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May 2026

Edition of

The Kentish Voice

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Kody chops his way to the top



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EDITORIAL

Alan Dyer sent his last columns two months before his death.

The April edition of *The Kentish Voice* was delivered the day before his funeral, Tuesday, March 31.

Staff at the newspaper were sworn to secrecy as he wanted only close friends and family around in the days before his final day.

He arranged his exit from this world with meticulous care. Donating his archival collection to the Kentish Museum required extensive paperwork but he saw this through, determined his legacy would be preserved in the town which was home for more than 90 years.

Staff at the museum were also working under the shroud of secrecy, honouring Alan's wishes to properly catalogue and display his collection after his passing.

Alan's style and commitment to Kentish was demonstrated in his final salute: a drive-by Slater's Country Store in his hearse on the way to the grave-side service and burial at Claude Road. His family's long history with the store is as indelible as the mural of Alan and his beloved Elsie on the western wall.

What Alan has given us all is not only a better appreciation of our history but a lesson in how to live life and how to move on with dignity. The respect he earned was demonstrated by

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the 400+ mourners at his funeral, the extremely professional presentation of his service and how eloquently his children, grandchildren and friends spoke of him with admiration.

To know when you're going to go could be seen as either a gift or a burden. Some might see it as an opportunity to get their affairs organised, divest of earthly goods and buy a plot. Others might go on a reckless spending spree while some could be so overwhelmed by the news that inertia sets in. For those types, a sudden exit with no forewarning is preferred.

Whichever way we leave, it's important family and friends know our wishes.

A medical living will, or Advance Care Directive, is not only for older people; it is recommended for anyone aged over 18.

It is a legal document which specifies how you want to be treated if you are unable to communicate, such as whether life support is an option. It ensures values are respected while guiding health professionals to deliver the appropriate care.

And while many prefer not to discuss death despite its inevitability, it is something that should be planned, as Alan showed us. I regret he didn't take my advice to have his Wake while he was still alive; that's my plan!

Heather

Concrete plant in lengthy shutdown

By Heather Eiszele

Cement Australia will shut down for 46 days from this month for the \$108 million upgrade of the Railton Kiln.

It will be the longest period of non-production for the plant since the early 1990s.

Cement Australia is upgrading the Railton kiln to facilitate the use of alternate fuels, sustainable wood waste (biomass) and shredded used car tyres (tyre derived fuel), which will reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from the plant by 107,000 tonnes per year, and reduce the use of coal by 35%.

The Railton site has co-processed alternate fuels (high viscosity fuels and spent cell liners) in the kiln since 2008, providing approximately 15% of the kiln's energy requirements, resulting in negligible changes in atmospheric emissions.

It is planned to co-process 6000 tonnes per annum of tyre derived fuel (TDF) and 74,000 tonnes per annum of forest residue (biomass), as part of the expansion of alternate fuel use at the site, resulting in TDF providing 5% and biomass providing 30% of the kiln's energy requirements.

In approving the project with conditions, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) said: "The Board has determined that this proposal can proceed with strict conditions that protect both the environment and the Railton community.

"While the project offers meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and dust, we have also required stronger controls on nitrogen dioxide emissions, noise management and operating hours.

"Our decision reflects the importance of supporting industry transition while ensuring environmental standards are

strengthened and community impacts are carefully managed."

The reconfigured kiln is integral to the company's transition to the circular economy using recycled materials. More than 110,000 tonnes of coal will be replaced with alternative fuels that would otherwise be sent to landfill.

It is expected that tyres will be introduced into the production cycle in September while biomass freight is scheduled to arrive at the end of the year.

Cement Australia is a leader in its field internationally and recently presented its model to a European Trade mission.

Cement Australia Operations Manager Simon Tueon said the assembly of the upgraded kiln was "incredibly complex" with 100 containers of plant and equipment on site.

"It's like a Meccano set, five floors up."

It was critical to optimise the upgraded plant before new fuels were introduced. "The changes represent different operating profiles for our process team," Tueon said.

"New set points, temperatures, pressures... we need to let it stabilise and reach a consistent steady-state."

Sunil Ram, with 35 years' experience in the cement and clinker industry, has been hired as Production Manager ahead of the shutdown. He has been heavily involved in decarbonisation programs, most recently at Boral.

Tueon said if the waste industry in Tasmania became more advanced, more opportunities for refuse-derived fuel, such as construction and demolition waste, would be available.

"The contribution of this project to the Tasmanian economy is significant," he said. "We will be stretching the pool of labour."

Celebrate Mother's Day at Tasmazia & the Village of Lower Crackpot

The Easter Egg Hunt was great fun! Now it's Mums turn!

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Cobra snakes around multiple trophies

Sheffield's premier axeman Kody Steers has sliced through the competition recently, winning a world championship at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

'The Cobra' won the World 375mm Standing Block Championship.

He then won the STIHL Timbersport Australian Trophy following his success at the Toowoomba Show in March, taking out the 300mm Underhand World Title and the World 375mm Standing Block Championship.

The Manny McCarthy Memorial final went down to the wire, where the 30-year-old took down reigning champion Brad De Losa to claim his first Australian Trophy.

Kody stopped the clock at a personal best 1:05.51, with Brad pushing hard behind him at 1:11.18, a finish that capped off an incredible day of form, consistency, and composure under pressure.

Brad, a three-time Trophy winner, brought the experience. But this time, it was Kody's moment.

In the STIHL final, Australia's top 12 athletes went head-to-head in the gruelling knock out format. From start to finish, Kody consistently set PBs, chopping and sawing his way to the top.

In the Grand Final, Steers went up against Brad De Losa again, where he set another PB at 1:05.51.

A dominant force locally, he has reclaimed numerous Tasmanian championships, including the 400mm Underhand and 300mm Standing titles in 2025.

He famously won his first senior state title at age 19 by beating legendary axeman David Foster in 2014.

Kody was the 2024 Australian Pro Champion and secured a podium finish (3rd place) in the 2025 event.

He also set a Pro PB with 5.30 seconds in the Hot Saw

Beyond wood-chopping, The Cobra was also an accomplished bull rider, winning multiple Junior and Juvenile Steer and Bull Riding titles between 2006 and 2012 before focusing on timbersports.

Support from the community has been overwhelming.




Danza conquers obstacles

Danza Hardwick, a very talented local horsewoman and dedicated club member of Kentish Polocrosse, competed among the best of the best horsewomen in Australia at the Man From Snowy River Bush Festival in Corryong Victoria. She placed 6th in the women's division.

In the Barmah Muster Challenge against men & women, Danza came 5th in the finals. She now has her eyes set on King of the Ranges at Murrundi and Battle of the Bidgee Gundagi in October.

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|--|
|  <p>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</p> |
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| <p>FREE LEGAL ADVICE North West Community Legal Centre are offering FREE legal advice at Kentish House. For an appointment please contact North West Community Legal Centre 6424 8720 and ask for a Kentish House appointment. Women's Legal Service Tasmania are offer FREE legal advice to women at Kentish House. For dates/times contact Kentish House or keep an eye out of Facebook for advertised dates/times.</p> |

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SO PLEEEASE.... COME PLAY!
DIG DEEP! AND HAVE FUN!

Venue: Sheffield RSL. Time: 6.30 for 7pm start. Cost: \$10pp

SteamFest revives historic Tinkerbell

Steam will be in the air once again at the Sheffield Steam and Heritage Centre, with train rides and family-friendly attractions running across selected weekends in May and June.

Visitors can climb aboard the much-loved Krauss steam locomotive, which will be running every half hour from 11:00am to 4:00pm on May 2–3 and June 6–7. Whether you're a railway enthusiast or just looking for a relaxed day out, the rides offer a nostalgic experience for all ages.

Adding to the atmosphere, the Model Railway will be open from 10am-3pm on each running day. The display features five different track scales—HO, DC, HO Digital Command Control, N and On30—and includes a hands-on favourite for younger visitors, with a timer and big button to start the trains. Behind the scenes, the Model Club meets twice weekly on Thursdays and Sundays, continuing the careful work that keeps the displays running. Visitors are always welcome to stop by, ask questions and see what's involved.

Proceeds from recent SteamFest events have gone towards



Tasmanian Governor Barbara Baker with Oatlands Bullocks team owner and SteamFest regular Brian Fish.

the restoration of the historic “Tinkerbell” engine—a 1915 Marshall portable steam engine with strong ties to Tasmania’s timber industry (left).

Originally owned by Geeveston sawmiller George Welling, the engine was transported by horse from Huonville to his mill, reflecting an earlier era of industry and ingenuity.

After passing through several dedicated custodians, including the Don River Railway, the engine arrived at Redwater Creek in 2021. Restoration is ongoing, with plans for the engine to become the centrepiece of a future timber industry display at the Sheffield Steam and Heritage Centre. Organisers are hopeful it will be ready in time for SteamFest 2027.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

A registered JP will be attending Kentish House on the following days/times;

- Tuesday 7th April. 9.30-11 am.
- Monday 20th April. 9.30-11 am.
- Wednesday 6th May. 9.30-11 am.
- Monday 11th May. 9.30-11 am.
- Wednesday 20th May. 9.30-11 am.
- Monday 25th May. 9.30-11 am.
- Wednesday 3rd June. 9.30-11 am.
- Tuesday 9th June. 9.30-11 am.
- Wednesday 17th June. 9.30-11 am.
- Monday 22nd June. 9.30-11 am.

You don't need to make an appointment, just drop in.

Weindorfer Day 2026

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Railton RSL faces \$150k upgrade costs

By James Redgrave

After two years of hard graft the new committee from the AGM in 2024 have become a little tired and strung out.

A select few put in approximately 150 hours a week to keep the doors open to provide a relaxing atmosphere for members, guests and locals alike. One only has to drive by to see the fresh face of the RSL on the outside and the friendly fresh faces on the inside.

A large highlight was the finances that saw a turn around of almost \$180k pa from the year prior to this current board running the RSL and for that they must all be commended on a wonderful job.

The Railton RSL Sub Branch AGM was held on March 29 with a free BBQ lunch enjoyed by over 60 attendees. The new committee is a mix of new and old faces that will inject some new vigor into the RSL.

There was an EGM held after the AGM in regards to the State RSL handing back the building and land to the Railton RSL Sub Branch.

An anonymous paper ballot was held with the result being: That the building and land will remain in State RSL TAS ownership. Under the lease agreement, Railton RSL is responsible for all outgoings and maintenance, which is about \$20,000 a year.

The big issue is the age of the building and the cost of upgrades is beyond the Railton RSL's capacity to pay at this point. More than \$150,000 is needed without kitchen upgrades.

Railton RSL celebrates its 80th year in 2026.

2026 Railton RSL Sub Branch Executive

President returning Roxley Felmingham

Vice President Criag Busscher

Membership Officer Brad Aitchinson

Treasurer Leah Riley

Secretary position is vacant if anyone is interested

Public Officer James Redgrave

Committee members

Janine Poke

Dianne Sharp

Bob Zwikieberg

Tish Smith

Simon Airey

Paul Green

Trudy Semmens

Craig Cowburn

Troy Milton

Stacey Sheean

Derek Davies

Stacey Anthony

Robbie Lucas

Youth carry forward Anzac traditions



Elijah Pick on behalf of Kentish Scout Group and Winston Southerwood representing Railton Primary School laid a wreath at the Railton RSL Anzac Day midday service. About 80 people attended a service at the refurbished King's Hall where powerful speeches about mateship were given.

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The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

Alan Dyer's legacy enriches us all

By Lesley Begg

The team at *The Kentish Voice* are all saddened by the passing of another member of our team – Alan Dyer. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and those who are closest, now as always.

