

# BRIDREPORT

## Lapwing time



It's that time of year again ... those ubiquitous, smartly feathered Masked Lapwings (*Vanellus miles*) aka Plovers, that are usually just there in the background, are nesting and that means their constant kekekekekekek as you approach, decoy 'broken' wings and finally the dreaded bombing, circling and coming in low, with the alarm cry at full volume.

Disconcerting, but ... according to Greg Irons from Bonorong Wildlife Park they are most unlikely to make a strike. Looking at their nest you might think they don't care too much – a mere scrape in the ground and often in a most inconvenient spot, the footy field for instance or the Village Green.

Lapwings make up for their scrap of a nest by being extremely dedicated and protective parents, and that's what they are doing, protecting their young which are out and about feeding just hours after hatching. Masked Lapwings are fully protected, so moving or destroying their nests and eggs is illegal. If possible, it is best to avoid the nesting areas for the few weeks as the chicks grow but if not, Greg Irons suggests carrying something tall above your head as they will dive at the highest point. So arm yourself with a stick, walking pole, maybe an umbrella (useful with this unpredictable weather) and stride out, looking and feeling brave!

Photo: Courtesy of *The Mercury Newspaper*

This report is proudly sponsored by

## S.A.L.T. @ BRIDPORT

### Opening Hours

Summer - 7 days from 10am

Winter - Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 10am

Or by appointment - Phone 0417 228 882



17 Bentley Street Bridport



## Bridport Village Niche Market

*Goodies proudly Handcrafted, Baked & Grown here in Tassie.*

Bridport Community Hall & CWA Hall

Saturday 3 September  
9am - 12:30pm

*Winter woollies, Produce, Hot food, Live Music & more ...*



To book a stall or site call Viv: 0457 622 221

Leesa: 0428 661 612

Email: [bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com](mailto:bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com)

Facebook: Bridport Village Market

Proudly supported by CWA Tasmania



### An interesting and unusual visitor

Bridport baker Jai had an unusual visitor recently. Sitting on his verandah, enjoying the early evening, Jai was amazed when a Masked Owl landed on the railing and sat regarding him for over an hour, in fact stayed there for a full 24 hours. It flew off, returning a second time to sit quietly before taking its leave for the last time. Jai is feeling very privileged.

The Tasmanian Masked Owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae castanops*, *castanops* referring to its chestnut-coloured face) is a subspecies of Masked Owl that occurs only in Tasmania. Weighing in at 1260 grams and with a body length of 47–51 cm, it is the world's largest barn owl. It is listed as endangered; breeding pair numbers are between 500 and 1000 and although they are widespread, the numbers in any particular area are low.

The Owl is nocturnal, hunting at night for small mammals and birds. Generally, it is a silent hunter, rarely seen, but you might have heard its husky, screeching call, enough to give you goosebumps. Their prey is mainly introduced rodents and rabbits in agricultural areas but in less disturbed habitats they prefer Eastern Barred Bandicoots and other small native creatures; they will even take Pademelons which can be four times the size of the owls.

They live in a range of habitats, usually below 600m in altitude but do rely on there being some mature forest as well as other native forests and woodlands that open out into pasture and cleared spaces for hunting. Masked Owls pair for life and occupy a permanent territory. They rely on hollows in old growth trees for roosting and nesting; being a large bird, they need a large hollow to fit themselves and their off-spring which could be up to four owlets.

The clearing of mature forests in particular is one of the main threats to not only the Masked Owls but the many other creatures that live in that environment. A big old dead or dying tree might look unsightly to some, or a good source of firewood to others, but for the birds, mammals, insects, spiders, reptiles and many other inhabitants of those trees they offer shelter, a home and food, in fact they are nature's boarding houses. It is so important that we recognise the role these mature trees have in our ecosystem.



### Stats a Fact - Bridport Census



Census figures have been released for 2021. They do not specifically report on Bridport Village, but there are figures available for the 7262

postcode which is a broader area extending from Bellingham in the west to Boobyalla in the east.

