

BRIDREPORT

The Pavilion: Visitors back on track! 😊

Bridport's tourist information centre, The Pavilion, welcomed a total of 4390 visitors in 2023, a heartening recovery after several years of Covid, which meant shutting up shop for long periods and an almost total absence of interstate and overseas visitors. That figure is still around 1000 short of the best pre-Covid years but recovering well. Around 45% were from Tasmania and others came from every State and Territory in Australia, dominated by Victoria (635) and NSW/ACT (610). There were 504 Queenslanders, 171 from WA, 132 from SA and 24 from the Northern Territory.

The Pavilion's volunteer staff welcomed tourists from many overseas countries: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Columbia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and USA.

The largest numbers of overseas visitors came from the UK (76), Germany (31) and New Zealand (37). We are yet to see a visitor from Paraguay but here's hoping!

The Pavilion, operated by Bridport Innovations, is open every day from 10 am to 4 pm. As well as tourist information, it offers a wide range of local crafts, souvenirs, gifts, cards and even second hand books.

Gunnar and Anna from Germany gathering information on Mt William National Park



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Email: bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com
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Bridport Girl Guides

On Sunday Feb 11th, Bridport Girl Guides were hosts to Guides from the McIntyre (northern) region to celebrate an early 'Thinking Day' with a Water Day on land and in the Brid River. It was a magic day with a full tide.

The girls had lots of fun kayaking, swimming, floating on tubes and tobogganing or rolling down the sand hill in the river. On land they enjoyed a water slide, totem tennis, croquet and environmental activities. A barbecue lunch was enjoyed by all with cake and super doopers for afternoon tea before heading home. Special thank you to all our leaders, Andrew Arnold, the Bridport Surf Life Saving Club and Jason Dicker who travelled from Launceston as Kayak instructor.



Lyn Commane
Dorset District Manger
GGT
0409 561 642



Free family fun to herald Fiesta

A showcase of some of the regions finest artisan produce and beverages will be a feature of a free family fun day on the Bridport Village Green as part of the Tassie Scallop Fiesta fringe on fiesta eve, Saturday 3 August.

The expo will run in conjunction with the usual first-Saturday-of-the-month market organised by the CWA, although it is also expected to be bigger than normal with stalls in the community hall and the CWA rooms, bookending the village green activities.

Customers will be encouraged to try before they buy at the showcase, where stallholders will be able to explain the subtleties of their produce.

The marketing morning will lead into an afternoon of more free entertainment.

A Taiko drumming instruction and performance session, some kite making lessons and flying demonstrations, storytelling and performance by Mermaid Kaz and a community fireside singalong are all in the mix for the day.

For 24, or three groups of eight, gourmets the day will culminate with a five-course degustation candle-lit dinner in the igloos that were a popular introduction to the Fiesta last year.

Organisers have decided to bring back a launch event several weeks in advance of Fiesta as a way to reveal the day's program.

An internationally acclaimed band billed as Australia's number one Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute band will be unleashed on Bridport. Performing as Ramble Tamble, the five-piece group will put on a show on Saturday 8 June.

For details and ticketing for Fiesta-associated events keep up to date on Tassie Scallop Fiesta website and social media channels.

Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute band Ramble Tamble
belting out a toon at one of their packed-out gigs...
they're coming to Bridport to help launch Tassie Scallop Fiesta



Bridport Netball Club



The 2024 netball season is fast approaching. Preseason training has started, any new players that are interested in playing this year, please check out our Instagram page or Facebook page for any updates or information.

We welcome back all our players and members and look forward to another successful year.

Stay tuned for updates on social events and the season start date.

Bridport Golf Club

MyGolf



- 4-12 years @ 3.30- 4.30 pm on Monday afternoons.

Get into Golf



- Teenagers on Sunday afternoons @ 1.00 pm. We will provide separate gender groups as and if requested.

Get into Golf

- Adults on Sunday morning 11.00 am- 12 noon. We will provide separate gender groups if requested.

For more information contact:

Mandy 0438 552 224

A Remarkable Timber by Mike Douglas

The remnants of the Granite Point Pier, built in 1916, are a testimonial for an exceptional Australian timber tree, the red turpentine.

Turpentine is a large tree found in coastal Queensland and in New South Wales. A close relative of the eucalypts, it has a heavy, reddish wood impregnated with a turpentine-scented resin which provides resistance to termites and marine borers.

Less well known is the status of the turpentine as one of the world's most fire resistant timbers.

The decking and side braces of the pier were of a local hardwood, much of it probably recycled from the original tramway jetty alongside Croquet lawn beach.

Fires on the pier in 1938 and 1940 destroyed these fixtures leaving the turpentine piles as a memento of a former vision of Bridport as an interstate port.