Little did I know when I approached Alan to contribute some historical articles for readers of *The Kentish Voice* that almost 10 years later we would have had the benefit of monthly articles sharing the rich history of Kentish for our knowledge and appreciation.

Alan's ability to research and document the rich history of our region has been an invaluable asset for both the pioneering families of Kentish who still live in Kentish, as well as the newcomers who have recognised and appreciated our precious environment.

Recognised with an OAM, on a more personal level, for that imparted knowledge has deepened the attachment for many newcomers for their chosen home, and respect for the pioneering families that have been the backbone of our community since the area was first settled. Sentiments that many have expressed to me over the years.

Thanks to Alan, we have a heightened appreciation for our surroundings and the trials and tribulations of the early settlers to give us strength to face modern challenges.

I am regularly told that Alan's article is the first part of *The Kentish Voice* that they read! Not only his presence among us, but his monthly contribution to *The Kentish Voice* will be missed greatly.

The April 2026 edition contains Alan's last article that he will be sharing with us. Alan has shared so much with us and concludes with some insight into his life.

Through his books, and articles for *The Kentish Voice*, his legacy lives on. Alan's books are available to purchase online, and his articles are all available on our website in their relevant editions.



*Alan Francis Dyer OAM
December 14, 1933 - March 24, 2026*

You can use the "Search" feature to find editions that mention your subject of interest.

With permission from his family, we will be republishing his columns from the beginning.

Each month we will continue to feature Alan's articles for the benefit of new residents who may not have read his early work and those who want to read them again.

Rest in Peace, Alan. Reward for a life well lived!

Squash centre courts new users - EOI open

Kentish Council is calling for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from businesses, community organisations, entrepreneurs and investors to breathe new life into the former Railton Squash Court Complex at Goliath Park, Railton.

Located within one of the region's most active recreation precincts, the facility presents a rare opportunity to transform an existing building into a vibrant new destination that supports recreation, tourism, business innovation or community wellbeing.

Mayor Kate Haberle said Council was eager to see the site reactivated in a way that benefits both Railton and the wider Kentish community.

"This is an exciting chance for someone with vision to create something unique in Railton. The complex is in a prime location, surrounded by existing sporting and recreational assets, and directly connected to the Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Network," Mayor Haberle said.

"We know Railton continues to grow as a destination for visitors and active lifestyles, and Council is keen to support

proposals that bring fresh energy, services and opportunities to the town."

The approximately 223m² facility includes two former squash court spaces, kitchen and amenities, mezzanine viewing area, existing utility connections, and convenient parking.

Council is encouraging a broad range of proposals, including fitness and wellness uses, indoor recreation activities, tourism or adventure-based enterprises, childcare or educational uses (subject to approvals), or innovative community-focused ventures.

Flexible lease and tenure options are available, including long-term arrangements where private investment is proposed.

The Railton site sits alongside bowls, tennis, pickleball, skate and pump track facilities, making it an ideal complement to the town's growing recreational offering.

Expressions of Interest close at 5pm on Friday, May 15.

Copies of the EOI are available online at www.kentish.tas.gov.au or by contacting Kentish Council on 6491 0200.

Robin serves up his last cheese toastie

Lion Robin Bricknell has hung up his apron after 10 years of Breakfast Club.

One of the original team which started the program at the Railton campus, Robin has been getting to school early every week to make sure students' bellies are full and they're ready to learn. A healthy, nutritious breakfast is delivered at least once a week to 170 students across three campuses by Kentish Lions and its supporters

"The kids have kept me young," Robin said. "I really enjoy kids, they're fun to talk to and I'd play games with them. With my grandkids on the mainland, I was like a grandfather to them."

Robin also provided grandfatherly guidance and straightened them up where necessary. "I'm missing the kids," he said.

Kentish Lions Welfare Officer and Breakfast Club leader Jan Crosswell said Robin's love of children had seen him establish many relationships with youngsters in the Kentish community.

"He often hears 'Hi Robin' when he is in the street or the IGA, and it will be a youngster from Breakfast Club," said Jan.

She said Robin was a kind, thoughtful person who had brought happiness to so many people, young and not so young.

"Thank you, Robin."



Name that mystery object



This curvaceous curiosity features a stainless steel body (although others were made from copper and in a variety of shapes and sizes) and includes a tiny brass lid to secure the contents of this 'grand old lady' vintage 1930s.

Any suggestions can be emailed to kentish.museum@kentish.tas.gov.au or call in to view the item at Kentish Museum, open 10am-3pm Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The answer will be revealed in next month's edition of *The Kentish Voice*.



Bahá'í Faith.

"I am, I am, I am the Promised One. I am the One whose name you have for a thousand years invoked, at whose mention you have risen, whose advent you have longed to witness." - The Báb

The Declaration of the Báb Holy Day opened a new era for the world 23 May 1844,

www.bahai.org

0448 976 442

Wilmot hall & museum committees merge

Council has an existing Special Committee for the Wilmot Memorial Hall. Both the Hall Committee and members of the Wilmot Tourism and Progress Association (WTPA) have identified duplication of membership and a need to create a more sustainable operating model for both committees.

Council has previously agreed to accept the transfer of the Wilmot Museum from the Wilmot Tourism and Progress Association. These Terms of Reference will finalise governance arrangements for operations moving forward.

The Special Committee will be responsible for the management of the hall and the museum, with the museum to be operated through a "Sub-Committee". The Terms of Reference have been developed through consultation with member groups.

They detail the role and responsibilities of the Special Committee which will include members of the community and will undertake a variety of functions, including the management of facilities.

This process required significant community consultation, including a public meeting with the former General Manager.

Councillor Phillip Richards worked with stakeholders to build agreement on the proposed model which met community expectations and was well supported.

The recommendation to approve the Terms of Reference for the Wilmot Community Special Committee was approved at the council meeting in March.

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Kimberley fire station: hub of town



By Vanessa Cooper, TFS Community Engagement officer
May 18, 2026, marks 30 years since the commissioning of the current Kimberley and Beulah Fire Brigade buildings by John Gledhill TFS Chief Officer, John Munro TFS Regional Officer and Rob Stephens Kimberley Brigade Chief.

Kimberley Fire Brigade began like many in Tasmania, with local community members using a trailer with hand tools. Is it coincidence that Kimberley Fire Station is built on the grounds where the Kimberley pub stood before it burned down? As told in *Meander Valley News* May 2001, by Marguerite McNeil, Kimberley Fire station is smack bang in the middle of town, next to the red post box.

Kimberley was slated to be a substantial rural community and once boasted a railway station, a school, butcher, baker, phone box, petrol bowser, post office, banking service and a pub. Children would ride the train to get to the Kimberley School. The community hall that was next to the pub was old and in disrepair. TFS bought the hall and replaced it with the new fire station in 1996. Though the toilets remained outside. A wife of a visiting Fire Service personnel lobbied to have them moved inside. This upgrade was celebrated with a party!

The new fire station was built with extra room to allow use for the community as well. Community memorials and trophies are displayed in the Fire Station. Sadly, the active indoor bowls couldn't be accommodated in the new arrangement.

Prior to 2001, fund raising events added a few luxuries to the station, including a gazebo and storage cupboards. In recent years, an updated kitchen, kitchen appliances, internet connectivity, water storage tank, brigade extras etc have

Thanks from the Braids

Ian, Leslie, Deborah, Maxine and Tanya would like to thank all those kind people who expressed their condolences by their cards, emails, text and personal messages and their attendances at the graveside and at the thanksgiving service.

Also thanks to Rev Ralph Terry, Noel Bramich, Kentish Lions Club and to The Kentish Voice for their excellent reporting of Thelma's life.

We deeply appreciate and treasure your thoughts.

The Kentish Voice - May 2026

been added from local community grants, TFS grants, TFS upgrades, Kimberleys' Social members, Brigade members and KIA, Kimberley Improvement Association all having a hand in keeping the Fire Station the hub of Kimberley.

It is reported that Kimberley Brigade and their Big White Fire Truck was dubbed "Dad's Army and the White Elephant". The station doubles a general meeting place for things going on around Kimberley. Over the years, it has used as a church in winter, as the local church didn't have



heat. Dutch auctions, Deloraine Rotary annual meal and Op-Sop Ball have stopped.

An annual winter casserole night and Christmas party is a constant. In the last few years a pumpkin growing competition has been held by KIA, with the 2026 winner to be announced on April 26.

In 2001 it was reported that the best fund raiser to date was a recipe book by the Fire Brigade Social Committee, with four reprints!

As written in the 2001 article "Besides having fun, Kimberley Fire Brigade members are committed to their cause and practice monthly drill" They meet on the first Wednesday of the month.



In 2026 Kimberley Brigade have had 11 call-outs to April 15. Several of these involved grass fires, a couple of these were heading towards hay and houses. A couple of MVAs, including a Hazmat call. Couple of vegetation fires, and burns during fire permit season. Smoke investigation instigated by fire tower (luckily it was an irrigation spray).

These call-outs have been in conjunction with neighbouring brigades and a couple requiring air operations.

Kimberley is a small brigade with a big impact.

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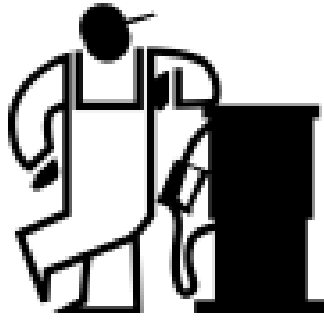
52 Main Street, Sheffield
www.slaterscountrystore.com.au
E: admin@slaterscountrystore.com.au

A photograph of the Slaters Country Store building. The building is a two-story structure with a sign that reads "SLATERS". There is a mural on the wall of the building. The store is located at 52 Main Street, Sheffield.

Fuel Freddy's petrol saving tips - again

Published in *The Kentish Voice* in 2019 – this is even more relevant today.

Google the phrase eco-driving and you'll find lots more information to help you save fuel and save money at the bowser. You could potentially save a quarter of your fuel bill – isn't it worth making an effort?



Here are Fuel Freddy's hot tips:

- 1) **Back off the speed** – get more out of your tank by being less aggressive on the accelerator and by driving more smoothly (your passengers will appreciate it too).
- 2) **Anticipate junctions** and slow down by taking your foot off the accelerator rather than powering up to the junction and jumping on the brakes.
- 3) **Remove excess weight** from your vehicle – toolboxes, golf clubs, toys, generator, compost... do you need to carry a lot of stuff on every trip? It uses more fuel to move it around with you.
- 4) **Plan ahead** – leave plenty of time to get there without rushing. Choose routes that need less gear changes, or will have less traffic, less stops.
- 5) **Tyre Pressure** – check tyres are at the correct pressure to reduce rolling resistance.

- 6) **Vehicle maintenance** – have your vehicle serviced regularly to make sure it's running efficiently.
- 7) **Car share.** Look for ways to reduce the number of trips with just one person in the vehicle.
- 8) **Catch the bus.** It's free in Tasmania till 1st July.
- 9) **Switch to an electric vehicle.** There are options from electric bicycles to cars, utes, vans and even trucks. [Australian Electric Vehicle Association has fact sheets on most EVs available in Australia www.aeva.asn.au]

Waste2Art exhibit needs judges

The Working Art Space Sheffield is seeking expressions of interest from persons willing to help in the selection of artwork submitted for inclusion in the upcoming Waste2Art Exhibition. The exhibition is to be held at the Sheffield Art Gallery during September 2026.



If this opportunity sounds like something you would love to be involved with, please register your interest by emailing waste2artsheffield@gmail.com by May 31, 2026.