Population 2021 = 1,891. 2016 census = 1,707. Increase 10.8%

Bridport is growing slightly faster than Australia overall which is up 9% from 23.4 million in 2016 to 25.5 million in 2021.

Tasmania's population is still just 2.2% of Australia's total, but up from 509,965 in 2016 to 557,569 in the 2021 census.

It will be of little surprise to know that Bridport's citizens are increasingly older than average. Our 60+ age group now number 715 – that's 37.8% of our 1,891 overall population. It's up from 34.2% in 2016, and well above the over-60 population for the whole of Australia, which is a much lower 23.0%.

There were 1,258 dwellings recorded in the Bridport 7262 postcode at the 2021 census; we averaged 2.1 cars per dwelling; and for families with children, we had 1.9 children per family.

Consistent with the more aged population, Bridport's median weekly income per household was \$1,224, but this is 30% below the National average of \$1,746 – although Tasmania overall averages a much lower \$1,358.

So that's a snapshot of how Bridport is growing and getting older, but there is a wealth of other data such as religion, ethnicity, health status, education, etc that can be accessed from the [abs.gov.au](http://abs.gov.au) website.

---

### Nordic Walkers

The Nordic Walkers meet at the Bridport Hall at 9.30 am Wednesday and Thursday, poles are not required.

Leisurely walks from the Bridport hall and coffee afterwards.

All Welcome!



## Bridport Country Women's Association



Halfway along Richard Street, flanked by a neighbouring Norfolk pine, Jean Paton lives in bright comfortable retirement, next door to her past home that her husband John had built some years before.

She grew up in Launceston, married and raised four children, one son Ian, aka "The General" achieving AFL fame playing for Hawthorn.

In later years when Bridport became home, Jean taught art and other subjects at Scottsdale High School until retirement brought her time for more golf, along with community interests and card and board games. Crib is a fave card game that she enjoys playing regularly with a few of the 'local card sharps'.

Jean enjoyed having involvement with her local community, among other interests, she was a valued secretary for the local CWA branch for many years, painted with Brushstrokes and helped out with running the CWA monthly markets.

In 1999 Jean and John whilst holidaying in UK made contact with the Women's Institute head quarters, the English equivalent of CWA Australia. In turn this led them to being hosted by several members from Bridport in Dorset who kindly showed them around some of the historical sights of Bridport, UK style.

Bridport was and remains, an important rope making centre, for centuries local makers spun long lengths in their backyards from locally grown flax and hemp, the ropes were then dried across the extra wide Main Street, designed for this purpose.

Back as far as 1213 King John exhorted the people of Bridport to make ' **night and day as many ropes for ships both large and as many cables as you can.**'

The gruesome hangman's noose was also produced there, a reliable item that was fearfully known as the Bridport Dagger.



Amongst other historical sights about the region reigns The Dorset giant, reputedly dating back to the 10<sup>th</sup> century, is a 180 foot tall club wielding naked figure, cut into a nearby Dorset chalky hillside, known as 'the rude man', pictured here with appropriately placed CWA insignia for those of delicate sensibilities.

Don't forget our monthly CWA market at the town hall. We have available for use a table and space for community fund raisers, also car boot sales welcome, ring Viv our hard working market coordinator for bookings and information.

Raewyn  
Bridport CWA



## Prostate Health by Dr Jo Grey



### Prostate Health

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month however, there are other forms of prostate disease which can also affect men, so it's helpful to know what the symptoms are and when to seek medical attention.

#### ***What exactly is the prostate gland?***

The prostate gland (the prostate) is an organ of the male reproductive system. It is about the size of a walnut and is found at the base of the bladder. The thin tube that allows urine and semen to pass out of the penis (the urethra) runs through the prostate gland. Alkaline fluid produced by the prostate gland helps to nourish sperm and leaves the urethra as ejaculate (semen).

#### ***Prostate disease and ageing***

Around 25 per cent of men aged 55 years and over have a prostate condition. This increases to 50 per cent by the age of 70 years. Early stages of prostate disease may have no symptoms.

If you are a man and you are in your 50s or 60s, talk to your doctor about whether you need to have your prostate gland checked and, if so, how often. If you have a family history of prostate disease (or if you have particular concerns), talk to your doctor earlier about when prostate checks might be suitable for you.

