthening of daylight hours encourages growth from the bulbs that are shooting to the root systems of our plants. Take a close look at many shrubs – they are already in bud.

It is also a good time to plant bare-rooted trees, climbers and shrubs, including the ever-popular roses. Winter is rose planting time as bare-rooted plants are usually abundant, but gardeners can wait until spring to buy potted roses. If you want a particular rose variety, ask your garden centre to order it. If you have bought bare-rooted plants of any type already, but not planted them, don't let the roots dry out before the rose is planted – they need to be watered.

As well as planting roses and other deciduous plants, mid-winter is the time to buy and plant winter-flowering evergreens. There are lots of lovely camellias and fragrant daphnes around just begging to go home from the garden centre to your garden. Add colour with polyanthus (*right*) – an absolute winner in the garden as they bloom in winter and for many months into spring.

Despite the cold, there are some thrifty garden chores to do now, including dividing perennials and sowing seeds for a show of flowers in spring and summer. They are sold as annuals but can last for many years in a well-drained spot that gets plenty of winter sun. Keep plants well-watered in summer.

Next meeting

The next garden club meeting is on Saturday, July 11, and will be a practical hands-on demonstration of berry pruning from Olivia Rundle from Plump Berries. We will meet at Plump Berries at 10 Devils Gate Road, Barrington at 2pm for the



demonstration then head to Barrington Hall to continue the meeting and enjoy afternoon tea. Call Jennifer Stackhouse on 0488 047 011 for more information.

Winter gardening can be invigorating

By Robert Gower

People are interesting. Generally, I find people don't like to garden over the winter months, because of the cold, wet weather. I find winter invigorating. I love getting out into the garden, maybe not on my knees weeding, but I'll be trimming hedges, pruning trees and shrubs, and also observing where the water is pooling, and if it needs to be dealt with.

At the moment I have an English Box hedge to trim, and it hasn't been trimmed for about six months to get good cutting material for propagation. This plant is easy to grow from cuttings. All you really need is patience, because they will take about six months to produce roots, no hormone powder or gel is needed, and you should get about a 90% strike rate.

The cuttings can be 10cm long (4 inches). Take the top 10cm of growth, pruning the top bud out (so once the plant starts to grow, it will bush up), then cut just under the leaf node at the bottom, and remove 2/3rd of the leaves from the bottom up.

The propagation mix I use is four parts perlite and one part Coco peat. Don't just do a few, do heaps. I put 300 into a seedling tray (15 across, 20 rows), then put into the plastic house and check on them at Christmas time.

I planted 1000 daffodil bulbs three years ago, so once those bulbs start shooting, I will broadcast an organic fertiliser to give them a good start for their Spring flowering season.

When is the best time to buy plants? Most gardeners will say anytime. If you want to have plants in flower all through the year, going out each month and buying a couple of plants that are flowering that month, will give you a good selection over the years to come. You might be surprised what is in flower in the nurseries now.

I'm off to look at some nurseries. Maybe Cheiranthus (now known as Erysimum) or Winter Joy/Wallflowers – fast growing, and very giving with the flowers. Happy Gardening.

 Kentish House 18 Station St, Sheffield Mon-Thu 9am-4pm & Fri 9am-2pm Ph. 6491 2322 / 0447 325 343 kentishhouse@glenhaven.org.au facebook.com/kentishhousetas instagram.com/kentish.house
FREE LEGAL ADVICE Women's Legal Service Tasmania offer FREE legal advice to women at Kentish House. Contact Kentish House or keep an eye out on Facebook for advertised dates/times. North West Community Legal Centre offer FREE legal advice at Kentish House. For an appointment contact NWCLC 6424 8720 and ask for a Kentish House appointment.
SERVICES AUSTRALIA (CENTRELINK) Wednesday 22nd July Kentish House 9:30 am–11 am and Kings Hall Railton 12 pm–12:30 pm Contact Kentish House to book specific appointment times alternatively, walk-ins are welcome.
NEED HELP WITH YOUR TAX RETURN? UTAS Tax Clinic will be offering FREE tax assistance and advice at Kentish House, 22nd July, 9th Sep, & 14th Oct. For an appointment contact Kentish House.
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM Please visit Kentish House or Kentish Council Facebook pages for up to date information regarding school holiday programs. facebook.com/kentishhousetas facebook.com/kentishcouncil

INTERNATIONAL MURAL FEST 2026

Where Wild Things Sing

A Community Art Exhibition

In Conjunction with

INTERNATIONAL MURAL FEST 2026

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Create Art Inspired by Nature's Songs

Paint It, Hear It, Feel It, Show It

COMMUNITY ARTS EXHIBITION

Sheffield Arts Centre, Sheffield

SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

- Exhibition Dates: 31 Oct 2026 to 30 Nov 2026
- For more Details and an Entry Form please email info@muralfest.com.au

Brought to you by

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RAILTON PARKRUN

Railton parkrun volunteer Linda Cassidy marked her 400th volunteer effort on June 13, a remarkable local milestone made even more special as parkrun celebrated its one millionth event worldwide last month.

All 400 of Linda's volunteer efforts have been at the Railton course, where she is known as one of the event's most enthusiastic supporters.

She said she gains great satisfaction from seeing people come together as a parkrun community.

As well as being one of the three parkrun Directors alongside Lisa Ireland and Bronwyn Kent, Linda's other role prior to most events includes checking the track for debris, clearing the course, setting up signage, safety cones, and marshalling the start and finish areas.

Linda said Railton parkrun is a valuable asset for the local community, bringing people together while supporting both physical and mental wellbeing.



We congratulate Linda on her wonderful milestone and thank her very much for her contribution.

Held Saturdays at 9am, Railton parkrun gives people of all ages and abilities the chance to walk, jog, run, volunteer or lend their support.

In the Kentish area, it has become an important part of community life, where

friendships grow and local spirit is on display.

Recent Milestones: Eliza Quirk (pictured below left) completed her 10th parkrun on May 30; Thorlene Egerton (right) completed her 250th parkrun on May 23.



SHEFFIELD GOLF

The weather has been challenging this month with some competitions being postponed due to the poor weather.

Monthly Medal winners

04/06 Vets; Sponsored by Sheffield Mechanical & Tyre was won by Martin Bakehouse with 71 nett, from Alan Duncan on 73 nett.