You will be part of a panel of Selection Judges and provided a list of criteria against which to score the entries. Each judge will submit their scores independently. As only a limited number of entries will be exhibited, the cumulative scores of the panel will be used to select the artworks to be exhibited.

Judges and their families will not be eligible to enter.

LEGAL ADVICE & INFORMATION SESSIONS

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FRIDAY 20 MARCH - 9AM - 2PM
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
 (check addresses with Kentish House)



women's
 legal
 service
 tasmania



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Kentish, your results for the FOGO bin audits are in:

- 127 tonnes of FOGO was processed between Spring and the New Year.
- 1.3 tonnes of this was contamination (or 1.05% by weight).
- Contamination in the FOGO bins of the Kentish municipality has doubled since the 2024 audit.
- More bins are being put out for collection now, which is great!





SPORT

SHEFFIELD BOWLS CLUB - NW DIVISION 3 PENNANT CHAMPIONS

The Sheffield Bowls Club Ladies proudly claimed the NW Division 3 Thursday Pennant Grand Final on April 16, defeating Wynyard with an impressive 81 shots to 47.

The match was played in extremely challenging weather conditions at Turners Beach, but our team showed great determination and teamwork to secure the victory. A big thank you to all our wonderful supporters who braved the weather to cheer us on - your encouragement meant the world to us.

Congratulations to our players:

Lyn Keygan, Kath Wootton, Rosie Bassett, Jill Charleston, Barbara Hill, Susie Oldenhof, Jenny Manson, Judy Cocker, Barbara Gleeson, Helen McCoy, Lynn Raddatz, Marlene Bakes (retired sick), Rose Mitchell (reserve) and Trudy Kellehear.

Due to the long weekend, the AGM previously advertised as Sunday, June 7, has been postponed to Sunday, June 14, at 10am. Apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.



RAILTON PARKRUN - BLUE'S 350

On April 4, Railton Service Station owner Stephen Rand (Blue) reached a significant milestone by completing his 350th parkrun, all but one at the Railton course. Congratulations to Blue (pictured right with partner Judy Robson) and his dedicated 'bark runner' Hazel.

Each weekend, participants across Australia attend 547 parkrun events, with new locations opening regularly. Anyone is welcome to join any parkrun on any weekend - simply register once with Parkrun Australia to participate, whether you choose to walk, jog, run, volunteer, or engage in all of these roles.

Parkrun is a free, community-focused initiative, providing accessible opportunities for everyone to get involved.

As of April 18, there have been 195,408 parkrun events nationwide, supported by 200,731 Australian volunteers. The average completion time for the 5km event is approx 33: 31.

Children as young as four years old are eligible to register and participate, and it is inspiring to see so many young people taking part each weekend. We take pride in supporting our junior members every Saturday morning as they complete the course. Our goal is to ensure that parkrun remains a safe, welcoming event where everyone can enjoy our beautiful bushland setting.



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KENTISH COUNCIL

SHEFFIELD VISITOR AND INFORMATION CENTRE

The Sheffield Visitor Information Centre, located on Pioneer Crescent in the heart of Sheffield, is currently seeking friendly and community-minded volunteers.

We're looking for support on Saturday's from 10am–2pm, with flexible options to volunteer weekly, fortnightly, or even monthly.

If you enjoy meeting new people and sharing local knowledge as part of Tasmania's gateway to Cradle Mountain, we'd love to hear from you!



COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENINGS

Council will hold the following Community Information Evenings:

- Railton Meeting – **Thursday 27 August 2026**
- Lower Barrington Meeting – **Thursday 17 September 2026**

All residents are invited to attend. RSVPs are essential via Council's website www.kentish.tas.gov.au or phone 6491 0200.

BIN REPAIRS

If your waste, recycling or FOGO bin is broken and needs repairing, please contact the Council Office on 6491 0200.

RATES REMINDER

A reminder the fourth and final rate instalment for the 2024/2025 financial year was due and payable on or before the **30 April 2026**. Should you be experiencing financial difficulties, please contact our Rates Officer to discuss payment arrangement options.

COUNCIL WEBSITE CUSTOMER REQUESTS

Have you noticed something that needs our attention? Our website www.kentish.tas.gov.au features a handy "Customer Request" icon. You can use this icon to report maintenance items, road works requests, animal or general complaints or even make suggestions.

NEW VOLUNTEER SUPPORT OFFICER ROLE AT KENTISH & LATROBE COUNCILS

Hi, I'm Danielle, the new Volunteer Support Officer with Kentish & Latrobe Councils. I'm passionate about connecting people with meaningful opportunities and supporting the incredible volunteers who give their time to our community.

I'm excited to be meeting the people who make our Kentish region so vibrant, and to be working across our local spaces, including the Kentish Museum, Working Art Space Sheffield and the Railton Neighbourhood Centre.

If you're interested in volunteering or just want to learn more about what's happening locally, I'd love to connect with you!

You can reach me by calling the Kentish Council on 64910200 or emailing council@kentish.tas.gov.au



NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held at the Council Office, 69 High Street, Sheffield on **Wednesday, 20 May, 2026** commencing at 6:00pm.

Mayor's message: honour our mothers



Mother's Day will be celebrated on May 10. This special day has its roots in the United States, thanks to social activist Anna Jarvis. After her mum passed away in the early 1900s, she created a special day to honour the sacrifices mothers make around the world. The day was first recognised with a memorial in 1908, made an official national holiday in 1914 and adopted by Australians in the mid-1920s.

Mother's Day is an annual celebration and highlights the care, dedication, and love shown by mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, foster and adoptive mothers, and other important mother figures within families.

It is an opportunity to show gratitude and appreciation for their contributions to family life and the wider community.

I would like to thank the community for welcoming the rowing fraternity to our region at the end of March. It was a very successful event even though the weather caused a few problems. Everyone I spoke with was very appreciative of the services that were available, from accommodation, town facilities and food outlets.

You all brought a sense of pride to the Kentish Municipality and I know that all the visitors were able to leave the area with very fond memories our beautiful region.

We can certainly notice a quietness around the municipality since Easter but this should change with an increase in visitor numbers during the school holidays.

Over the past month we farewelled three of our council staff: Jason Browne, Cameron Parsons and Greg Fenwick, all of whom have left the organisation due to personal reasons. I would like to acknowledge their contribution to our council through their various roles and thank them very much for their commitment and input into our community.

Weindorfer Day 2026 will be held in Wilmot on Sunday, May 3, starting with a service at 9.45am in the Wilmot Memorial Hall. This is a community family festival including presentations of the history, ecology and geology of the area, live music, poetry, games, delicious food and coffee and a bus tour to Cradle Mountain.

It is a wonderful event to reflect on the significant contribution

of Kate and Gustav Weindorfer who pioneered the exploration of the Cradle Valley and the process to ensure that "This mountain is a (national park) for all people for all time". As a result of their passion and dedication, it is now a World Heritage Area and visited by nearly 250,000 residents and tourists each year.

It is wonderful to see the completion of the Coal Creek Bridge at Acacia Hills. The project went very smoothly and I would like to thank the team from State Growth who worked very diligently to accommodate all road users and complete the construction within the timeframe. It was gratifying to see drivers obeying the road signs and showing patience.

I had the honour of being the guest speaker at the ANZAC Day service in the Sheffield Town Hall. This was a very humbling experience as I hold this special day with the highest respect.

It was a privilege to reflect on the life of Les Cook who was the last surviving ANZAC to fight at the Battle of Crete in 1941. Les is the grandfather of Sam Trobe who is married to our daughter, Sarah. He was affectionately known as "Grandpa" and we were very sad at his passing on March 5, aged 103.

Despite the extraordinary experiences he lived through, he remained a man who never sought recognition for himself and never forgot the comrades who stood beside him, nor those who never returned. Les Cook lived a long and fulfilling life and leaves behind an example that will continue to inspire us all – a reminder that peace must never be taken for granted. It demands vigilance, courage and sacrifice.

Lest we forget.

Free respiratory vaccine

Older Tasmanians will be able to access free RSV vaccinations from May 15. Anyone aged 75 and over, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 60 and over, will be eligible for a free RSV vaccine through their local GP, pharmacy or health service.

The vaccine previously cost up to \$300, placing it out of reach for many people on fixed incomes.

Federal Assistant Minister for Health Rebecca White said the change will save lives and give people peace of mind. "RSV can be incredibly serious for older Australians, and cost should never be a barrier to staying healthy," she said.

"Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common virus that can lead to severe respiratory illness in older people, often resulting in hospital stays during the winter months.

GREEN ROOM TERM 2
Open: 3:00-4:30 pm
Thursdays
excluding school holidays

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 7 MAY HOT CHIPS | 14 MAY ICE CREAMS | 21 MAY TOASTIES | 28 MAY BISCUIT DECORATING |
| 4 JUNE PANCAKES | 11 JUNE TOASTIES | 18 JUNE MILK SHAKES | 25 JUNE HOT CHIPS |
| 2 JULY BISCUIT DECORATING | 9 JULY TRIVIA | | |

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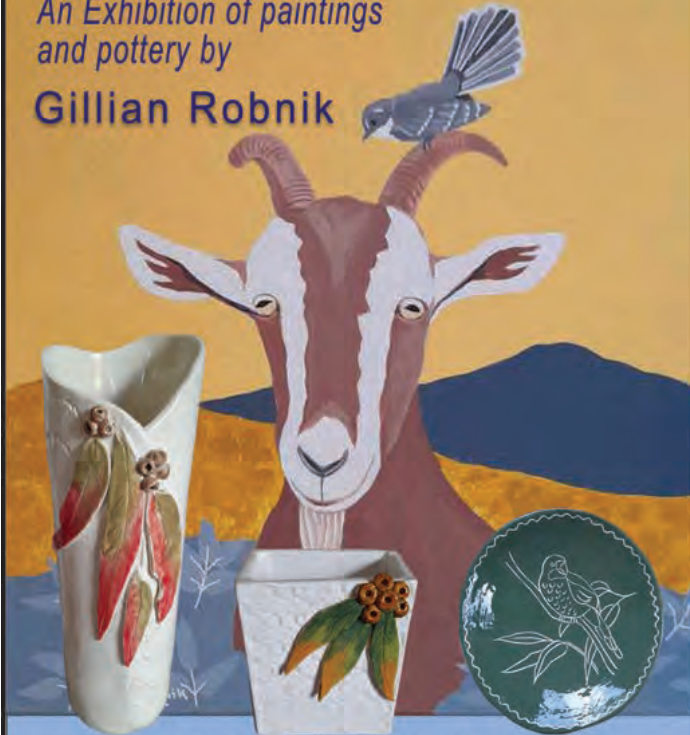
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Looking on the Bright Side

An Exhibition of paintings and pottery by

Gillian Robnik



Duration: 17 March until 31 May 2026

Celebrating our 1st Anniversary!



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KENTISH MEN'S SHED

The Men at the Shed have been making a stand, not as you might think, of a political or religious kind, but more of a practical use kind, which are stands that support non-profit voluntary groups in our community.

The men have put politics and religion aside and made display stands for the recently opened Kentish Museum to exhibit their artefacts of historical importance - making the shelf a part of the collection. Working Art Space needed plinths to display artwork at the highly successful Mount Roland Art Prize, and the Men's Shed supplied them. A jewellery case at The Hub also required a stand.

Kentish Men's Shed President Peter Morris said: "These activities improve the men's well-being and fosters a stronger feeling of worthiness within by offering plenty of encouragement in a world of uncertainty. Ensuring the participation not only improves the quality of life but also fosters a stronger sense of community pride."

The Men's Shed is at 14 Spring Street, Sheffield. Meet Saturdays and Thursdays from 10am-1pm.