#### ***Types of prostate disease***

The three most common forms of prostate disease are inflammation (prostatitis), non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate (benign prostatic hyperplasia, or BPH) and prostate cancer. A man may experience one or more of these conditions. While prostatitis can affect men of any age, it is more common in younger men, aged between 30 and 50 years.

#### ***The main types of prostatitis are:***

- bacterial prostatitis – acute or chronic bacterial infection
- non-bacterial prostatitis – inflamed prostate, also known as chronic pelvic pain syndrome (CPPS).

In most cases, the cause of prostatitis is unknown. Bacterial prostatitis responds well to antibiotic drugs that can get into the prostate. CPPS is more difficult to manage and may involve having a number of tests to rule out other causes of symptoms.

#### ***Non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate (BPH)***

Non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate, or benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), is more common as men get older. It is not life threatening, but can significantly affect your quality of life.

The enlargement of the prostate gland (which surrounds the top of the urethra) causes the urethra to narrow, and puts pressure on the base of the bladder. This can lead to obstruction (blockage) in the flow of urine. Depending on symptoms and other medical conditions, BPH may be managed conservatively (with medication) or surgically (with an operation to reduce the size of the prostate).

Prostate cancer typically affects men over the age of 50 years. Around 16,000 Australians are diagnosed every year. The cause remains unknown, although advancing age and family history are known to be contributing factors. In the early stages, the cancer cells are confined to the prostate gland. With the more aggressive types of prostate cancer, cancer cells enter the vascular and lymphatic systems early and spread to other parts of the body where they develop secondary tumours, particularly in the bones.

**Early detection of any cancer can save your life.** There is no single, simple test to detect prostate cancer. It is important to make your own decision about whether to be tested or not. Ensure you get good quality information from your doctor to make an informed decision about whether testing is appropriate for you.

#### ***Symptoms of prostate disease***

In its earliest stages, prostate disease may or may not be associated with symptoms. The symptoms of prostate disease depend on the condition, but may include:

- difficulties urinating, such as trouble starting the flow of urine
- the urge to urinate often, particularly at night
- feeling as though the bladder can't be fully emptied
- painful urination
- blood in the urine or blood coming from the urethra independent of urination.

Blood in the urine is often due to causes not related to the prostate. Always see your doctor if you find blood in your urine.

#### ***Diagnosis of prostate disease***

Prostate disease is diagnosed using a variety of tests, including:

- blood test for prostate specific antigen (PSA test; discuss this with your doctor)
- mid-stream urine (MSU) tests to look for infection or blood in the urine
- ultrasound scans and urinary flow studies
- biopsies of the prostate.

Digital rectal examination (DRE), where the doctor inserts a gloved finger into your rectum to check the size of your prostate is no longer recommended as a screening test in Australia.

***cont'd on page 5***

## The Scottsdale – Bridport Tramway

At a meeting of the North-Eastern Inter-State Harbour League held at the Scottsdale Municipal Hall in 1910, a resolution was passed for the consideration of a Tramway to be constructed between Scottsdale and Bridport, to capitalise on opportunities to transport goods to the Port of Bridport for export. A further expectation would be the upgrade of port facilities at Bridport to accommodate increased trade from up-district exporters. At this meeting, a sum of £1,000 for a survey was requested to be placed on the Public Works Schedule, and Mr Thomas Bakhap, MHA was asked to place the motion before the Minister of Public Works, The Hon. A. Hean.

At a subsequent meeting of the League in April 1913, Mr P. H. (Percy) Tucker, a Director of the Tasmanian Timber and Tramway Co, noted that a Tramway Survey Bill was approved. He then made a recommendation that the Scottsdale Tramway junction the Timber Company's line at Muddy Creek. Mr Tucker also resolved that if the League was satisfied with the jetty accommodation, the "Timber Company would deal liberally with exporters".