06/06 Members; Sponsored by IGA Sheffield was won by Gerry Hopkins with 64 nett from Wade Rockliff on 66 nett.

09/06 Ladies; Sponsored by D & P Morgan was won by Helen Lloyd-Jones with 71 nett from Janice Milner on 72 nett.

Members

23/05 Stableford was won by Wade Rockliff with 36 pts on countback from Greg Collis.

30/05 Lactalis Main and Dairy Invitation; Ambrose 4 was won by Winston Duff, Stephen Hope, Alan Duncan and Leigh Tuson on 52.5 nett. Second was Rodney VonStiegliz, Maklyn Jones, Lylle Hardwicke and Wade Rockliff on 53 nett. Thank you to the volunteers who cooked the barbeque and worked behind the bar.

Vets/Ladies

26/05 Stableford Multiplier; Sponsored by Drummonds Golf was won by Janice Williams and David Jago with 78 pts from Rowan Sherriff and Martin Bakehouse on 64 pts.

Vets

09/06 Stableford was won by Micheal Meaney with 35pts on countback from Martin Bakehouse.

Thank you to all of the volunteers for their tireless work on the course and gardens.

Sheffield Golf Club 0418 199 873

Green fees per day: Adults \$20.00; Juniors \$5.00

KENTISH CARERS SUPPORT GROUP



CARER'S GATEWAY & NDIS
Information Session for Current & Future Carers
1 - 3pm, Wednesday 10 June @ Rural Health Kentish

ART & CUPPA

Social catch up for Past, Current & Future Carers
12 - 2pm, Friday 19 June @ Kentish House



NDIS
Information Session for Current & Future Carers
1 - 3pm, Wednesday 8 July @ Rural Health Kentish

ART & CUPPA

Social catch up for Past, Current & Future Carers
12 - 2pm, Friday 24 July @ Kentish House



DEMENTIA
Information Session for Current & Future Carers
1 - 3pm, Wednesday 12 August @ Rural Health Kentish

ART & CUPPA

Social catch up for Past, Current & Future Carers
12 - 2pm, Friday 28 August @ Kentish House



PLEASE NOTE
The Kentish Carer's Support Group will transition to a MyAgedCare and NDIS Support volunteer - run drop-in program after funding ends for this current group in August 2026.
Stay tuned for more information - an update will be provided in the Kentish Voice later in the year.



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SHOTOKAN KARATE

Shotokan Karate is a traditional Japanese martial art renowned for its disciplined approach and rich history.

Rooted in traditional practices, Shotokan emphasises not only self-defense but also personal development, making it an excellent activity for kids, teens and adults of all ages.

Benefits for All Ages

Practicing Karate offers numerous benefits. For children and teenagers, it fosters discipline, respect and confidence while promoting physical fitness, flexibility and of course practical self-defense. For adults, Karate provides an effective way to stay active, relieve stress and build character.

The art encourages perseverance, focus, and self-control, traits that extend beyond the dojo into everyday life.

Shotokan Karate centers around three main components:

1. *Kihon*: These are the fundamental basics, stances, punches, kicks and blocks. Mastering Kihon builds a solid foundation for all other aspects of karate.
2. *Kata*: These are pre-arranged forms or patterns combining various techniques and stances. Kata practice helps practitioners develop precision, coordination and muscle memory.
3. *Kumite*: This is sparring, where students apply their techniques in controlled combat. It ranges from light contact to full contact, depending on the practitioners rank and experience, emphasising safety and respect.

A brief history of Shotokan Karate Club Tasmania

Shotokan Karate Club Tasmania has a proud history of fostering martial arts excellence across the island state. The club operates two dojo: Yushin Dojo in Burnie and Yamakaze Dojo in Railton.

Founded by Michele Ciampa Sensei, a respected 3rd Dan black belt, the club has become a hub for martial arts enthusiasts.

Ciampa Sensei is also the current President of the Australian branch of the World Karate Masters Federation (WKMF) and serves as the Chairman of the Shotokan Karate-Do International Association (SKDIA). He is also the current Tasmania State Coach.

An accomplished competitor and multiple gold medalist, he brings a wealth of experience and dedication to his students.

In February 2026, the Railton dojo was taken over by new leadership after the previous dojo closed.

The transition was welcomed by the community, with former students eager to continue their karate journey under the guidance of an experienced instructor.



Why Join Shotokan Karate Club Tasmania?

Joining the club means more than learning martial arts, it's about building resilience, improving health and developing lifelong skills. Whether you're aiming for practical self-defense, fitness or personal growth, Shotokan Karate offers a structured, supportive environment to achieve your goals.

Discover the tradition, discipline and community spirit of Shotokan Karate Club Tasmania. The club runs five days a week in Burnie and once a week on Thursdays in Railton.

Contact shotokankarateclub@instructor.net



Bahá'í Faith.

"Noble have I created thee, yet thou hast abased thyself. Rise then, to that for which thou wast created."

-The Hidden Words of Bahá'u'lláh

Holy Day for Martyrdom of the Báb 9 July

www.bahai.org 0448 976 442

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MINIATURES FOR MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

12.00PM – 1.30PM, FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 13 MARCH
 10.00PM – 12.00PM, THURSDAY 9 APRIL
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 1 MAY
 10.00PM – 12.00PM, FRIDAY 5 JUNE
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 3 JULY
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 7 AUGUST
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER
 12.00PM – 2.00PM, FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

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What your landfill levy makes possible

Every dollar of the landfill levy stays in Tasmania and is reinvested in better waste and recycling services.



The **Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board** oversees how levy funds are reinvested across the state, supporting projects and services such as:



Community repair and reuse programs that keep items in circulation



Tip shops and projects giving pre-loved goods a second life



Upgraded infrastructure so more materials can be recycled



Turning more **food and garden waste** into useful products



Research and planning to find smarter ways to reduce waste



Scan to learn more about the levy and levy funded projects

From 1 July 2026, the landfill levy reaches its final planned rate of 36 fee units per tonne. By using recycling, organics and reuse options, everyone can help reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill.