Contact Peter on 0449 559 257.

- John Bindon

WORKING ART SPACE SHEFFIELD

Sheffield Art Gallery – 6 Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield

The current exhibition of paintings and pottery by local artist Gillian Robnik, ends May 31 and is titled "Looking on the Bright Side". This whimsical, colourful collection celebrates the bright and positive side of life with all its ups and downs.

A multi-talented artist of many years, Gillian continues to explore the diverse pathways of artistic creativity.

Opening hours: 10am-3pm daily and entry is free of charge.

Working Art Space – 4-6 Albert Street, Sheffield

Printing classes: Every Tuesday between 10.30am and 2.30pm. Minimal cost of \$3.00 per person to cover inks and paper. Contact Deb on 0427 198131 or Keren on 0439 311431.

Botanical Drawing: Saturdays from 1pm to 3.30pm. Contact Colette Binder on 0439 426 665 for more information.

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, feel free to pop by our Albert Street Gallery to view our art displays, including pottery creations in progress.

HUB REPORT

With the weather cooling down we have lots of scarves & beanies.

We are sad to report that a local person was seen going through donated items at the front, they also left a mess that our volunteers had to clean up before they could open.

Items were also recently left at the side of the HUB and they got very wet in the rain. Please contact us if you are unable to bring items when we are closed.

Recent donations: Legacy \$300; Sheffield Bowls Club \$1000; Weindorfer Association \$2000.

Open Monday-Friday 10am -3pm. Thank you for your support as we donate into our Kentish community.

- The Committee

KENTISH LIONS

We continue to support community members who have found themselves in difficulty through no fault of their own. Please reach out if you know a situation where we may be able to help.

We are collecting cans & bottles from the Sheffield Hotel, Tandara, the Railton Service Station and other places. The refunds on these bottles and cans have raised over \$3000 so far.

We raise funds through monthly Bunnings BBQs and catering events, such as Steamfest. Steamfest was very successful for us this year. We also had a wood raffle which raised more money, including support for Tandara residents' recreational activities.

Money that we raise is spent supporting our community.

This year we have expanded breakfast Club at Sheffield School, while continuing to support breakfast club at Railton and Wilmot schools. We thank Council for a grant which has supported this expansion.

Our Children's Vision Screening Program continues to grow. We are identifying one child in five with potential vision issues. This is a free service that we provide through local schools and you don't need to be a Lion to be a children's vision screener. Contact kentishlions@gmail.com.

The Kentish Voice apologises for omitting previous reports:

The Christmas Parade, which Kentish Lions has been organising for many years, was a great success. We had more floats that last year. The floats were more varied and included a pipe band and a wooden boat. We served over 700 sausages and burgers following the parade. The Christmas Parade is funded by Kentish Lions with some funding from Kentish Council. We thank Council for their support of this event. And to all those who made a donation on the day, thank you.

We have been busy helping Tandara clear some land adjacent to the complex. This has been very rewarding to our members and of great benefit to Tandara.

We welcome prospective members or those who would like to know more about Kentish Lions. Our meetings are 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month. Guests are welcome. Contact us at kentishlions@gmail.com.

RAILTON MARKET

Saturday, May 9, 9am-1pm

The first market in the newly refurbished King's Hall will be full to the brim with nearly 40 tables booked and a fantastic variety of stallholders. The perfect opportunity to find something unique for Mother's Day the next day.

From jewellery to photography, from succulents to woodwork, handbags and socks, cakes and jams. Plus Gary & Merline's popular fruit & veg stall and loads of plants.

Kentish Men's Shed is hosting a sausage sizzle so come and support this vital community resource and grab a snag while grabbing a bargain.

Enjoy the magnificence of King's Hall in its centenary year.

WILMOT MUSEUM

May to September opening hours are: Saturdays and Sundays, 11am to 2pm.

Mount Roland Land Care has hosted some wonderful public presentations in recent years but this year's special event in the afternoon of Saturday, May, 9 at Claude Road Hall promises to be one of the best.

Featured presenter will be Dr Keith Corbett, author of *Child of Gondwana – the Geological Making of Tasmania*. Anyone who has ever wondered about Tasmania's geology will be interested in this presentation.

Not only will Keith explore the big picture of Tasmania's geological origins, including the movement of tectonic plates that sees intimate and astonishing connections between the Grand Canyon and Tasmania's Rocky Cape, but he will also bring that to bear on understanding our contemporary environment, including Mount Roland and the lands and soils surrounding Sheffield. Don't miss this one – it will probably change the way you see our world!

The program will also feature two other interesting presentations. Kristen Lang has been exploring Roland, Van Dyke and Claude with an array of remote cameras and audio recorders for 2.5 years now, and will share with us fascinating new insights into the 'Life on the Mountain'.

Kristen is a poet: her 2026 publication, *[re]turn – love notes from the mountain* broadens these insights, promising us a more intimate angle on how we value the places that matter to us.

A third presentation by Anne Gilles will also be a highlight. Through its 'Culverts for Wildlife' project, Mount Roland Land Care has used remote cameras to provide never before seen imagery of platypus and rakali negotiating the culverts that allow streams to go under our roads.

This presentation will change our understanding of waterways

Native forests act as firebreaks: Greens

By **Cassy O'Connor, MLC**

Native forests which have been logged are more susceptible to bushfire, according to a study by UTAS Professor David Bowman.

With Tasmanians increasingly under threat from climate-fuelled bushfires, now is the time to end native forest logging to strengthen climate resilience and community safety.

Decades of intensive native forest logging and burning across the island has resulted in one in five wet eucalyptuses being regrowth, less than 40 years old. These are more flammable than old-growth native forests, which retain more moisture and act as a natural firebreak.

Tasmanian communities, particularly on urban fringes and in regional areas, are increasingly under threat from climate change-fuelled bushfires. Native forest logging is intensifying the threat. It's simply reckless to continue with it.

Continuing to fail to act is to condemn current and future generations to severe, unmitigated bushfire risk.

In a climate crisis, we just can't keep logging biodiverse, carbon-storing native forests.

These places need to be protected for their intrinsic value and their contribution to community safety.

and the creatures that live there, and show how relatively minor changes can transform under road culverts from death traps to living freeways.

And all that's in addition to live music and a wonderful afternoon tea. Don't miss this. It's a free event and sure to fill quickly. More details are on the Mount Roland Land Care website at www.mountrolandlandcare.org.au

RSVP is essential to secretary@mountrolandlandcare.org.au

Weed Update

There's been a lot happening in the world of weeds lately in Kentish. A well-attended foxglove workshop at Claude Road Hall on March 26 allowed people from across the State to share their perspectives on foxglove management.

At the workshop, the State Government announced it has started the search for a biocontrol agent to help with foxglove management, by requesting that CSIRO conduct an initial 'feasibility study'.

Mount Roland Land Care has been for some years now lobbying for this outcome - it is significant and very pleasing. There are no guarantees that a suitable biocontrol agent can be found, and any process to identify one is likely to take at least a decade. But at least the ball has started rolling, and it gives some hope to all those struggling to keep foxgloves at bay.

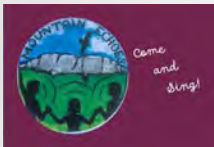
MRLC has been successful in obtaining a Tasmanian Landcare Action Grant to help protect Mount Roland Regional Reserve from invading weeds. \$15,700 (plus GST) provided by the Tasmanian Government through the Landcare Action Grants (LAG) will be used to tackle four of the weed sites most threatening to the Reserve. The target weeds include foxglove and *Kunzea ericoides*.

MRLC is keen to hear from any landowners within 1km of the Reserve boundary, especially if they have problems with weed management. Our funds are limited, but we may be able to offer some assistance.

Our aim is to support these landowners, and our highest priority will be working to control the weeds populations that are the most threatening to the Reserve.

We welcome contact from these landowners at secretary@mountrolandlandcare.org.au

This grant is very welcome, enabling us to continue our 16-year effort to keep weeds out of Mount Roland Regional Reserve.



Mountain Echoes TAS
Invites you to a public viewing of:

Gustav's Words

A film by the Brothers Robinson featuring
the words of Gustav Weindorfer
set to music and sung by Mountain Echoes.

Uniting Church Hall, 80 Main Street, Sheffield.
Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 3.30 - 4.00pm

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I refer to your article on page 35 of the April 2026 Edition "Reforms aim to improve governance", in particular this section of the article: The 2026 Tasmanian local government reforms introduce a structured Learning and Development Framework that moves training from a voluntary activity to a mandatory legislative requirement.

While I am a big supporter of more training in local government, these mandatory legislative requirements are a warning shot fired from the Status Quo to retain control of their kingdoms.

Any Registered voter in Tasmania should have the legal right to run for Local, State or Federal Governments. To place these artificial barriers by even mentioning them in proposed legislative amendments is 1984 coming to a Council near you in 2026 Local Government elections.

The cynic in me says these changes proposed are meant to stop the very people trying to keep the Bastards honest and representative of all the ratepayers and not just a select few from running in the council elections.

Having read your article I made direct inquiries with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission with a reply below.

I have now asked the Department of Local Government and the Minister responsible for a reply to the article's reference to pre nomination training for local government elections. Hypothetically, if we said these requirements are to be enforced, then every Tasmanian in order to run for council in October 2026 would have to complete the training in the next two weeks. There is no training available on either the Department of Local Government's website, Department of Premier and Cabinet or the Local Government Association of Tasmania website, which used to have the training modules for councillors up until late last year then took them down just after I sent them an email to enrol.

These changes in Legislative requirements must be challenged in order to get the right balance. They fly in the face of free and fair election principles and all Australians democratic rights.

Tasmania is doing it tough right now and to deny good honest hardworking people their right to run for council is unAustralian.

In the October 2026 Local Government elections we should all send those currently holding the reins a clear and unfettered message that we won't be trodden on anymore.

- James H Redgrave, Shearwater

Tasmanian Electoral Commission reply:

Thank you for your call to the TEC seeking information on potential changes to the Local Government Act 1993 ahead of the 2026 local government elections relating to pre-nomination training for candidates.

Although we cannot provide legal advice, we are happy to point you in the direction of key information that will assist.

We note that this legislation is primarily administered through the Office of Local Government, and that the TEC's role is limited to regulation of the electoral provisions within the Act.

There are no current mandatory pre-nomination requirements in the Local Government Act 1993, so unless new legislation passes the Parliament between now and then such training will not be a requirement for the 2026 elections.

The Office of Local Government has released draft legislation for longer-term electoral reform in the local government space. This legislation and associated discussion paper can be found here: https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/local_government/consultation-on-local-government-electoral-legislation

This proposed future legislation does include a requirement for pre-nomination training for some candidates. This legislation has not yet been introduced to the Parliament, is still in consultation phases, and is unlikely to pass ahead of the 2026 elections.

The Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2026 was introduced to Parliament in the most recent sitting week and is scheduled for debate and potential passage ahead of the 2026 elections. This bill proposes changes to councillor numbers, allowances and code of conduct arrangements; and also allows for the TEC to develop alternative voting procedures to assist voters with print disabilities. This bill does not include any mandatory training requirements for candidates pre nomination.

The material published in the Kentish Voice does not accurately reflect current or expected legislative requirements for the 2026 local government elections.