Discussion ensued over whether it should be a Railway or Tramway, and which gauge of line would be selected, as a narrow gauge would not suit "up-district" exporters, who would not want the added costs of unshipping at Scottsdale, to reload on the Bridport line. After all, the whole point of the line was to reduce the cost of shipping goods 60 to 70 miles to the port of Launceston. Mr R. E. (Richard) Holmes stated that if the League goes for a Tramway, then the prospects of a future Railway would not proceed, as he contended that the Tramway would only suit the needs of Scottsdale, and not the up-district trade. Notwithstanding, the concept of a Railway did receive the support of the Tasmanian Premier.

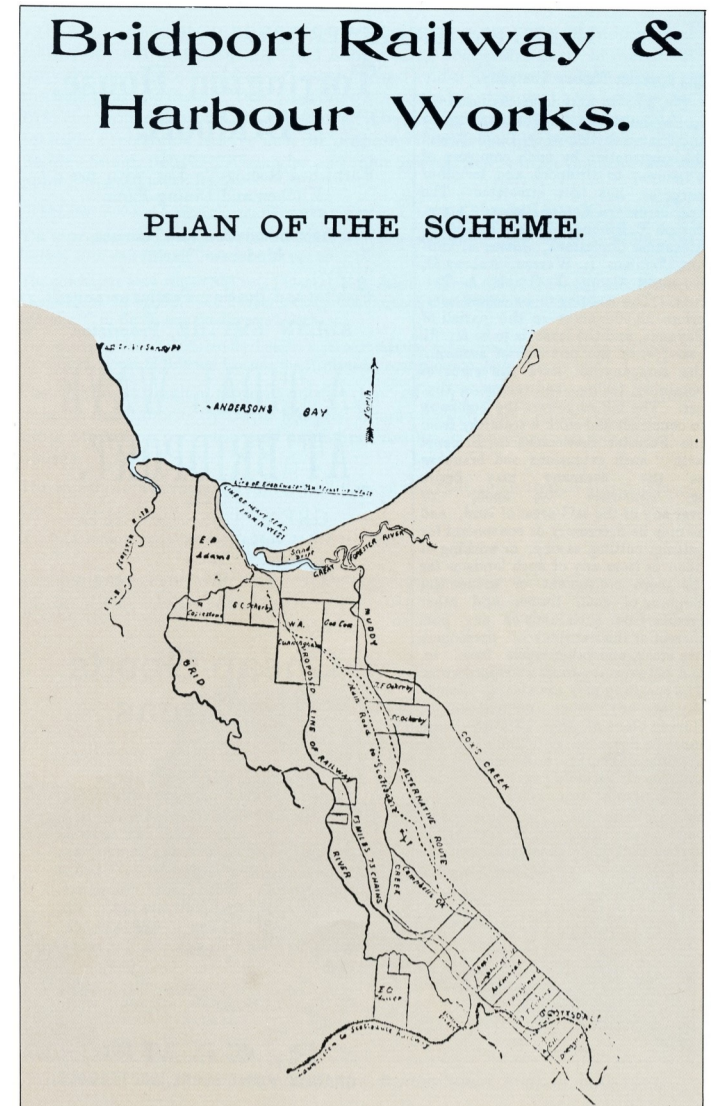
Limited progress was made on this scheme until 1919, when the project resurfaced.

Letters to various newspapers articulated concern at why this important project remained idle. Further evidence of its viability was the example that the freight cost from Dorset was about 6s 6d per ton to Launceston, whereas it would only be about 2s 6d per ton to Bridport. To that end, after the Scottsdale Municipality elections in 1919, a Ratepayers' Poll was conducted, delivering 297 in favour and 69 against. All 28 Bridport ratepayers voted yes.

Alas, in 1919, parochialism was the order of the day, with controversial Scottsdale commentators articulating their concerns in the media about Launceston believing they were the "hub of the universe", whereas Hobart was allegedly oblivious to anything of value North of the Derwent, other than the new Hydro-Electricity Scheme, and that the Port of Hobart was allegedly "God's own harbour". This being the case, Bridport had little hope of any support from the Government for their Railway/Tramway and improved port facilities, and the project did not proceed.