Little Pygmy smallest possum on earth

By Kristen Lang

There are two kinds of pygmy possum living in Tasmania. Those of you who have encountered them will know just how dainty they are – 6 to 10 cm nose to backside with about the same or a little more in the tail. The smaller of the two, called the Little Pygmy Possum, weighs barely anything – a mere 6 to 10 grams compared to as much as 40 for the Eastern Pygmy Possum. It's the most obvious way to tell the two apart. The Little Pygmy, by the way, holds the record for being the smallest possum on the planet.

Now try to imagine fitting four or five baby pygmy possums into a single pouch. Let them grow a little. Mum is no longer as graceful as she leaps across stones or curls her high-grip tail around the branches. She bulges around the middle as she climbs up to sip from the banksia flowers or tries her luck with an insect. Sometimes she misses her target. But she waddles on.

Eventually, the babies are too large to stay in this cosy home and so are left instead in a nest. It's a dangerous time. If mum has nested in the thick, tangled vegetation on Mount Roland's plateau, they'll be afforded some protection from the weather, the owls, the cats and the quolls.

In the footage from Mount Roland Land Care's cameras, this is where their numbers are highest. Yet pygmy possums can be found in all kinds of locations – in the nooks and crannies closer to the peak right down to the lower forests.

Most of the activity MRLC has detected has been in Autumn – young are coming of age and fat stores need to be built up for the winter. A fat tail base indicates that a pygmy possum has gained a good reserve.

In two locations, MRLC has filmed a pygmy possum without a tail. A close shave, perhaps. They do OK, compensating as they run along branches for the loss of balance the tail usually affords.

Pygmy possums have a thumb-like structure, an opposable toe, on their back feet. They also have webbing between the back feet's second and third toes, and textured, tacky pads on all their feet, so it's not just the tail that aids their impressive capacity to get around.

Many are pretty experienced with the terrain they live in as well. Females can live up to 12 years in the wild, males much less than that, but they still have many seasons for learning the routes they use and the best places for feeding at different times of the year. Always, of course, at night time – pygmy possums are nocturnal.

Perhaps that's something to keep in mind – not just that there's a bunch of life in the bush around us, most of it here for longer than we've been around, but that they carry layers of awareness with them, demonstrating it to their young.

Imagine what kinds of maps pygmy possums might keep in their heads to help them navigate their homes. At speed. In the dark. A tiny taste of nectar on their tiny, brush-tipped tongues.



Culverts curb crossing casualties



It has been an exciting month for Mount Roland Land Care, with the release of preliminary findings of its 2026 'Culverts for Wildlife' research.

Over the last 4.5 years, the Group

has been seeking to understand how culverts – the pipes that carry small streams under our roads - effect the movement of creatures that live in our waterways, especially the Giant Freshwater Crayfish (GFC). In 2025 the Group was able to demonstrate for the first time that GFC will use culverts for downstream travel.

However, upstream travel through a culvert was shown to be a challenge as GFC struggled to gain traction on the smooth and shiny interior surface. And sometimes they couldn't even get up into the culvert if it was 'perched' (or elevated) above the stream at its outfall. Faced with these obstacles, a GFC travelling upstream had no choice but to climb up the embankment, crawl slowly across the road, then down the other side back to the stream, exposing itself to predation and traffic.

In 2026, with the assistance of funding from the Wettenhall Environment Trust, MRLC volunteers worked alongside experts in the field, aiming to find practical, simple, low-cost and environmentally sensitive solutions to these problems. The Group monitored five culverts for around four months, using remote sensor cameras and microchip readers.

A range of possible solutions were trialed, and excitingly the preliminary results suggest that relatively simple changes can enable GFC to access a 'perched culvert'. Other changes enabled them to move upstream through the culvert, even against a significant water flow.

The Group has also seen that Platypus and Rakali experience similar challenges with culverts, and the solutions that work for GFC also work for them.

Considering how many thousands of culverts there are across Tasmania, on both public and private land, it is exciting to consider the potential for improving the health of our aquatic ecosystems.

Mount Roland Land Care has published some preliminary findings along with videos and pictures on its website at www.mountrolandlandcare.org.au These results were also shared in June at a statewide meeting of waterway managers in Scottsdale, and soon they will appear in an international publication. The Group is now preparing its final reports and looks forward to sharing them widely in a couple of months.



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Shine a light - nominate a volunteer

Tasmanians are being encouraged to shine a light on the volunteers, organisations and community groups making a difference, with nominations now open for the 2026 Tasmanian Volunteering Awards.

Organised by Volunteering Tasmania, the annual awards celebrate the individuals, groups and organisations helping to build stronger, healthier and more connected communities.

Nominations are open until July 15, with winners to be announced at a ceremony at Hobart Town Hall on Friday, September 18.

Volunteering Tasmania Chief Executive Officer Mel Blake said the awards were an opportunity to recognise the people quietly making a significant impact in communities across Tasmania.

“Volunteers are at the heart of communities right across our state and these awards provide an opportunity to celebrate the people whose generosity, passion and commitment make a real difference every day,” she said.

“We know every volunteer contribution matters, whether it’s supporting a local sporting club, helping vulnerable members of the community, leading a grassroots initiative or simply giving their time to make life better for others.”

Ms Blake said nominations were about sharing the stories behind the people and organisations creating change.

“Some of the most powerful nominations come from genuine stories that bring volunteering to life,” she said. “We encourage people to think about who has gone the extra mile, inspired

others or created a lasting impact in their community. It’s often the small moments and personal stories that demonstrate just how powerful volunteering can be.”

The awards feature a range of categories recognising contributions across the volunteering industry, from young volunteers and volunteer leaders through to inclusive volunteering and lifetime contributions.

Ms Blake encouraged Tasmanians not to assume someone’s contribution was too small to recognise.

“People often underestimate the value of what they do, but volunteering creates stronger communities and changes lives in ways that are not always visible,” she said.

To nominate, visit www.volunteeringtas.org.au



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CASEY HISCUTT MLC INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MONTGOMERY



Are you part of a community or sporting organisation in Montgomery?

Would you like the chance to **WIN** a \$200 voucher to help your club?

It will soon be time to spin the Monthly Montgomery Wheel, where I'm providing our community and sporting organisations an opportunity for a chance to WIN each month!