Cuppa & Kids

Fridays at 10 am
Parents meet at Limestone Cafe Bakery
Grab a FREE coffee, then head off for a walk to the Railton Park

(Program will not run if the weather isn't suitable)
(Parents are welcome to attend with or without their children)

The 2026 program received funding from the Tasmanian Government

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For more information about the NDIS visit www.ndis.gov.au or contact Mission Australia on 03 6420 6850

Mission Australia NDIS services are available at

Kentish House
10:00 — 12:00 Wednesday

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| • 24 March | • 25 August |
| • 26 May | • 22 September |
| • 23 June | • 27 October |
| • 28 July | • 24 November |

Tools up for Railton's topiary

Following the success of Kentish Garden Club's two major annual events – FlowerFEST in February and GardenFEST in November – the group has been able to donate some much-needed funds to other community organisations.

Most recently, Kentish Garden Club presented a cheque for \$500 to the U3A Topiary Group in Railton. The money has gone towards the purchase of new tools to help this small band of volunteers keep Railton's topiaries in shape.

Group member Kate Jackson said they were loving the new tools, including two sets of clippers with battery and charger.

The next meeting of the Kentish Garden Club is on *Saturday, May 16*, at Barrington Hall, 52 Barrington Road, Barrington from 2pm (note change of day, time and venue for winter). All welcome. This meeting will feature an expert panel from our membership to discuss common garden problems, including how to plant root-bound plants, training trees and pruning. Bring along your questions or problem plants.

Also bring along your biggest and best veggies for our annual 'just for fun' Harvest Veggie Competition – extended from

April. For more information, call Jennifer Stackhouse (KGC President) on 0488 047 011.



Topiary trimmers: Kate Jackson, Tracy Broadbent, Jane de Boer and Leonie Read.

Kentish Produce Swap!

The next swap is the final for the year on *May 30*. Barrington Hall, 52 Barrington Road, Barrington is the venue for Kentish Garden Club's regular Produce Swap. The bell rings to begin the swap at 3pm so don't be late (Hall open from 2.30pm). All welcome. Gold coin donation to Barrington Hall. Call Jennifer Stackhouse on 0488 047 011 for more information.

Plant heirloom apples and preserve varieties

Gardening with Robert Gower

***Fenouillet Gris* apple**

Some time ago, I bought a number of heirloom apple trees, one of which was called Fenouillet Gris. This apple has had quite a history before making its appearance in Australia.

It was first described in France in 1608, and by the mid 1600s, was a favourite of the French aristocracy. It was one of a few varieties picked by the head gardener Jean-Baptiste de La Quintinie for the King's garden at the palace of Versailles.

Moving forward, it made its appearance around the mid-19th century in Australia. It is golden yellow, nearly covered with a brown russet, with a greyish tinge on the sunny side.

This ugly appearance is a blessing in disguise. I have found it more resistant to codling moth and apple scab (black spot). It is perfect for the Tasmanian climate, needing a solid winter to set the fruit.

This apple has a fine crisp white flesh with a unique aniseed flavour (its name comes from the word Fennel).

Last year was our first crop giving us just over 5kg. This year looks like being a much bigger crop. It also just keeps getting better once picked. The flavour improves after 2-3 weeks and refrigerates well for 3-4 months.

We bought this variety, and others, from Woodbridge Heirloom fruit trees but unfortunately they are no longer operating. I believe there are number of other heirloom fruit tree businesses in Tasmania, so maybe you could find it with one of them.

Liz made a French Apple Chutney last year, which was quite delicious. Hopefully she will make some more this year.







It's a good thing to grow these old varieties and, by doing so, they don't end up being lost forever.

Happy Gardening.

Robert Gower is a horticulturalist & artist



KENTISH HEALTH SERVICES & PP

| Every Monday | Every Tuesday | Every Wednesday | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>10.00am – 3.30pm: CHSP @ KAAC *</p> <p>4.00pm – 5.00pm: Dauntless Taekwondo (ages 3 - 9) @ Sheffield School Gym*</p> <p>6.30pm – 9.45pm: Navigating Relationships Peer Group Chat (12-25's) @ Headspace online</p> | <p>9.00am – 11.00am: Playgroup (0-5's) @ Kentish House</p> <p>10.00am: Mountain Learners Homeschool Meet @ Kings Park</p> <p>10.00am – 3.00pm: CHSP @ KAAC*</p> <p>10.30am-11.30am: Fitness Class @ LBCH */**</p> <p>6.30pm – 9.45pm: Qheadspace Peer Group Chat (LGBTIQA+ & allies, 12-25's) @ Headspace online (school terms)</p> | <p>9.30am – 11.00am: Food pick up for Kentish residents @ KH</p> <p>10.15am: Ladies Social Badminton @ LBCH *</p> <p>6.30pm – 9.45pm: Navigating Life (12-25's) @ Headspace online (school terms)</p> <p>6.30pm – 9.45pm: Adults Supporting Young People (for family & other adults) @ Headspace – text-based group chat (school terms)</p> | <p>9.00am</p> <p>9.30am</p> <p>10.30am</p> <p>3.00pm</p> <p>6.30pm</p> |
| Specific Mondays | No listings for specific Tuesdays this month | Specific Wednesdays | |
| <p>11th 9:00am – 12:00pm: North West Community Legal Centre @ Kentish House **</p> <p>9:30am – 11:00am: Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House</p> <p>18th 10:00am – 4:00pm: Free Hearing Checks @ Kentish House **</p> <p>10:30am – 2:30pm: Healthy Outing to Devonport Art Gallery & Cafe @ Kentish House **</p> <p>25th 9:00am – 12:00pm: North West Community Legal Centre @ Kentish House **</p> <p>9:30am – 11:00am: Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House</p> | <p>Seeking expressions of interest for free spots at the following workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health First Aid Certificate (18 years+) @ Lorinna • Mental Health First Aid Certificate (18 years+) @ Wilmot • CORES Suicide Prevention Workshop • CORES Self-Care & Mental Wellbeing Workshop <p>Kentish community members and groups are encouraged to contact Ruby on 0497 780 216.</p> | <p>6th 9:30am – 11:00am: Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House</p> <p>9:30am – 1:30pm: Women's Legal Tas @ Kentish House **</p> <p>13th 1:00pm – 3:00pm: Kentish Carers Support Group @ Rural Health Kentish</p> <p>20th 9:30am – 11:00am: Justice of the Peace @ Kentish House</p> <p>11:00am – 1:00pm: Women's Cooking Group @ Kentish House **</p> <p>27th 9.30am – 11.00am: Rural Health (Blood Pressures) @ Kentish House</p> <p>9.30am – 12.30pm: Services Australia @ Kentish House **</p> <p>11:00am – 1:00pm: Women's Cooking Group @ Kentish House **</p> | <p>7th 1.00pm</p> <p>14th 1.00pm</p> <p>3.30pm</p> <p>21st 11:00am</p> <p>28th 1.00pm</p> |
| <p>The Access to Health Services Project received funding from the Australian Government</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>ACCESS 2 Health Services</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Kentish House</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Tasmanian Government</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>TasNetworks</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Powering a Bright Future</p> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <p>THE KENTISH VOICE</p> </div> | | <p>Medicare Mental Health Centre in Devonport: Offers a safe and supportive environment; adults 18+ can access free, professional mental health support, no referral / appointment required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10am – 6pm Monday to Friday 11-17 Stewart Street, Devonport or call 1800 595 212</p> | <p>All ser</p> <p>marke</p> <p>No bo</p> <p>with a</p> <p>For mo</p> <p>Kentis</p> <p>Cassa</p> <p>Ruby:</p> <p>Or visi</p> <p>16-18</p> |

PROGRAMS CALENDAR – MAY 2026

| Every Thursday | Every Friday | Every Weekend |
|---|--|--|
| <p>10.00am – 1.00pm: Kentish Men’s Shed 11.00am: Knit & Natter @ Sheffield Bible School 11.30am-11.30am: Fitness Class @ Kentish House 12.00pm-4.30pm: Green Room Youth @ Green Room (school terms) 5.00pm – 9.45pm: Work & Study Peer Chat (12-25’s) @ Headspace (school terms)</p> | <p>10.00am – 11.00am: Cuppa & Kids (Railton Parents Group) @ Pick up a free coffee at Limestone Bakery Café & then meet at the park 2.00pm – 3.00pm: The Chatty Cafe @ Turnbull’s Pharmacy 2.30pm: Mountain Learners Homeschool Meet @ Kings Park 5.00pm – 6.00pm: Dauntless Taekwondo (beginners & yellow belts) @ Sheffield School Gym* 6.00pm – 7.00pm: Dauntless Taekwondo (blue belts & up) @ Sheffield School Gym *</p> | <p>Saturday 8.50am: Railton Park Run @ Sykes Sanctuary, Kimberley Rd 9.00am – 12.00pm: Kentish Men’s Shed 12.30pm: Social Bowls @ Sheffield Bowls Club * Sunday 10.00am: Social Pickleball @ Railton Rec & Comm. Centre *</p> |

| Specific Thursdays | Specific Fridays |
|--------------------|------------------|
|--------------------|------------------|

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>10.00am – 5.00pm: Digital Health Support @ Kentish House **</p> <p>10.00am – 5.00pm: Digital Health Support @ Kentish House **</p> <p>10.00am – 5.00pm: Textiles Crafting @ Sheffield Library</p> <p>10.00am – 2:00pm: Men’s Cooking & Social Group @ Kentish House **</p> <p>10.00am – 5.00pm: Digital Health Support @ Kentish House **</p> | <p>1st Kentish House is open 10am-2pm today 10.00pm – 12.00pm: Miniatures for Mental Health Week (BYO – all ages welcome but children must be supervised by an adult) @ Kentish House</p> <p>8th 9.00am – 11.00am: Social Craft Group @ Kentish House</p> <p>15th 9.00am – 11.00am: Social Craft Group @ Kentish House</p> <p>22nd 9.00am – 11.00am: Social Craft Group @ Kentish House</p> <p>29th 9.00am – 11.00am: Social Craft Group @ Kentish House 12.00pm – 2.00pm: Art & Cuppa for Carers (past, current and future Carers welcome!) @ Kentish House</p> |
|---|--|

All services & programs are free unless marked with an *
No bookings required unless marked with an **

For more information:
Kentish House: 6491 2322
Sheffield Community Centre: 0447 325 343
Sheffield City Centre: 0114 276 0497 780 216
Contact us at Kentish House
100 Station Street, Sheffield

Acronyms:
A&TSI: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
KAAC: Kentish Adult Activity Centre
KH: Kentish House
LBCH: Lower Barrington Community Hall

KENTISH PONY CLUB



March and April have been busy for the Kentish Pony Club. The Kentish Endurance Ride used the grounds as its base and the pony club ran the canteen over two days, boosting funds. The PC also hosted its annual Glenleigh Shield where riders from clubs across the zone competed in Hacking and showjumping as well as games to earn points for the Shield. The day before our Shield, several senior riders and parents attended a showjumping course building day. The riders had a theory lesson in the morning and then built a course in the

afternoon which they were all able to ride.

Our recent rallies have welcomed new members. With only a few rallies left for the 25/26 season, it is an ideal time to come and try before joining as a full member for the coming year.

The club has recently registered with the recycle rewards scheme and is hoping to fundraise for new and upgraded yards for the horses. Details at the recycling point.

Our next rally is on May 3. Ticket to play available for eligible members. Enquiries call DC Karan 0429 231 612.

SHEFFIELD GOLF

Monthly Medal Winners

04/04 Members; Sponsored by IGA Sheffield was won by Adam Tuson 52 nett. Well done Adam scoring a new course

record. Second was Scott Wesbrooke with 65 nett.

14/04 Vets: Sponsored by Sheffield Mechanical & Tyre was won by Stephen Hope on 67 nett from Doug Callander on 68.

14/04 Ladies; Sponsored By Slaters Store was won by Janice Williams on 65 nett from Helen Lloyd-Jones on 72 nett.