Turpentine piles

Cats and Bandicoots

Although the Dorset Coastal Working Group only meets quarterly, it usually has quite a full agenda. Representatives from Dorset Council, Parks and Wildlife, various Coast Care groups, North East Field Nats, NRM North and Bridport Innovations all share their knowledge and discuss issues pertaining to Natural Resource Management and attempt to network solutions for problems.

Topics for discussion at the February meeting included problems on the 4WD transit track to Bellingham, Tas Water's installation of new aerators at the sewerage treatment plant to reduce odours, problem fires at Waterhouse, sea spurge infestation on the Bridport Foreshore.

Two representatives from NRM North informed the group about projects running under their banner. They are working to further protect two iconic but vulnerable animals in the North East : the Giant Fresh Water Crayfish and the Eastern Barred Bandicoot. This involves teaching landowners how to protect them and supporting them with on-ground work, making refuges and planting habitat plants. As a result of their work, Northern Tasmania is becoming a refuge for the E.B.B. whose counterpart on the mainland became extinct. The statistics so far are impressive. They have funded 59 urban refuges and 80 landholders to carry out on-ground works. Two PhD studies have been sponsored.

One cause of the demise of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot has been predation by cats and dogs and cat management is also a high priority for NRM North. Even though a new cat management plan has been adopted in Tasmania, only some municipalities mandate that cats should be kept inside. NRM North works to provide support to land managers to help minimise the impacts of roaming, stray and feral cats. They attend community events in an attempt to educate the community about how to promote responsible cat ownership. There are issues in our community with larger numbers of cats being fed than are legal and wild dogs reportedly killing backyard chooks. So there is scope for work here in Dorset.



Words and Picture: Lou Brooker

Lions Club of Bridport



Recycle for sight program

Lions Club of Bridport encourages members of our community to recycle their glasses – we have a collection box at the Bridport Pharmacy.

Lions Recycle for Sight Australia is part of the Lions Clubs International Worldwide Eyeglass Recycling Program, headquartered in Queensland and operating throughout Australia and overseas.

We receive requests from humanitarian organisations either travelling to a developing country or supplying shipping container loads of suitable humanitarian aid from Australia to groups in these countries.

Already close to 19 million pair of spectacles refurbished by the Lions Recycle for Sight Programme in Australia have been distributed. Since 1998 the Lions Clubs of Australia have been successfully restoring SIGHT to many millions of persons in need in Australia and adjacent countries.



Please support Lions Club of Bridport with donating your collection of used glasses with Boris and his team at the Bridport Pharmacy.

Battery Recycling Program

Lions Club of Bridport have an ongoing Battery Recycling Program – our members will come to your property (home, business or farm) and collect old tractor, truck, car and NBN batteries which we then recycle – a great way to clean up your property!!!

If you have some batteries, you would like to donate to Lions Club of Bridport please contact us:



Many thanks

Leonie Johnston

Secretary

Lions Club of Bridport Inc

Mobile 0438 281352

Email: secretary@bridportlionsclub.com.au

Bridport Seaview Village

It's been over 40 years since the first two units at Bridport's Seaview Village were completed. Seaview Village currently has 16 residential units with 23 residents. Seaview Village Committee is made up of the following volunteers:

- Chairperson – Vacant (after the sudden death of Rob Perkins in September 2023)
- Vice Chairperson – Helen Schuurin
- Secretary – Leonie Johnston
- Treasurer – Gail Archer
- Committee members – Maureen Nichols and Pamela Krushka

Seaview Committee held a morning tea on Friday, 23rd February for all Seaview residents – which was a perfect opportunity for the Committee to network with residents and share our priorities for 2024.

Terrence Harris has been a highly valued Seaview Village Committee member, who has retired after 6 years of volunteering, working closely with all residents at Seaview Village – completing maintenance tasks, gardening and constantly liaising with residents. The residents and committee thank Terrence for his commitment to Seaview Village over the last 6 years.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our Committee, please contact Helen on 0428 340 579 or Leonie on 0438 281352.

U3A Bridport Seniors Group



All seniors welcome - Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm

If you are over 55 and want to liven up your Wednesday, you are most welcome to join us at the Community Hall.

Mar 6th	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Guest speaker Kirsten Ritchie, Strike It Out, an organisation providing food and goods to people in need, an opportunity for members to donate non-perishable goods or money
	12.30	Lunch at Bay Inn
Mar 13	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Guest speaker — Peter and Phyllis McLennan restorers of the neglected grave stones
	12.30	Lunch Games - Old favourites, or try a new one
Mar 20	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Cleone's Secret Garden with BBQ lunch onwards
Mar 27	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Show and tell
	12.30	Lunch
		Card or board games

Seaview Morning Tea today - Terrence Harris has retired from our Seaview Committee after working hard for our Seaview Community for over 15 years.