🏠: 36 King Edward St, Ulverstone ☎: 6425 8300

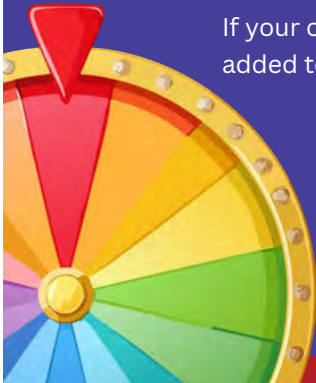
✉: casey.hiscutt@parliament.tas.gov.au

CASEY HISCUTT MLC
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MONTGOMERY

Monthly Montgomery Wheel

Although I already have several groups I've associated with in the past, I'm sure there are many more I haven't had a chance to interact with yet and I would LOVE to meet more groups doing amazing work in our community.

If your organisation sends me an email with the following information, your groups name will be added to the wheel for a chance to WIN a \$200 voucher each month:



- Club Name
- Best contact person and their details
- Regular meeting times if open to the public (or a time I can pop along and introduce myself)
- Add me to any club newsletter mailouts

For those wondering, here are the T&C's:

- Your organisation must be mostly based in Montgomery, or have a high number of members from the region.
- If an organisation wins a voucher, it will be excluded from the wheel for 12 months.
- This competition is not available to businesses or for-profit organisations.
- Designed for sporting and community organisations, but if your group doesn't fit exactly into these categories, it may still be considered.


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Casey spins the wheel for vouchers

Hi everyone I'm Casey Hiscutt, your local Independent Member for Montgomery in Tasmania's Legislative Council.

I want to engage with groups within my community so that I can gain a better understanding of what challenges you are facing, and also, importantly, what victories you are celebrating!

This is why I am introducing the Monthly Montgomery Wheel. Every month I will be giving away a \$200 gift voucher to one of the many non-for-profit or sporting organisations within Montgomery. Although I am already associated with many clubs and organisations across the region, I'm sure there are many more that I have not engaged with.

This is a chance for you to tell me about your club, but to also go in the draw to win a \$200 gift voucher. All you will need to do is send an email to me with the following information.

- Your club's name
- The best contact person for the club and their details

- Any regular meeting times (or an invitation to pop in for a chat sometime)
- And add me to any regular newsletters and mail outs.

This can be sent to casey.hiscutt@parliament.tas.gov.au

This is designed for organisations that are primarily based in Montgomery or have a significant number of their members based in the region.

It will only be available to volunteer or not-for-profit organisations though if you're not sure if your group would fit, send some information through and it will be considered. You will only be able to win once in every 12-month period.

The announcement of each winner will be on my Facebook page and will normally be drawn within the first week of the month. I look forward to engaging more with your club or organisation and good luck with the Monthly Montgomery Wheel!

Petition to defend farmers' rights

Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Member for Lyons Carlo Di Falco has agreed to sponsor a new e-petition calling for a review of Tasmania's vegetation clearing and land management enforcement framework following growing concern across regional communities.

The petition, initiated by farmer and small business owner Lindsay White, argues that hardworking farmers should not face excessive punishment for undertaking ordinary farming and land management activities and calls for greater balance between environmental protection and productive agriculture.

The petition follows concern raised after recent court action resulted in a fine exceeding \$100,000 against a family-owned farm over unauthorised land clearing, prompting wider discussion throughout the farming sector about confidence, certainty and fairness in the current system.

Carlo Di Falco MP said farmers were increasingly telling him they felt disconnected from decisions affecting their livelihoods.

"The people who produce our food, employ locals and keep regional communities alive should not be living in fear that a decision made in good faith could leave them facing massive fines and years of stress," he said.

"Farmers are telling me loud and clear that the system has lost balance. They respect the environment because their livelihoods depend on it, but they are tired of being lectured by people who have never had to make a living off the land.

"This petition is not about removing environmental protections. It is about making sure enforcement is fair, proportionate and grounded in the realities of farming."

Principal Petitioner Lindsay White said the petition had been driven by frustration across the agricultural community.

"Tasmanian farmers are sick of being treated like criminals for working their own land," he said.

"We cannot keep piling on rules, compliance and punishment while expecting family farms to survive. This petition is about standing up for the principle that if you own and care for land responsibly, you should have the right to farm it."

The petition calls on Parliament to:

- Conduct an independent review into Tasmania's vegetation clearing and land management enforcement framework;

- Ensure penalties are fair and proportionate for ordinary farming activities;
- End the treatment of hardworking farmers as environmental criminals;
- Acknowledge farmers' fundamental right to farm; and
- Better balance environmental protection with food production, regional jobs, private property rights and the future of farming communities.

The e petition is on the Tasmanian Parliament website.

ACCESS 2 Health Services Tasmanian Government

WEEKLY DIGITAL SUPPORT

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Sew Good! Members learn new skills at workshops



Beginners enjoyed a sewing session run by the Country Stitchers in collaboration with Kentish U3A.

The aim was to get familiar with a sewing machine, practise accurate measuring and cutting and to sew a couple of creations; a wine glass coaster and a soup bowl holder. I think they stole the show!

Well done to the participants and warm thanks to their teachers, particularly Sue Hind and Leanne Wilson

U3A will be surveying members to gain an understanding of activities

people would like to do, including workshops as well as ongoing activities.

Do you have any special skills to share or do you know someone who has an interest or skill they'd like to share with our members? Let us know.

Keep an eye on our socials for updates. Kentish U3A is keen to get your input. What activities would you like to try?

Please text or contact Kate Jackson on 0459 035 233 with your ideas.



Fingers fold Origami



Kentish U3A will be holding two afternoons of Origami fun. The first will be Wednesday, July 15, from 1-2.30pm.

Watch your emails for the date of the second, especially if you're on the waiting list.

As a small group, we'll be warming up our fingers on some easy-fold items like those pictured, then onto the more challenging origami which move! Paper will be supplied.