Members:

21/03 Stroke was won by Stephen Harris on 65 nett on count back from Wade Rockliff.

28/29/03 Mens Foursome Championship (27 holes each day) net winners were Noel Meyers and Greg Collis with 205 from Gerry Hopkins and Rodney Von Stieglitz on 218.

Gross winners were Noel Meyers and Greg Collis with 226 from Winston Duff and Leigh Tuson on 264.

Well done to all who participated.

11/04 Stableford sponsored by John Newman was won by Gerry Hopkins on 19 pts on countback from Kathy Davies. Due to poor weather only 9 holes were played.

Vets: 07/04 Stableford was won by Martin Bakehouse with 36 nett from Tony Wootton on 34 nett.

Vets/Ladies:

24/03 4BBB Stableford was won by Janice Williams and Alan Duncan on 45 pts from Robyn Von Stieglitz and Greg Collis on 44 pts.

31/03 Split Sixers was won by Susie Coombes and Mike Webb on 69 pts from Janice Williams & Rowan Sherriff on 65pts.

Ladies:

07/04 Stableford was won by Anna Balestrieri on 38 pts from Helen Lloyd-Jones on 37 pts.

The course and gardens are looking lovely thanks to our tireless volunteers.

Sheffield Golf Club 0418 199 873

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

medicare

Mental Health Centre Devonport

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

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

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

OPENING HOURS

10 AM - 6 PM,
MONDAY - FRIDAY

E-MAIL

DEVONPORT.MMHC@STRIDE.COM.AU

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11 - 17 STEWART STREET
DEVONPORT TAS 7310

PHONE NUMBER

1800 595 212

Play a song at International Mural Fest 26

International Mural Fest 2026 is fast approaching, and the call is out for our community to get involved in one of Sheffield's most iconic events.

Running from November 1 to 7, this year's theme *Play Me A Song* promises a fun, vibrant and creative showcase as artists bring their interpretations to life across a week-long painting event. The festival will once again deliver nine new murals, adding to Sheffield's ever-growing collection, while continuing to attract visitors to the region and support local business.

Entries are now open for artists wishing to take part, with submission details available at www.muralfest.com.au. We are seeking imaginative and engaging designs that connect with both our local community and visiting audiences.

As a not-for-profit event, International Mural Fest relies on the support of volunteers and sponsors. If you can lend a hand during the week or would like to contribute financially or through donations-in-kind (i.e. catering, raffle prizes), your support would be greatly appreciated and will play a vital role in the success of the popular event.

To support the delivery of the festival, we are currently seeking nine individual sponsorships of \$2500, with each finalist artist supported through this contribution.

Securing these sponsorships is essential to attracting accomplished artists and artists of emerging distinction and ensuring the murals continue to be of a consistently high standard, while supporting the ongoing success and reputation of International Mural Fest.

We also currently have four murals available for purchase, offering a unique opportunity to own an original piece of Mural Fest history.

The murals are *Searching for a Three Eyed Mutant Goldfish at the Fukushima Pondage* by Steve Monk, *Blows My Mind* by Marion Robertson, *A Thorny Gospel* by Kerry Nicholson and the 2025 People's Choice Winner, *Animal Lingo* by Gren Freeman. If you are interested in purchasing one of these murals, please email info@muralfest.com.au.

International Mural Fest is a celebration of art, community and creativity and we invite you to be part of it this year.

For more information, to enter, volunteer or contribute, please visit www.muralfest.com.au or email info@muralfest.com.au



NORTH WEST FILM SOCIETY April / May 2026

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

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



15th April @ 7pm
The President's Cake

M | 105 mins | 2025 | Iraq | Drama

While people across 1990's Iraq struggle to survive, the President requires each school in the country to prepare a cake to celebrate his birthday. 9 year old Lamia is selected for the unenviable task and must use her wits to gather the ingredients for the mandatory cake.



13th May @ 7pm
The Monk and the Gun

PG | 107 mins | 2025 | Bhutan, USA | Comedy, Drama

Set against Bhutan's twisting streams, verdant hills and a nascent democracy, this gentle comedy follows the adventures of a monk, an election official and a hapless foreigner whose lives collide in a moment of national transition.

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)

KENTISH SOCIAL CRAFT GROUP

JOIN US FOR SOME CRAFT AND A CHAT.
CRAFT IS SUPPLIED OR BYO CRAFT.

TERM TWO 2026

Friday 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th MAY. 9-11 am
Friday 12th, 19th, 26th JUNE. 9-11 am
Friday 3rd, 10th JULY. 9-11 am

All craft sessions are held at
Kentish House
18 Station St. Sheffield



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Act now to benefit from Marinus: CCA

Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) has released *Local Power, Local Prosperity*, a report calling on community, government, and industry to collaborate to secure long-term benefits from the region's upcoming \$15 billion renewable energy pipeline.

The goal of the report is to stimulate early action from stakeholders and potential beneficiaries of renewable energy projects, setting out a practical path to ensure they deliver real value for local industry and communities.

While the region has strong natural advantages, coordinated planning is required to prevent cost pressures, workforce shortages, and missed local opportunities.

Key opportunities highlighted in the report include:

Local Jobs and Skills: Backing the Tasmanian Clean Energy Centre of Excellence in Burnie to train local workers and using "Buy Local" procurement tools such as the Gateway by ICN to keep more spending in the region.

Housing and Community Legacy: Exploring housing path-ways for young people, converting temporary accommodation into long-term community assets, and trialling Demand-Responsive Transport to improve access across the region.

Future Industries: Using the major increase in data capacity from Marinus Link to attract technology businesses and data-driven industries to the region.

The report emphasises that no single organisation can manage the scale of change alone, saying, "Working together, we can

capture opportunities and convert unprecedented investment into long-term prosperity for our region."

CCA is asking the Tasmanian Government to take three immediate steps towards a shared regional vision that offers maximum economic benefits:

- Create a Senior Whole-of-Government Taskforce to coordinate housing, transport, and workforce planning across overlapping projects.
- Begin a Cumulative Impact Assessment to understand how multiple projects will affect local services, labour supply, and housing.
- Strengthen Local Decision-Making so planning reflects regional realities rather than being driven from Hobart.

The report also identifies key risks, including the need to protect the region's agricultural sector through stronger biosecurity infrastructure, and the importance of improving literacy and numeracy so young people can access future STEM careers.

The actions taken now as an active, strategic and future-focused collective will determine whether the legacy for our next generations will be a positive one.

Cradle Coast Authority is inviting all stakeholders to contribute to a shared regional plan for managing the transition. The full *Local Power, Local Prosperity* report and accompanying survey are available at www.cradlecoast.com

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10am - 4pm

Bookings
Required:

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(Ruby)

0447 325 343
(Cassandra)

Limited spots
left!

 Hearing Australia

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To book a spot, call or text:

Cassandra on 0447 325 343

Ruby on 0497 780 216

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and just come for the meal
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11 am - 2 pm, Thursday 21st May

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Market Moves

with **Corinne Nicholson**
Principal
Roberts Nicholson



Last month I shared a little about myself and our office at 48 Main Street, Sheffield, and this month I wanted to introduce you properly to the other half of my team, Sandy Brattstrom. Our office is run by just the two of us and while I'm often out meeting property owners, appraising homes and negotiating sales, Sandy is the one who keeps everything running smoothly behind the scenes.

From managing listings and contracts through to ensuring every detail is taken care of, from listing right through to settlement, Sandy plays a huge role in every property we handle.

A True Local at Heart

Many locals will already know Sandy for her involvement in the Kentish community. She has given her time to International Mural Fest, Kentish Arts Commerce and Tourism, the Sheffield Arts Centre, and has also been involved with the re-opening of the Kentish Museum over the past two years.

Sandy genuinely loves this area and the people in it, and that shows in everything she does.

Our office has become a friendly place where locals pop in for a chat, and quite often someone will bring their dog in for a visit, which Sandy always enjoys.

We're open from 9am to 3pm and many locals and visitors stop to look at our brightly lit window display or pick up our current property stocklist from the basket outside, which is updated regularly.

By taking on the business, I've invested in the long term future of the Kentish and Sheffield community, and I've been so grateful for the support shown by locals. Our business is local, for locals and run by locals who live here, and we take great care in achieving positive outcomes for our whole community.

Many of the conversations we have start simply with someone popping in to ask about the market, whether they're thinking about selling, reviewing an investment property, or just curious about what their property might be worth.

Thinking of selling? I may already have buyers.

If you're ever passing by, feel free to drop into the office and say hello to Sandy, she'll likely be there keeping everything running like clockwork.

And as always, if you're curious what your property might be worth today, give me a call as I'm always happy to have a chat. Many successful sales begin with a simple property conversation.

From both of us here in the Sheffield office, we wish everyone

across Kentish and the surrounding districts a wonderful Mother's Day and we look forward to continuing to help and connect with our local community.

Seller Tip

Presentation leads to competition: The better your property presents, the more buyers you attract, and that's where strong results begin.

Buyer Tip

Be ready when the right one appears: The best properties don't last long, so having your finance and plans in place puts you in a strong position.



Local knowledge, honest advice and personal service: Sandy Brattstrom (left) and Corinne Nicholson.



EXHIBITION

Fereleth Lee | Ruth Rutherford | Susan Kennerley

LOST in Tasmania

**Friday 24 April 2026
to Saturday 16 May 2026**

Sheffield Art Centre, Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield

10am – 3pm

Opening Friday 24 April at 4pm

Wild Edge Collective
THREE MINDS
ONE ISLAND

Sheffield Bowls Club AGM
10am Sunday, June 14
Sheffield Bowls Club
To elect office bearers and table
the 2025/2026 financial report
All members welcome

Kayakers paddle to Nirvana

By Heather Eiszele

Kayaking benefits your soul, your body and your mind. The places where the U3A kayaking crew travel are breathtakingly beautiful, diverse, surprising and a tonic for the soul. When paddlers get on the water, a collective contentment settles. Many sigh. Many declare it as their Happy Place. And that's the beginning of the day's delights.

A platypus greeted kayakers at the water's edge recently as boats were about to launch at Warrawee, ducking and diving only a metre or so from everyone's toes. Birdlife is abundant; sea eagles are regular guests.

Kayakers travel up to two hours to get to some interesting destinations, such as the recent overnight trip to Tullah, with most within an hour's drive. Travelling as a convoy, boats get moved between cars depending on the expected terrain and the vehicle's capability.

Paddlers as passengers end up driving distances together, cementing friendships and building new ones.

Some of the popular destinations include the Mersey River, the Meander and the Forth as well as Lake Barrington (both ends) and Lake Cethana.

As an older cohort, tackling fast-flowing rivers isn't always popular with the membership but some still give it a go. Others wait for the next trip to a lake.

Whatever the conditions, kayaking benefits your body, from your legs to your core, to your shoulders and back muscles. As you pull the paddle through the water, the other arm is pushing the oar away, building stabilised strength. It's exercise without feeling like exercise.

Got a story to tell?

The Story Telling Group is now well underway, and would welcome a few more to join them fortnightly at the Paper & Cup Café (back room), 43 Main Street, Sheffield.

Next meeting is on Friday May 8 at 10.30am.

Their leader, Paul Fraser, explains that the idea behind the group is that at each meeting, a member will tell a story from:

- a life experience
- your career
- an adventure
- a travel experience
- your childhood/hometown
- your hobbies
- a personal major achievement

Speakers talk for up to 30 minutes uninterrupted, followed by questions and/or discussions related to the story.

If the first story (and subsequent discussion) is less than 20 minutes, then an opportunity for a second story will be offered.

This is intended to occur in a relaxed, non-judgmental and fun atmosphere.