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Bridport Bowls Club



After 17 years of excellent service, the Bridport Bowls Club are pleased to announce that the current synthetic green will be replaced on the 4th of March.

The work to take up the old one and lay the new green and replace surrounds will take up to two weeks.

The old green will be taken up in sections and is available for sale wholly or by section. Inspection prior to removal is welcome, and people interested should contact the club by phoning Lawrence Archer on 0419 357 852 or David Glover on 0478 226 862.

School Term Dates for 2024

Term 1

Thurs 8 Feb - Fri 12 Apr

Easter break

Fri 29 Mar - Tues 2 Apr

Term 2

Mon 29 April - Fri 5 Jul

Term 3

Mon 22 Jul - Fri 27 Sep

Term 4

Mon 14 Oct - Thurs 19 Dec



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Bridport Surf Life Saving Club

An amazing finish to our 2024 Nippers Season!

We finished with a hotly contested team challenge to demonstrate all the skills learned over the summer. The confidence and enthusiasm was amazing, with a perfect little wave to test of competence!

Followed by a BBQ from our amazing Canteen crew, and presentations to recognised the contributions of our awesome Age Manager volunteers and, of course our superstar nippers!!

Thank you to everyone involved in delivering our program this summer, to the Committee for the hours they put into making our Club great, the families for supporting (and transporting!) your children and our nippers for coming with enthusiasm to learn each week!!

Thanks to our program sponsor Woolnorth Renewables.

Over and out for nippers 2024. Stay tuned for V2.0 in December!



Bridget Archer and her team came by to see the new bandsaw at Bridport Community Mens Shed that was purchased with a grant with her assistance.



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2024 Your Pet's Best (and healthiest) Year Yet



Beginning 2024 feels like a much more significant achievement than previous years, right? Goodbye 2023, hello to a (hopefully) PAW-SOME 2024. While you're working on becoming the best version of yourself, have you stopped to think about your furry friend sitting beside you? They've surely snuck some Christmas ham from the dinner table, indulged in a few more human treats and skipped a few walks. And who can blame them, that sounds like a mighty fine time! Just like us, indulgent behaviors can catch up on all little (or large) creatures. A quick reflection of your pet's health and habits will help keep them fighting fit for years to come.

Take your pup out – and not just to pee

It's hot, you're tired, they're lazy, lets skip the morning walk. Articles listing the importance and benefits of exercise are age-old and overdone, spinning round and round like a broken record. But one more time... exercise is super important for all pooches! Granted, some need more than others and no, we don't think a little Frenchie could withstand a hike up a mountain but there are so many reasons pups need a good workout each and every day. A sedative dog quickly turns into an overweight dog. This is hilarious in cartoons but overweight dogs are at an increased risk of cancer, diabetes and joint problems. Sorry to put a downer on your day – but it's a ruff life for overweight pooches!

Also, their little brain is just as complex as ours, it needs to be stimulated to function at its best capacity. Kinda sounds over the top, but we know you love them with your whole heart. All the different sights, smells and sounds they'll take in during their stroll will keep that little brain of theirs healthy. You can't forget the opportunities they'll get from training and socializing with children and other animals. Keeping up with training, commands and continual socialization is key for a happy dog that loves everyone just as much as everyone loves them! As a general rule of thumb, 30 minutes a day of physical activity is just enough.

They won't be happy about this one, but they'll thank you in the long run

Got a pup that can eat!? And then some?! A treat is twice as nice when it's off a human's plate! Overeating has just as many health risks for dogs as humans. Restricting them from toxic human foods like chocolate, raisins and onions is one thing, but some dogs regularly overeat just from instinct. Portion sizes and what constitutes a healthy diet vary between breeds but is important to keep that tail wagging!

Trust me, I'm a DOGtor

For peace of mind, most good vets offer general health checks. DOGtors will check their body condition, skin, fur, eyes, ears, teeth, mouth, weight and any signs of illness. It's always a good idea to check the machine is working properly every now and then – and the new year is a purr-fect op-paw-tinity! After all, a little TLC never hurt anyone!

A hot-dog ain't a healthy dog

And last but certainly not least – sun safety! Especially in Australia, sun safety is the leader of the pack when it comes to the health of your pet. Enough water and shade are essential to keep your dog safe over summer, they'll struggle to let you know when they're feeling a little under the weather from the heat, so you'll need your mighty fur-parent instincts to kick in!

Be sure to set aside some time to check over your dog's health and daily habits, they do say health is wealth.

Pop into Bridport Pharmacy to see our new range of pet care products to keep your furry friend healthy and happy.



Brought to you by



If you have an up coming event or something you would like to share please contact Alison for more information:

bridreport@gmail.com

A BIG thank you to the individuals, clubs and organisations and businesses who contributed to this month's issue of the Bridreport