COURSE TIMES & CONTACTS

Move with Ease - Mon 10am;
Petanque - Mon 11.15am

Nita 0437 795 374

Mahjong - Mon 1pm

Ali 0410 742 012

Pickleball - Tue 9am

Kate 0407 510 857

French - Tue 11am

Kate 0459 035 233

Table Tennis - Tue 3pm

Don 0458 343 059

Topiary - Wed 9-12

Kate 0459 035 233

Guitar - Tue 2pm; Ukelele - Thu 10am; Cribbage - Fri 2pm

Mark 0428 515 445

Cycling/Walking:

Margaret 0421 648 123

Nature walk:

Greg 0438 589 173

Balance & Bones - Wed 9 & 10am; Fri 9am

Jennifer 0400 376 937

Cryptic Crosswords - Wed 1pm

Margaret 6491 1175

Folk Music - Wed 6.30pm

Kate - 0412 322 729

Zumba - Thu 2pm

Colette 0439 426 665

Challenging walk:

Lindsay 0434 984 570

Storytelling - Fri 11am

Paul 0499 776 953

Joy of Maths - Fri 10am

John 0457 262 040

Line Dancing - Fri 12.30

Dianne 0413 881 171

Kayaking - winter recess

Jennifer 0400 376 937

Botanical Drawing - Sat 1pm

Colette 0439 426 665

More information:

kentishu3a.u3anet.org.au or

email kentishu3a@gmail.com

Market Moves

with **Corinne Nicholson**
Principal
Roberts Nicholson



Every week there seems to be another headline about interest rates, proposed tax changes or where the property market is heading. It's easy to wonder whether now is the right time to make a move.

Over the years, I've learnt that people don't move because of the market. They move because life changes. A growing family needs more space. Children leave home. Retirement arrives. A new job comes along. Sometimes it's an exciting new chapter, and sometimes life throws us unexpected challenges.

That's why there will always be people buying and selling, regardless of what the headlines are saying.

Here in Kentish, we're continuing to see buyers drawn to the lifestyle, community and space that makes our part of Tasmania so special. Genuine buyers are still looking for the right property.

If you're in a position where you can wait, that's perfectly okay. If life means you need to make a move now, the key is having the right advice and a strategy that suits today's market.

Every property journey is different, and every decision should be based on your own circumstances not just the latest news.

No matter where you are on your property journey, my goal is simply to help you make the decision that's right for you. Whether you're buying, selling or simply curious about what your home may be worth, I'm always happy to have an obligation free chat.

Seller Tip of the month: Don't let winter stop your sale. A warm home, good lighting and a welcoming first impression can make buyers feel comfortable the moment they walk through the door.

Buyer Tip of the month: Look beyond today's interest rates. If the home suits your lifestyle and long-term plans, short-term market changes are only one part of the bigger picture.

Property of the Month – 74 Blackberry Lane, Sunnyside

If privacy, peace and country living are on your wish list, No.74 is well worth a look. Set on approximately 5 acres at the end of a quiet no-through road, this solid brick home offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, a 3 car remote garage, solar power, tank water, septic and a number of internal paddocks.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Business is hard

My name is Phil Broomhall and I would like to give my explanation as why we are not cooking at the RSL Railton.

Mid April there was a post on the RSL Railton site looking for someone to take over the kitchen.

We approached the RSL Railton and asked about leasing the kitchen as I have a love of cooking. We talked to some committee members over the next few days and decided to lease the kitchen. We were told that the last person got three months free rent and that would be extended to us.

We arranged with the RSL Railton to start on 7th May cooking three nights per week. There was also talk about them opening Wednesday nights.

The RSL were very accommodating and bought a second-hand griddle plate and new freezer for storage. We bought a new fridge as the fridges that they had were not holding temperature efficiently enough to store food.

We were asked to attend a committee meeting on the 26th of May to discuss a contract for the kitchen. On that evening, there was not enough committee members to form an official meeting so the four RSL members and Caroline and myself had a general discussion on moving forward with a contract.

The RSL sub branch had a committee meeting on the night of 9th of June.

On the 10th of June, I received a phone call from the President at 12.37pm and was informed that the committee have declined our contact to cook in the kitchen.

We have had no explanation from the RSL Railton or anybody from the committee as why we could not lease the kitchen.

As anyone would know in business, it takes time and planning to run a business and you have to pre-order food, which I had already done in preparation for following weeks.

All I wanted to do was to help the RSL with the kitchen open and getting more patrons there to enjoy themselves.

Setting up a business is costly and this has cost us a large loss and stress.

I'm sorry to the people that followed me and enjoyed my food as I know they would be disappointed. If we were doing such a bad job, why did we have one family eat with us eight times and another couple eat with us five times in five weeks?

Phil & Caroline Broomhall, Lower Barrington

Editor's Note: The Kentish Voice approached Railton RSL Sub-branch President Roxley Felmingham for a right of reply. He said all committee discussions are confidential.

Redgrave departs

Public Officer and minor gaming permit holder James Redgrave has parted ways with the Railton RSL following the new committee's decision "to take it in a different direction".

James takes on the "huge role" of District Governor with Lions on July 1 and said it would be a busy time.

"I'm involved with about half a dozen community organisations so I'm just too busy," he said. James is standing for Mayor of Latrobe at the October council elections.

Despite only recently being re-elected to the committee, James said members had known for a while his senior role with Lions would mean less time for the RSL.

"I've put lots of time into it over the last 18 months and we've got it back to where it is. If the new committee want to take it a different way, I figured it was easier for me to take a step back and just be a member for a while."

James advised the committee in writing he would be resigning his position late last month. The club will need to find a new gaming permit holder by July 28.

RSL marks 80 years

Railton RSL SubBranch proudly celebrated its 80th anniversary, marking eight decades since its establishment in 1946, when meetings were first held at the King's Hall.

On Saturday night, June 13, members and guests came together for a fantastic 1980s-themed fancy dress night, with live music from Cam Sherriff performing classic hits from the era. The evening was full of colour, fun, community spirit, and of course, a celebratory birthday cake.

Railton RSL SubBranch also acknowledged Mrs Dawn Brown for her 50-plus years of membership, including her dedicated service as President of the Auxiliary Ladies. Her long-standing commitment has been invaluable to the SubBranch and the wider community.

Over the past two and a half years, the committee has worked extremely hard to get the Railton RSL SubBranch back up and running. Their dedication has helped restore activity, strengthen community connections, and ensure the RSL remains a welcoming place for veterans, families, and locals.

We are now calling for more community members to step up and volunteer for bar attendant hours. We will be losing six volunteers at the end of the year, and without new support, some difficult decisions may need to be made.

We need to find a secretary. This job can be one person or two people sharing the role. You will be trained and fully supported in this volunteer role. Email railton.rslsub@gmail.com

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Aboriginal activity around Kentish

It is inconceivable to think that there was so much aboriginal activity all around the Mersey and Forth Valleys and not within the Kentish district itself, which lie between these two rivers.