*The Dorset Tasmania History Society aims to record and preserve the history of our region.*

*You can contact them via their popular Facebook page or via their President, Nigel Mercer, on 0412 063 024.*



**Map:** Bridport Railway and Harbour Works – Plan of the Scheme. Source: History of Bridport, J. Jennings.

Jeff Jennings has authorised the republication of this map

## Treatment for prostate disease

*cont'd from page 4*

Treatment for prostate disease is based on the specific diagnosis (BPH, prostatitis or cancer).

Prostate cancer treatment is tailored to suit individual circumstances. The nature of the cancer, other health problems the person may have, and their wishes are all be taken into account.

Management approaches for prostate cancer include:

- active surveillance
- surgery – for example, prostatectomy (removal of the prostate)
- radiotherapy
- ablative treatments such as high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) and NanoKnife®
- hormone treatment (androgen deprivation therapy)
- chemotherapy
- watchful waiting.

## Where to get more information

Your GP or urologist (kidney and bladder specialist) can provide you with information and discuss whether testing is appropriate for you. The Prostate Foundation of Australia and Kidney Health Australia also have a website with information about prostate health.

## Fiesta funds help Guides to regatta

The Bridport Girl Guides group hopes to put a donation from the Tassie Scallop Fiesta towards its members attendance at the Statewide regatta to be held at Snug next March.

The guides were one of a number of local community groups to benefit from the successful 2022 Fiesta.

Fiesta co-ordinator Gina Scott said it was good to be able to pay back some of the good will from organisations

“We borrowed a couple of the Guides’ gazebos to help the smooth running of the Fiesta, so there’s a bit of scratching each other’s back, that’s the only way a small community can host an event like this.”

The donation to the Guides was one of several made at the Fiesta’s wrap-up, with other groups like the Surf Club, the Scottsdale High School music group, Events at Bridport, and the Bridport Men’s Shed among those to benefit.

The leader of the Bridport Dolphins guides, Lyn Commane, said the donation was appreciated. “Like any group we always need money to help keep the activities affordable for our 20 guides.

“We’ve already got a shopping bag project underway and we like to keep the cost of uniforms down for the girls, but this money might be able to help defray the costs for the annual regatta which is always popular she said.

Scallop Fiesta co-ordinator Gina Scott (left) and leader Lyn Commane (right) celebrate with members of the Bridport Girl Guides.





**IRWINIZED FABRICATION**  
specialising in stainless steel and aluminium

**A new business located in Bridport and servicing the North-East.**

- Bench tops
- Tool boxes
- Ute trays
- Stainless steel snorkels
- Farm machinery and equipment
- Glass and wire balustrades
- Plus any general welding and repairs
- Exhausts
- Trailers
- Boat repairs

**Mathew Irwin – 0497 381 905**  
irwinized@outlook.com.au 1 Heckrath Road, Bridport



**the BRIDPORT HOTEL**

79 Main Street, Bridport TAS 7262  
Phone: 53561114

Open 7 days

Lunch 12 - 2 pm and Dinner 5 - 8 pm

Dine in or takeaway

Weekly Wednesday Parmi night


Friday happy hour with local meat raffle

Tote, Keno and Gaming, Bottleshop

We offer a wide range of detailing services for all types of vehicles

With 20+ years of experience with luxury models, fleets, 4x4s and daily drives

Contact us anytime **0474 754 698** for a free quote  
Located in Bridport Available 7 days a week





**NORTHERN TAS PEST CONTROL**

**0439 943 232**

[info@northerntaspestcontrol.com.au](mailto:info@northerntaspestcontrol.com.au)

- 100% locally owned and operated•
- Commercial, industrial & domestic services
- Courteous, personalised, high quality services

Call Vaughan for a quote

**Bridport Distilling Co**



Opening Hours

Wednesday & Thursday 12pm to 5pm

Friday & Saturday 12pm to 10pm

Sunday 12pm to 8pm

Offering our very own Bridport Gin. A very focused North East Wine list celebrating our beautiful wine region. Delicious cold beer on tap as well as Little Rivers Brewing Co products. Serving pizzas, and an array of grazing platters.