The group meets: 2nd and 4th Friday at 10.30am at the Paper & Cup café (back room), 43 Main Street, Sheffield.

Contact Paul Fraser on 0499 776 953 for further information.

Kayakers do, on occasion, have to drag their boats across rocks when the water is too shallow or the obstruction ahead isn't worth navigating. This too builds strength, agility and balance.

On the water, the group stays together and help each other where necessary, although the emphasis is on independence and being able to get yourself out of a situation. A raft-up photo opportunity is always called at some point during the paddle, where boats line up in a row, one holding the other. Those on the ends have to keep it all straight.

Paddle's end involves another group effort with boats pulled out of the water, some kayakers pulled out of their boats, another car shuffle and a delicious shared lunch somewhere beautiful.



The laughter, the camaraderie, the shared joy and amazement at what nature can produce creates a bond among this group, benefiting the mind and soul. Conversations are as gentle as the breeze and discoveries are shared.

No one ever gets left up the creek without a paddle.

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 10am

Paul 0499 776 953

Joy of Maths - Fri 10am

John 0457 262 040

Line Dancing - Fri 12.30

Dianne 0413 881 171

Kayaking - Fri

Jennifer 0400 376 937

Botanical Drawing -

Sat 1pm

Colette 0439 426 665

More information:

kentishu3a.u3anet.org.au or

email kentishu3a@gmailcom

Healthy Habits

with
Jon Delaine
Care Coordinator
Rural Health Tasmania



How's your heart health? This May, Rural Health Tasmania encourage you to book a heart health check up.

Heart Week is Australia's national heart health awareness week held in May each year. It provides an opportunity for everyone to start a conversation about heart health with their loved ones and take positive steps to reduce their heart disease risk.

Here are some easy steps to improve your heart health.

Enjoy a heart-healthy eating pattern, this includes:

- Plenty of vegetables, fruits and wholegrains.
- A variety of healthy protein-rich foods especially fish and seafood, legumes (such as beans and lentils), nuts and seeds.
- milk, yoghurt and cheese. People with high blood cholesterol should choose reduced fat varieties.
- Healthy fats and oils, such as avocados, olives, nuts, seeds, and healthy oils for cooking.
- Herbs and spices to flavour foods, instead of adding salt.

Maintain a healthy weight

Maintaining a healthy body weight can help lower your blood pressure and cholesterol and improve your heart health.

Be active

Start with small, realistic goals and work your way up to the

recommended 30-60 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity (such as walking around the mural park or along the shores of Lake Barrington) on most days of the week.

Be smoke-free and limit alcohol

If you smoke, quit smoking. For support to quit smoking, talk with your GP or call the Quitline

Book a Heart Health Check with your local Rural Health Tasmania nurse Monday-Wednesday.

Never miss a BEAT by booking a Heart Health Check. It's a quick and easy check up to assess and know your numbers, like your heart rate and blood pressure.

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For more information about the NDIS visit www.ndis.gov.au or contact Mission Australia on 03 6420 6850.

Mission Australia NDIS services are available at

Kentish House
10.00 — 12.00 Wednesday

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| • 11 March | • 12 August |
| • 8 April | • 9 September |
| • 13 May | • 14 October |
| • 10 June | • 11 November |
| • 8 July | • 9 December |



1800 729 827

ruralaliveandwell.com.au/callbackrequest

Rural life throws up many challenges and we recognise that navigating those ongoing challenges can become tiresome.

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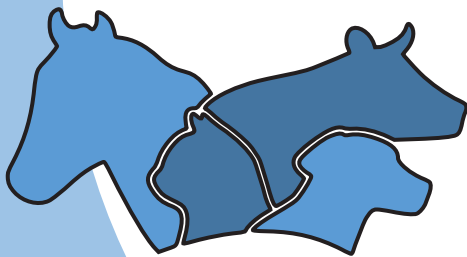


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COMMENT - HOW NOT TO BE DECEIVED BY WHAT IS TRUE

By Geoffrey Curtis

For most of us, we live in a vastly different world than 10 years ago, with the use of social media. It can be puzzling how to decide what is true in what we see or read; after all, most of us want to trust.

Schools, universities and other educational institutions do their best to educate the individual student. To be informed is to know, but that does not necessarily mean that what is in front of you is true. Just because your friends said it is true, or it's displayed on a website, it may or may not be correct. This can lead to confusion.

This might seem a silly way to understand how to think, but here is a comparison. Suppose you never had a motor car, and the only way to get from one place to another was by walking or by riding a horse. Gradually, people began buying and driving motor cars. You would like one, but to be able to drive, you have to be instructed and know what to do, agree?

It is the same with using the internet or having a face-to-face conversation. You require new skills that were not necessary in the past but are currently becoming essential. This is not new, however, to be able to survive and be more aware, the ability to read, write and comprehend is not going to be sufficient.

How do you know, for example, that you have been misinformed, disinformed or deceived? Can a fact be untrue? What are the differences, and most importantly, how to go about sorting truth from falsity?

This is where re-education or instruction in a subject begins to make clear what needs to be done. Individuals need to recognise facts versus fiction, truth against falsehood and rational thinking as opposed to illogical reasoning. To do that, there are several things to be aware of, including some of the following, as shown in the diagram image.

Don't fret! This is a logical step to take and is very helpful in becoming less emotional and far more rational. For example, a falsity is something not supported by facts. A cubed cardboard box with more than four sides cannot be called a cylinder. Climate Change cannot be true unless supported by scientific facts.

Years ago, tobacco companies put out disinformation, just like vaping today, as harmless. Medical research has shown this to be a falsity. That still does not stop people from smoking, but it gives those who wish to be informed something to think about.



And finally, children are often deceived by disinformation about Santa Claus; the falsity is perceived as true by them. Eventually, children who are capable of knowing the falsity of being false will discard this belief.

Critical Thinking is the 21st-century pathway toward a decision-making process where the individual is in control of their logical thinking, not their emotions. You learn to ask questions and solve problems by becoming less ignorant and far more empowered.

It helps you with your own curiosity, your family, with work, and with friends, and it improves your self-esteem.

By now, some of you may be saying, where can I find out how to learn and use 'Critical Thinking'?

Some schools offer courses, usually in the subject of philosophy. The University of Tasmania (UTAS) offers it in its humanities courses. Free short courses are available from some TasTAFE institutions, and there are short and extended online programs locally and across the country.

Geoffrey Curtis is a social commentator and researcher

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Authorised by Mark Shelton MP, 10A Marlborough Street, LONGFORD 7301

Visiting service

If you need help with Centrelink, Medicare and Child Support payments and services, we plan to visit your community soon.

Services Australia will be visiting **Sheffield.**

The team will be located at the following venues and times:

WED 27th May 2026

Kentish House, Sheffield 09:30 am to 12 pm

Please phone Cassandra at @Kentish House on 0447325343 to book a specific appointment time, or walk-ins are welcome.

Australian Government Services Australia servicesaustralia.gov.au

Who were the first inhabitants of

This was Alan's first column for The Kentish Voice

Any review of our local history that commences with the discovery of the Kentish Plains on 1st August 1842, is like starting to describe a 100 metre footrace two metres from the finishing line. Admittedly the last two metres are vitally important to us, but they don't tell the complete story.

With the amount of historical evidence showing that Tasmania's first indigenous people lived around the Mersey and Forth River valleys for many centuries, it is inconceivable to imagine that they didn't also inhabit the grassy plains between these two rivers.

In fact, it is now generally acknowledged that most of the open grassy plains along our north-west coast such as the Kentish Plains are not natural, but come to us courtesy of the aboriginal practice of regularly burning open corridors through the bush. They did this to create large clearings that enticed kangaroos, wallabies and wombats to graze out in the open where they could be speared more easily.

This fundamental hunting practice was almost certainly the origin of our Kentish Plains.

When the first European explorers visited Van Diemen's Land, they discovered a stone-age people living on a remote island, it being the most southerly location of any people group in the world. Not only that, but they had existed without any contact with other human beings for thousands of years, longer than any other population of people on earth.

These earliest Tasmanians didn't practise any form of farming, crop planting or domestication of animals or birds. They led simple nomadic lives as hunters and food gatherers, following a seasonal rotation around many different locations.

With no written language, their entire culture, customs and incredible bush skills were passed down orally during regular dream-time story-telling around camp fires, at young men's initiation ceremonies and special sessions for 'women's business'. Red ochre was one of their most prized possessions. Mixed with black charcoal and animal fat, it was used extensively for glamourizing all parts of their bodies for corroborees - their main social or communal interaction.

Dancing around the flickering light of a big fire emulating the movements of wild animals, leaping and shrieking 'narracoopa', meaning in modern idiom 'How awesome, this is cool', usually continued well into the night.

The Tommeginne Tribe

When the first European settlers arrived in 1804, there were an estimated 4000-5000 indigenous people scattered across Van Diemen's Land in nine tribal groups. The tribe located along our North West Coast was known as the Tommeginne tribe. Their territory ran from the Rubican River in the East along to Wynyard in the West, and from the coastline in the North to the foothills of the Western Tiers, Cradle Mountain and St Valentine's Peak in the South. The total population of the Tommeginne tribe was estimated to be around 400.

Our specific interest are the two or three clans of Aborigines, probably numbering about 200, who inhabited and hunted between the Mersey and Forth River valleys. Their seasonal rotation saw them spending the colder months along the

coastline and in the river estuaries of the Rubican, Mersey, Don and Forth; in the warmer months they trekked inland back into the high country around Gads Hill, Middlesex Plains and lush Lake Lea located on the Vale of Belvoir, feeding off native berries and various animals.

Within this eastern Tommeginne territory was the most important deposit of red ochre in the whole island. Located on the slopes of Mt Gog, a long spur running off the north eastern end of Mt Roland, its rich redness made it superior to all other places. Hence it was regularly sought by most Aboriginal tribes throughout the island.

So this unique supply of red ochre on the Kentish side of the Mersey River, several kilometres north of the Union bridge near Mole Creek, was the hub for a network of native tracks that converged on eastern side of Mt Gog.

The track coming from the East Coast passed south of Longford, along the Liffey valley, across the open plains just below the Western Tiers before arriving at Den Plains beside the Mersey River just north of Mole Creek. The Big River tribe located in the Derwent Valley would trek up over the Central Highlands past Mt Pelion, then down the upper Mersey Valley.

'Nine tribal groups scattered across Van Diemen's Land in 1804'

Coming from the West and far North West Coasts, a major native track followed much the same route as the present Cradle Mt Link Road across the Vale of Belvoir and Middlesex Plains, before it descended down to the only ford over the Forth River at Lorinna. If rain had caused the river to rise, Aborigines could be forced to wait days or even weeks to get across.

From Lorinna they travelled east, up over Gads Hill coming around behind Mt Roland to Mt Gog. Alternatively a shorter route from Lorinna came north over Mt Claude, followed the Dasher River along in front of Mt Roland, before climbing up through Paradise to the ochre deposit.

Their main camping grounds were at Chudleigh and on Den Plains, a small flood plain in a bend of the Mersey River, below Mt Gog. Years later when these plains were finally purchased by the first white settlers, there were so many disc-shaped stones and pounders scattered across the river flats that it took two men several days to clear them. They had been used by aboriginal women to grind the red ochre into powder.

The Toolumbunner Ochre Mine

The ochre mine itself, on the eastern end of Mt Gog, was called Toolumbunner. Aboriginal conciliator *George A Robinson* records in his journal around 1830 that while walking with the natives towards Toolumbunna, the chief of the Oyster Bay tribe became overjoyed at the prospect of seeing this celebrated place. Upon arrival at the ochre mine, Robinson records some Aborigines patted and kissed the ground.