Once we begin to examine the field notes left by the first explorers to this region and the detailed diary of Aboriginal conciliator *George Augustus Robinson*, they leave little doubt that the Aborigines did inhabit and hunt across the Kentish district on a seasonal basis probably for hundreds of years.

Let's look at the evidence?

Aboriginal track from Mt Gog to seacoast

The first of the explorers to reach the upper Mersey River was *Captain John Rolland* of 3rd Foot Regiment based at George Town. He was commissioned to search for an inland route through to the North West Coast. Coming via Westbury Captain Rolland's party arrived beside the Mersey River near Mole Creek on 6 December 1823.

At Dens Plains his party disturbed a number of Aborigines who ran up the side of Mt Gog. Rolland crossed the river, followed

'I was now on a track of the natives to the sea coast.'

them up Mt Gog and crossed the top endeavouring to get a view of the North West country. He wrote in his notes: "Indeed it appeared to me that I was now on a track of the natives to the sea coast."

Several years later *George Robinson* also stood on the top of Mt Gog with a number of Aborigines that had accompanied him. They told him that the usual route from Mt Gog to the sea coast was to follow down the west side of the Mersey River through open burnt-out river flats that later became Foster's Armistead Estate near Kimberley.

The VDL Co surveyors used Captain Rolland's notes, so in 1826 when *Henry Hellyer* followed a well-worn aboriginal track from East Devonport to Frogmore and Sherwood, he assumed that it probably continued to follow the Mersey River right back to the ochre mine at Mt Gog. His subsequent explorations of Native Plains and Kimberley proved this to be a correct.

So a considerable amount of this main aboriginal track from the seacoast to Mt Gog passed through Kentish territory.

The Mt Claude track

Another important aboriginal track that crossed a lot of the Kentish country came from the West and far North West coast via Lorinna to Mt Gog.

As it passed through the Vale of Belvoir, across Middlesex Plains and descended into the Forth valley at Lorinna (all part of the Kentish municipality), the surveyors saw several campsites and a number of aboriginal huts.

Once across the ford, as the track comes north over Mt Claude, these same men record seeing more huts in the high country behind both Mt Claude and Mt Roland. From the top of Claude the track drops down to the Dasher River and follows it along the base of Mt Roland, before climbing again up through Paradise to the ochre mine. This provides plenty of evidence that at least during the summer months, this high country was regularly inhabited by our first indigenous people.

The Dasher River track

From Mt Roland it seems a branch aboriginal track continued to follow the Dasher River downstream to where it joins the Mersey River near Kimberley. The VDL Co surveyors trekking inland used this Dasher River route a couple of times.

Once Hellyer and Lorymer followed the Dasher right back to its source, climbed up over Mt Van Dyke and Mt Claude, and looked down into the Forth River Gorge before returning much the same route to Kimberley.

Just east of the present bridge over Dasher River at Claude Road they encountered some aborigines. Exactly what occurred we are not told, but it was significant enough for Henry Hellyer to name the small creek coming down between Paradise and Mt Roland as Spearthorn Creek.

Sometime later, the State Nomenclature Board sanitised this rather provocative name by changing it from Spearthorn Creek to its present name Stave Creek.

The burnt out areas of open plains that follow the Dasher River from Gowrie Park through Claude road, Paradise and Duck Marsh are further indications of aboriginal activity. The fact that the original inhabitants always carried fire sticks for cooking made it so simple to constantly keep open corridors through the bush.

This made trekking so much easier for the men carrying spears and waddies and the women trailing behind them laden with babies, food and all other domestic requirements. The open spaces were better than the bush especially for barbecuing their native animals and for overnight sleeping arrangements.

Hunting north of Mt Roland

A more direct reference to aboriginal hunting on the Kentish Plains occurs in *George Robinson's* diary in July 1834 after the Aborigines accompanying him had caught a boomer kangaroo near Mole Creek. The boomer kangaroo was the early colonial name given to the largest of the three species of kangaroo found in Van Diemen's Land, the other two being the forest kangaroo and the wallaby.

'The boomer kangaroo was the largest of the three species found in Van Diemen's Land.'

The Aborigines told Robinson that the boomer kangaroo was not native to the Mole Creek area, but came from 'the boomer country on the north side of Mount Roland' between the Forth and the Mersey rivers.

They said it was the only place the boomer kangaroo were known to exist westward of the Tamar River.

It appears the Aborigines were familiar enough with hunting on the Kentish Plains to know it was the only place where the big species of kangaroos could be found.

A couple of days after the above incident and about four years after his previous visit, Robinson again stands on top of Mt Gog. This time Robinson says an aboriginal woman named Fanny points out to him the native track, visible from patches of burnt ground, that ran from Mt Gog in a diagonal direction north to Bloomer Hills.

These hills appear to be what we know today as the Badgers.

This belief is strengthened when we check Hellyer's 1828 camp map to find he has named a creek running off the Badgers as Boomer Creek. This diagonal track that crossed the Kentish Plains probably continued passed Boomer Hills down the Don River to the seacoast. This would have provided Aborigines living west of Mersey River access to Mt Gog. Possibly an additional track from the Kentish Plains followed down Redwater Creek passed the caves of the same name, through Railton to the Native Plains.

'No Aboriginal fire farming for nearly 40 years.'

The Kentish Plains

The many patches of open grass-land that constituted the Kentish plains were located between the Dasher River and the Don River. Notably along the eastern side of the Don River from West Kentish north to the West Nook Road, and from the foot of the Badgers, south across eastern Sheffield and out along both Spring St and the Old Paradise Road.

These burnt out open areas created by the local *Tommeginne* tribe shouldn't surprise us now that we know, prior to European settlement, that our Kentish district's second claim to fame was its big boomer kangaroos. Had any of these early explorers discovered the Kentish Plains during the 1820s, there was just a chance that they may have found some of the very last free Aborigines still at large on our island. But when at last these plains were 'officially' discovered on 1 August 1842, all aborigines except one family had been gone many years.

By the time the first immigrant settlers arrived in Kentish around 1860, there had been no aboriginal 'fire farming' for nearly 40 years. All their tracks and bark huts had long since disappeared and even the grassy plains themselves were being covered with re-growth.