Contact: 101 Main Street, Bridport, Tasmania, 7262  
[info@bridportdistillingco.com.au](mailto:info@bridportdistillingco.com.au)



**JOE'S ELECTRICAL**

At Joe's Electrical we're a small team of electricians operating in North East Tasmania. We specialise in a wide variety of areas including domestic, industrial, solar, heat pumps, basic data and more...

Contact Joe's Electrical today:  
0409 920 629 - [jk@joeselectrical.com.au](mailto:jk@joeselectrical.com.au)

## Palms by Mike Douglas

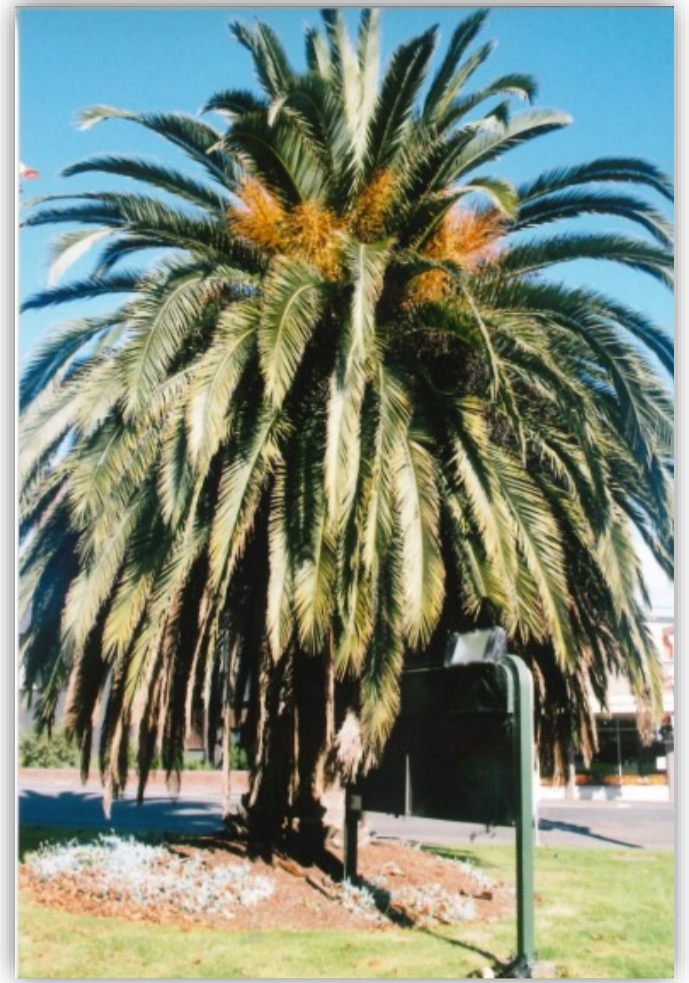
Palm trees don't occur naturally in Tasmania. The nearest native palm is the cabbage-tree palm of the temperate zone of Australia's east coast that comes as far south as Gippsland in Victoria. There are a few of these in Bridport gardens, including at the junction of Westwood street and Cross Street. The frond leaflets have a characteristic drooping tip.

New Zealand cabbage-trees, also known as lily-palms, are widespread in Bridport. However, despite their palm-like appearance they are not true palms - although they do belong to a closely related plant family.

The most eye-catching palms in Bridport hail from the Canary Islands. The Canary Islands date palm, botanical name *Phoenix canariensis*, can attain a height of 20 metres with a trunk of one metre diameter, capped with massive fronds up to seven metres. The most usual dimensions are somewhat less. The orange-red fruits are barely edible. (The dates we enjoy came from a related palm).

There are some sizeable specimens in Westwood and Bentley streets, possibly planted as far back as the 1930s. Other plantings are at the former resort in Main Street.

The magnificent example illustrated is in the grounds of Launceston Albert Hall at the junction of Tamar and Cimitiere streets.



## U3A (University of the Third Age) - Art Painting Group - Everyone Welcome

The Bridport Community Hall is available every Friday from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

Painters can come for any length of time that suits them. This will be a flexible, friendly group for helping each other for companionship and sharing of ideas.