In 1982 *Lloyd Robson* and *Rosemary Kiss* of the University of Melbourne, having read Robinson's report of this important Aboriginal ochre mine, set out to rediscover its location. They

Kentish? By Alan F Dyer

were accompanied by *Brian Plomley* of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in Launceston. Eventually, on 12 April 1982, they discovered the site and began a series of archaeological investigations, which spanned several years and covered an area of five hectares.

Their findings were printed in the book *Bruising The Red Earth* edited by Antonia Sagona and published by Melbourne University Press in 1994. Toolumbunner they concluded was a unique Australian Aboriginal site consisting of two main quarries about a kilometre apart. They believed that the site had been mined continuously for 500-600 years.

Of course this Aboriginal site is protected under the provisions of the Aboriginal Relics Act 1975. No public road runs nearby and the area cannot be reached without traversing many kilometres over private property.

Today there is nothing really to see. The site is covered with scrub, the trenches have caved in and you could walk by without noticing anything.

In closing, what we have hopefully portrayed in this initial article is that long before the arrival of any European settlers, our intriguing Kentish region had found considerable fame as the depository of the finest artistic resource on the island. Aborigines from all other parts were attracted to this locality.

Next time we will look at further Aboriginal activities around our Mersey/Forth region as we try to penetrate history's long silence regarding our first indigenous inhabitants of Kentish and give them some of the recognition they deserve.



ACCESS 2 Health Services Kentish House Tasmanian Government

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
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Alan Dyer's Books
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e-books online at
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Every pair of boots tells a story: RAW

Rural Alive & Well (RAW) has launched its statewide campaign, Boots on the Ground, celebrating the everyday people who form the backbone of rural and regional Tasmania. From farmers and truck drivers to volunteers, families and emerging young leaders, the campaign shines a spotlight on the diverse individuals whose work, resilience and community spirit keep regional Tasmania strong. Boots on the Ground aims to highlight real stories while fostering meaningful conversations around mental health and wellbeing in the bush.

At the heart of the campaign is a simple but powerful idea: every pair of boots tells a story.

Tasmanians are encouraged to share their own “Boots on the Ground” story, alongside a photo of the boots that carry them through their work and daily lives. These stories will be brought together through an interactive Impact Map and showcased at Agfest 2026, capturing the depth, diversity and dedication of people living and working across the state.

RAW CEO Lee Whiteley said the campaign is about recognising those who quietly make a difference every day.

“Boots on the Ground is about recognising the everyday people who are the backbone of rural Tasmania,” Mr Whiteley said.

“Through this campaign, we’re proud to celebrate their stories while also highlighting the importance of mental health and wellbeing for those who give so much.”

“We’re inviting Tasmanians to share their stories and a photo of their boots, because every pair tells something powerful about the journey behind them.”

At Agfest, these stories will give people the opportunity to connect with the strength and spirit of rural Tasmania.”

Adding further momentum to the campaign, RAW has



announced Trucking with CJ as its official ambassador. Known off the road as Casuarina Smith, CJ has become a respected voice in the transport industry, helping bridge generational gaps while promoting values of safety, integrity and respect. Her involvement in Boots on the Ground reflects the campaign’s commitment to showcasing authentic, modern rural stories while honouring industry heritage.

CJ will feature at Agfest 2026, where she will share her journey and connect with visitors as part of the campaign activation.

The campaign coincides with Rural Youth Tasmania naming Rural Alive & Well as its official charity partner for Agfest. This collaboration marks a shared commitment to strengthening mental health services.

RAW will collect submissions in the lead-up to Agfest, with selected stories displayed at the RAW tent during the event. All submissions will automatically go into the draw to win a Blundstone prize pack. Visit rawtas.com.au

Vigil honours family violence victims

The North West Coast Candlelight Vigil will be held on Wednesday, May 6, from 6-6.30pm at the Gnomon Room on the Ulverstone wharf Precinct.

As part of Domestic Violence Prevention Month, National Family Violence Remembrance Day is the first Wednesday in May when Candlelight Vigils are held nationally to remember and honour those who have lost their lives to family violence.

For every death due to family violence there are hundreds of thousands of women and children with a lived experience of emotional, physical, sexual and economic abuse.

One in three women in Australia have experienced physical or sexual violence from someone they know.

A warm welcome is extended to any member of the public wishing to attend and show support for those affected by domestic violence.

Advocates for Change guest speakers will provide thoughtful and challenging messages.

Attendees are encouraged to wear purple, and candles will be available.

This is a joint community event by Zonta Devonport & Cradle Coast, Soroptimist Devonport, Engender Equality, the Police FV unit, Family Violence Counselling and Support Service and Central Coast Council.



May 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.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Daisy | E | L | T | T | A | W | I | L | L | O | W | F |
| Daphne | H | O | N | E | Y | S | U | C | K | L | E | L |
| Erica | O | H | A | A | L | O | I | V | W | I | E | M |
| Hazel | R | Y | A | C | I | N | O | R | E | V | H | Y |
| Heather | J | A | S | M | I | N | E | S | I | E | Z | R |
| Holly | L | C | E | S | O | R | U | F | A | I | Y | T |
| Honeysuckle | Y | I | V | I | O | L | E | T | N | O | S | L |
| Hyacinth | S | N | L | D | A | P | H | N | E | R | N | E |
| Iris | I | T | O | Y | M | E | I | U | M | P | A | Z |
| Ivy | A | H | V | E | R | A | L | A | T | E | P | A |
| Jasmine | D | I | Y | P | P | O | P | Y | L | L | O | H |
| Lily | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Myrtle | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Olive | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pansy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Peony | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Petal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Petunia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poppy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rose | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Veronica | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Viola | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Violet | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Wattle | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Willow | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Zinnia | | | | | | | | | | | |

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CRYPTIC PUZZLE TASMANIA

1. Dirty dog, Ron (6)
2. That drongo's right off, crazy! (12)
3. Swindling pig! (10)
4. Man WA ban extradited (8)
5. AGM price volatile (4,4)
6. Smooth entrance (8)
7. Scored it a ten (6)
8. Backed number five hundred (3)
9. Scrummage ruck drive (4,5)
10. Sad! Try crack. (6)

Answers P39

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POLICE REPORT

Two people have been charged with drug offences following a Taskforce Scelus investigation on Thursday at Somerset, in the state's North-West.

The investigation stemmed from police attempting to intercept an unregistered motorcycle being ridden by a male youth on Pelissier Street, Somerset.

The rider allegedly failed to stop for police and was later seen riding into the driveway of a nearby private residence.

Taskforce Scelus members attended the property and located the motorcycle.

The alleged rider, a 14-year-old boy, will be proceeded against under the Youth Justice Act 1997.

During a search of the premises, police allege they located about 2kg of cannabis.

A 34-year-old man and a 36-year-old woman, both from

Somerset, were arrested and have since been charged with trafficking in a controlled substance.

Both were bailed to appear in the Burnie Magistrates Court at a later date.

Detective Acting Inspector Luke Negri said the result demonstrated the value of proactive policing.

"This matter began with police attempting to intercept an unregistered motorcycle being ridden unlawfully on a public street," Detective Acting Inspector Negri said.

"That investigation quickly led police to the discovery of a significant quantity of cannabis and evidence consistent with the sale of illicit drugs.

"Taskforce Scelus will continue to target high-risk behaviour, repeat offending, and drug-related crime in the North-Western District."

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

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

Lower Barrington Baptist Church

Sheffield Road, Lower Barrington
Welcome to our services at 10am
First Sunday - Holy Communion
Last Sunday - Young Men's study
Men's / Ladies Bible study
Kids church in school term.
Enquiries: Steve 0409 944 296



Sheffield Baptist Church

"Caring and Making a Difference in Our Community"

104-106 Main Street, Sheffield
Service Time 10:30am each Sunday
All welcome – friendly atmosphere
Fellowship Tea every third Sunday
5:30pm - 7:30pm Favourite hymn singing, good food and fellowship
Phone Paul - 0428 323 788

Traditional Anglican Church

For service information,
please ring 6425 5605

CHURCH NOTICES

Holy Cross Catholic Church

High Street Sheffield
Mass is celebrated Sundays at 11.30am.
All Welcome. Parish Office Ph 6424 2783



Sheffield Uniting Church

Home of Library Aid Int'l, Kentish U3A and Mountain Echoes Choir



Corner of Main/Henry streets
A church serves its community in many ways. At present, we do not hold Sunday Worship.

Instead, we invite you to join in a time of quiet reflection and prayer at an Ecumenical Service 8.30am Mondays. We also offer a place for friends to meet, laugh and relax.

Phone Leoni Read 0429 705 062.

Sheffield Bible Chapel

45 High Street Sheffield
"A caring church for the whole family"
The Sheffield Bible Chapel conducts weekly services beginning 10am. Enquiries please phone 6491 1447
Youth Group Enquiries, phone Joy Tekinay on 0428 666 494.



St John's Kentish Anglican Community Church

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

Roland Gospel Hall

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



WHAT'S ON IN MAY

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| | | Looking on the Bright Side; Lost in Tasmania , Sheffield Art Gallery |
| Sat-Sun | May 2, 03 | Steam Engine rides 11am-4pm, Sheffield Steam & Heritage Centre |
| Saturday | May 2 | Pop-up Preloved clothing sale 2-5pm, Sheffield Bible Chapel |
| Sunday | May 3 | Weindorfer Day 9.45am, Wilmot |
| Wednesday | May 6 | JP Services 9.30-11am, Kentish House, Sheffield (see p5) |
| | | Legal Advice 9.30am-1.30pm, Kentish House (see p10) |
| | | Candlelight Vigil 6-6.30pm, Ulverstone Wharf (see p34) |
| Thursday | May 7 | Agfest to Sat May 9, Carrick |
| Saturday | May 9 | Railton Market 9am-1pm, King's Hall, 10 Latrobe Road |
| | | MRLC presents Dr Keith Corbett Claude Road Hall (see p17) |
| Sunday | May 10 | Mother's Day |
| Tuesday | May 12 | Kentish Probus Club AGM 10am, Sheffield Bowls Club |
| Friday | May 15 | Railton Squash Centre EOI closes (see p7) |
| Saturday | May 16 | Kentish Garden Club meeting 2pm, Barrington Hall |
| Monday | May 18 | Free Hearing Checks 10am-4pm, Kentish House (see p26) |
| | | Healthy Outing 10.30am-2.30pm, Devonport Art Gallery (see p 33) |
| | | Trivia 6.30 for 7pm, Sheffield RSL, 77 Main Street, Sheffield |
| Wednesday | May 20 | Kentish Council meeting 6pm, Council Office, High Street, Sheffield |
| Thursday | May 21 | Men's Cooking & Social Group 11am-2pm, Kentish House (see p26) |
| Wednesday | May 27 | Services Australia 9.30-12pm, Kentish House, Sheffield |
| | | Gustav's Words 3.30-4pm, Uniting Church, Sheffield (see p17) |
| Saturday | May 30 | Produce Swap 3pm, Barrington Hall, 52 Barrington Road |
| Sunday | May 31 | Waste2Art judge nominations close (see p10) |
| Sunday | Jun 14 | Sheffield Bowls Club AGM 10am |

**Thank You to the many volunteers
who help to make Kentish such a wonderful place to live!**

Cryptic Puzzle Answers

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Gordon | 6. Sandgate |
| 2. Strathgordon | 7. Nietta |
| 3. Conningham | 8. Don |
| 4. Mawbanna | 9. Duck River |
| 5. Cape Grim | 10. Dysart |

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