Our pioneer settlers in Kentish and their descendants had little knowledge of these original inhabitants; nor any interest in the stone tools that they may have discarded. However, in more recent times retired Parks and Wildlife Ranger Roxley Day has picked up an aboriginal stone implement on his West Kentish property. It was a cutting tool about 60mm long with two very sharp edges and unlike any stones in the area.

Likewise licensed surveyor Richard Sands has also found aboriginal artefacts on his farm near Sheffield. A stone I once picked up near my home when living in the township of Sheffield also appears to be an aboriginal stone. Probably others have done the same thing. So maybe you too could still find something, especially near the river banks, even though it is now nearly 200 years since first indigenous inhabitants were active in our Kentish area.

Next time - The Demise of our local Tommeginne tribe.

Editor's Note: The Kentish Voice is reprinting Alan's columns from when he first started 10 years ago. Some references may relate to that time.

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are now available as
e-books online at
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TasFarmers welcomes fertiliser supply

TasFarmers has welcomed the State Government's announcement of a new fertiliser supply agreement, saying it provides much-needed certainty for farmers preparing for the coming season.

The agreement, facilitated through Indonesia and fertiliser manufacturer Incitec Pivot, comes after months of concern about global fertiliser availability driven by conflict in the Middle East and disruption to international supply chains.

TasFarmers CEO Nathan Calman said certainty around fertiliser availability was critical for farm businesses making planting and production decisions.

"There's been a great deal of uncertainty around urea supply at a time when farmers are making important decisions about planting crops and managing pasture growth," Mr Calman said.

"This agreement gives producers confidence that supply won't be an issue and allows them to plan their operations knowing inputs will be available when they need it.

"Nitrogen fertiliser plays a key role across Tasmania's dairy, livestock and cropping sectors. Any disruption to supply can have significant impacts on productivity, farm profitability and food production.

"This announcement gives producers the ability to undertake the necessary gross margin calculations and make informed decisions about their farm businesses and expected returns."

While welcoming the supply agreement, TasFarmers said producers still needed greater clarity around fertiliser pricing as supply certainty was only part of the equation.

"What we need now is greater certainty around price because that will ultimately influence the decisions farmers make. Having product available is critical, but farmers also need confidence around what it will cost so they can properly budget and plan," he said.

TasFarmers said the agreement would help address demand for nitrogen fertiliser but warned that other essential farm inputs also required attention.

"This announcement goes a long way towards meeting demand for nitrogen fertiliser, which is welcome news for producers across the state," Mr Calman said.

"But nitrogen is only one of the key fertiliser inputs farmers rely on.

"We can't lose focus on the need to create greater certainty around other essential nutrients such as phosphorus, potassium and sulphur."

TasFarmers said the announcement demonstrated the importance of proactive action to strengthen agricultural supply chains and improve resilience against global disruptions.

TasFarmers will continue working with government and industry to ensure Tasmanian farmers have reliable access to the inputs they need to maintain production, support regional communities and contribute to the state's economy.



"I asked for help."

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Who cares for the carers? Seek help

As an early intervention teacher, small business owner, wildlife carer and mother of three, Rebecca Mackay's days were spent caring for people, animals and family.

But when her husband Lee was diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2024, life changed almost overnight. Suddenly, Rebecca found herself taking on the role of full-time carer while trying to keep family life moving.

"For a while there, it looked like absolute chaos," she said.

"I was only able to focus on just making sure people were fed and happy and intact and that the bare minimum of things were getting done."

For the family, already living a busy life in a remote area with children and animals to care for, the diagnosis brought a new set of challenges.

"We live in a really rural, really remote place, I have three children and we have quite a busy little farm full of lots of animals," Rebecca said.

"It's very busy here, even on the best of days."

As treatment began, days quickly filled with specialist appointments, hospital visits and uncertainty.

"When things were at their worst it was really challenging with lots of hospital appointments, lots of time spent travelling, things were chaotic," Rebecca said.

For Lee, Rebecca became his constant source of support through months of treatment, hospital visits and uncertainty.

"She drove me to the hospital every appointment," he said.

"She'd sit there for eight hours with me during chemo on our little coffee date, drinking our coffee and having our muffin while I got chemicals poured into my veins."

"She was a lifeline, it was like having an angel on my shoulder."

Now, as Lee continues his recovery, life has begun to settle and Rebecca is starting to think beyond simply getting through each day.



With the help of the Carer Gateway's pre-employment program, she has begun rebuilding the career she put on hold and is looking toward the future once again.

"It's a really big weight off knowing I've got somebody working with me on putting it back together properly," Rebecca said, praising the help she has received through the program.

For Lee, seeing Rebecca return to the work she loves has been one of the brighter moments after a difficult chapter.

"The biggest shame about getting sick was taking her away from her work," he said.

"It's really nice seeing her getting back into it now and doing something she wants to do for herself for a change."

Last morning tea for cancer supporters



Ten years ago, David and I started raising money for the Cancer Council. Money was raised for Kentish Relay for Life and the Biggest Morning Tea events.

Our 10th Biggest Morning Tea was held on May 20 and our final tally was \$4394.85.

Thank you to all our generous supporters and we have so many people to thank. I hope I don't miss any.

Mt Roland Sew Friends, West Coast Wildness Railway, The Hub, Slaters, Bossimis Bakery, IGA Sheffield, Wendy Wilton, Tania M Burke, Lesley Chintock, Anita Greene, Julie Winwood, Big Pot Nursery, Post Office, Sarah from Patchworks Plus Tasmania.

Nicole Ford for our beautiful cake once again. The girls in the kitchen and the wonderful people who made donations who were unable to attend and of course to all those 42 people who came along. Our home was full of fun and laughter.

As it was our 10th and last morning tea, we would like to thank all those who have supported us over the years. Both David and I have enjoyed raising over \$16,000 during the 10 years towards a cause close to our hearts.

Thank you everyone. We will support the next group or person who steps up in 2027.

- Coralanne Walker

Kentish Museum Mystery Object



This object was widely utilised through the late 19C into the 20C. It is a sturdy cast iron body with a wooden handle which moves vertically to raise and lower the rounded ends.

All the volunteers at the museum enjoy hearing your thoughts on the Mystery Object. Email museum@kentish.tas.gov.au or call in to the museum to view the items on display and connect with a bit of Kentish history. Open Wed, Fri, Sat 10-3pm

June's Mystery Object was a Stereograph.