Beginners very welcome. U3A co-ordinators will be there to welcome you.

For information contact: Ruth 0427 528 182, Jenny 0418 343 926



Richard L. Easterbrook  
Chartered Accountant

134 Waterhouse Road, Bridport

Phone 0418 137 627

Call me to discuss your  
accounting requirements



Bridport Cafe

**Trading Hours - Open 7 days**

**Mon to Fri - 7.30am to 3pm**

**Sat, Sun & Public holidays  
7.30am to 4pm**

Private function catering available  
Contact: 0477 592 237



**BRIDPORT NEWS AGENCY**

**Phone 6356 1122**

[bridportnewsagency@outlook.com](mailto:bridportnewsagency@outlook.com)

**OPEN from 7.30 Daily**

**Great gift ideas**

**Summer essentials, Hats, Toys &  
Games, Garden & Homewares,  
Fishing, + so much more!!**

**Daisy Fresh Dry Cleaning Agent**

## Jensen's Storage Sheds

5 Heckrath Road, Bridport

Bridport's secure and easy accessed storage

Available for short or long term rental

Suitable for household, caravans, boats ...

Shed sizes:

3.0 m x 3.5 m 3.5 m x 7.5 m 9.0 m x 3.5 m

Shed contents to be insured by hirer

Contact Tim 0438 561 536  
[tim@tdjensen.com.au](mailto:tim@tdjensen.com.au)

**BRIDPORT  
AUTOWORKS**

**James Nichols, Proprietor,  
0408 280 881**

Automotive + Mechanical + Ser-  
vicing + Repairs

1 Heckrath Road, Bridport Indus-  
trial Estate

Business Hours: Mon to Fri 8.30  
am to 5.00 pm



**WOOLNORTH**  
RENEWABLES  
*Proud Owners of MUSSELROE WIND FARM*

**Bridport 10+ & 5+**

**Run or Walk**  
November 6 2022  
Cash and spot prizes  
Individual and team categories




**10+ km 10:00 am**  
**5+km 10:05 am**  
**2 km (ages 5-13) 9:30 am**

Online Registration:  
[webscorer.com/bridport10](http://webscorer.com/bridport10)  
Adults \$25  
Under 16 \$10

More info:  
[facebook.com/bridport10](https://facebook.com/bridport10)

**Bridport Bowls Club**



The Bridport bowls club has just concluded eight weeks of Friday bingo in the Bunker, which helped with fund raising and at the same time was enjoyed by a lot of people with a couple of hours to kill. It is an ongoing project of the club.

The pennant bowls season opens in mid October, and once again past or intending bowlers are welcome to come down and check out the action on the green, or contact the club for details on joining the club. It is a very enjoyable activity and also a great way to make new friends.

The annual community bowls kicks off in early January, watch for updates in the Bridreport.

**Bridport Golf Club**



*Presents*

**Marney McQueen**

**Cabaret Show**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 8 pm show

Golf Club Rooms           \$30 per person

Super provided           Bar available

Bookings contact: Mandy Hall 0438 552 224

Email: [bridportgolfclub@bigpond.com](mailto:bridportgolfclub@bigpond.com)

**Bridport Probus Club**

Next meeting 25 September at the Bunker at 10.30 am.

Kym Corfield from the Scottsdale Library has been invited to speak.

For more information contact:

President: Simon Hirst 0448 636 611

Secretary: Helen Schuurin 0428 340 579




**FROM THE EDITOR**  
**Club Outing**

Members enjoying the luncheon which was shared with our driver.

July 29th was the date 15 members from our club attended a very enjoyable luncheon at Pipers River Winery.

The day started with a stopover at Cleone's Secret Garden to view the plants and other aspects of this venue. (It would not remain secret if I you were told all the things to be seen). A mulled wine was enjoyed by those who wished to partake.

After lunch, a drop in visit to Bellingham, to view the area. (Many residents live there, along with a plethora of holiday homes). An enjoyable day for those who attended. Where to next?

Val Cocker is arranging trips to THE JERSEY BOYS in Launceston in October if members are interested.



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](mailto: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