The 19C version of virtual reality! Photographs were viewed side by side through magnified lens, the brain fused the dual images together into a single image! The Spirograph preceded moving pictures and was hugely popular.

July 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.

N I U G N E P R O L L T L G
 A N O V E L G A E X H O I U
 G D B R I D G E O S O M G N
 R L I S T E L B A T U A H S
 O A T K H T R O F R N H T T
 C R E V I E C E R A I A R F
 K E K O D N A M R I F W A E
 E H C N E T D R O N O K I L
 T C I O O I C R W S R N L A
 E T R A P O C R E A M A E E
 N A C N U N K T B D T B R S
 G W A R A T A H R O S E Y U
 Y S T A N D A R D O W N R O
 C O A C H M S Y R U C R E M

Loot
 Mercury
 Mouse
 Nook
 Novel
 Organ
 Penguin
 Receiver
 Rocket
 Roll
 Rose
 Row
 Seal
 Shearwater
 Snug
 Standard
 Strain
 Tablets
 Tinderbox
 Tomahawk
 Trailer
 Trap
 Uniform
 Waratah
 Watch

Bank Court Down
 Bark Cream Eagle
 Bear Cricket Fat
 Bite Cygnet Forth
 Bridge Dates Gear
 Coach Detention Herald

Hide
 Kindred
 Left
 Light
 Logs

— — — — — — — —

CRYPTIC PUZZLE TASMANIA

1. Spoil entry (7)
2. I am no tidier (5)
3. Careless! Check smear (5,5)
4. Amender changed it (7)
5. Hints alter amendment (10)
6. Whim lead to change (8)
7. In WHOSE? change EVE'S to NANCY'S (9)
8. Dot & Alan's breakup (8)
9. Mediate at neutral place (7,7)
10. Man's son simply distraught (7,6)

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POLICE REPORT

Offence: Stealing United Service Station Main Street, Sheffield. 9/5/26, Suspect pumped \$50 of petrol into his bike and rode off, making no attempt to pay.

Offence: Burglary - Stealing - Destroy/Injure Property- 21/05/2026- Public Toilets, Sheffield. Unknown offender/s pried open the lock of the toilet block and damaged two of the coin machines in an attempt to remove coins. Two have been totally destroyed.

Offence: Stealing - High Street, Sheffield. 26/05/2026 The victim left a black and red duffle bag by the side of the road which wasn't there when he returned 15 minutes later. The approximate value of the stolen items is \$1550.

Offence: Stealing- McCoys Road, Claude Road. Between 07/05/2026 - 28/05/2026. Unknown person/s have removed five fence palings to gain access. Person/s turned off the power, including to the gas water cylinder, valued at \$1000. Person/s removed a hot water cylinder and pushed open the shed door and removed a Honda fire fighting pump, valued at \$1500.

Offence: Destroy/Injure Property- High Street, Sheffield. On 29/05/2026, a 2006 Toyota Prado was scratched/ keyed on all panels of the vehicle, causing damage. The approximate value for repair is \$14,000.

Offence: Stealing - Staverton Road, Staverton. Between 9/6/26 & 11/6/26 Unknown persons have stolen items from the property, including:

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Offence: Stealing IGA, Sheffield 12/06/2026. Three female youths entered the store and stole various beauty/ hair products before leaving the store again.

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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



No place for aggression in workplace

By Deputy Premier Guy Barnett

The Tasmanian Government is taking strong action to protect workers, customers and employers from repeat and escalating incidents of violence, aggression and intimidation in the workplace.

Consultation is now underway on a proposed Workplace Protection Order scheme, which would allow a business to apply to a Court or Tribunal for an order against an individual who has engaged in personal violence.

The proposed reforms are designed to help protect workplaces and employees by providing a more tailored and flexible response to unacceptable behaviour, particularly where incidents are repeated or escalating.

Workplace Protection Orders would complement existing measures such as trespass notices and police move-on powers, giving businesses another important tool to keep people safe.

Details are available on the Department of Justice website. Submissions close on Friday, July 17, 2026.

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

		Alternate Reality by photographer Catherine Ocean, Sheffield Art Gallery
Sat-Sun	Jul 4, 05	Steam Engine rides 11am-4pm, Sheffield Steam & Heritage Centre
Saturday	Jul 4	Classics from Broadway Latrobe Federal Band 4pm, Sheffield Town Hall
		The Hub open 10am-2pm
Wednesday	Jul 8	NDIS Information Session 1-3pm, Rural Health Kentish
		NWFS Screening: The Ice Tower (see p9)
Friday	Jul 10	Free legal advice for women 9am, Kentish House
Saturday	Jul 11	Kentish Garden Club meeting 2pm, Plump Berries, 10 Devils Gate Rd, Barrington
Sat-Sun	Jul 11, 12	Quilting workshop , Claude Road Hall (see p8)
Tuesday	Jul 14	Kentish Probus Club 10am, Sheffield Bowls Club
Wednesday	Jul 15	U3A Origami workshop 1-2.30pm, Sheffield Uniting Church
		Nominations close for Tasmanian Volunteering Awards (see p25)
Sunday	Jul 19	Sheffield Show & Shine
Monday	Jul 20	Trivia 6.30 for 7pm, Sheffield RSL, 77 Main Street, Sheffield
Wednesday	Jul 22	Services Australia 9.30-11am Kentish House; 12-12.30pm King's Hall
		Kentish Council meeting 6pm, Council Office, High Street, Sheffield
Friday	Jul 24	Free legal advice for women 9am, Kentish House
	Jul 13, 31	Voting for Wintermas decorations, Sheffield Post Office
	Jul 31	Applications close for Small Community Grants (see p12)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday	Jul 26	Back to Railton reunion, King's Hall, Railton
Wednesday	Aug 12	Dementia Information Session 1-3pm, Rural Health Kentish
Friday	Aug 21	Movie: How to Train Your Dragon, King's Hall, Railton
Monday	Sept 21	Beulah Hall AGM 7pm

Cryptic Puzzle Answers

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Margate | 6. Waldheim |
| 2. Moina | 7. Geeveston |
| 3. Chasm Creek | 8. Oatlands (1) |
| 4. Meander | 9. Central Plateau |
| 5. Thirlstane | 10. Symmons Plains |

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