

BRIDREPORT

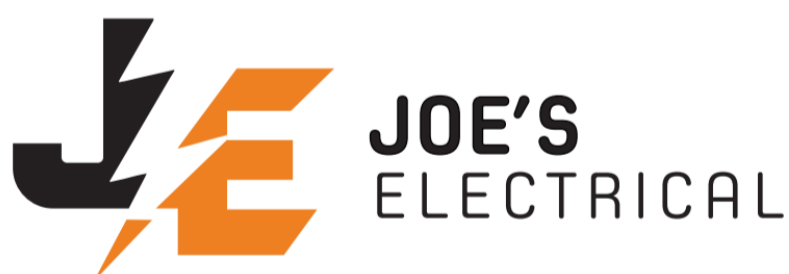
Tassie Scallop Fiesta



Big Fiesta crowd despite wintry weather

Despite turning into something of a mudfest, 3000 people crammed onto the Bridport Village Green for the Tassie Scallop Fiesta. The celebration of the scallop season opening, all things maritime and the region's finest fare and beverages was in its sixth edition. The sold-out fiesta crowd was treated to a wide range of entertainment and informative displays and demonstrations along with a series of heavy showers from soon after midday, turning the already soft village green surface into a quagmire in places. The area in front of the main stage became a mush pit instead of a mosh pit particularly through the energetic performance of headline band Captain O'Brien's Craic, with several dancers joining the boogey. That included one gentleman who came out of his gumboot but avoided a full body slam. Despite the conditions very few attendees were complaining and the vendors unanimously reported they'd had a good day. The inclusion of craypot building and an igloo dining experience were both photogenic features like the nearby fiesta throne, which appeared on many social media posts. Demonstrations by chefs on the stage inside the community hall became more popular as outdoor conditions deteriorated, as the panel of chefs cooked up some morsels as appealing to the eye as their tastebuds. Judges in the quest for the best Tassie scallop pies beavered away through much of the day to come up with a result. The remaining crowd became vocal, egged on by MC Peter Gee, during the day's culmination with the Scallop Splitters' Challenge, resulting in Hansen Chen retaining his title as top knife in the individual race and his team winning the relay ahead of the Lickety Splits. Scallop meat produced from the races was auctioned at day's end with the \$210 received to be donated to the Bridport Primary School.

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Protection for Birds

It was reported in *The Advertiser* [May 24] that a suite of 20 new accommodation units was planned as an extension to the Barnboughe Golf Dunes. As a result of input from members of the public who are nature lovers, and in keeping with his environmental consciousness, the developer has agreed to relocate the power line that was planned to have been erected over the Trent Water just upstream from the Fish Farm. The power will now be carried through the property alongside the proposed internal road network. A brilliant result !

This will protect the flourishing waterbird population and enable them to continue feeding in the area unthreatened. The area in question consists of rocky patches interspersed with weed. When the tide is low, both outgoing and incoming, it is teeming with small fish, and is a favourite place for cormorants, pelicans and white faced herons to feed.

The Trent Water is visited daily by White Bellied sea eagles, which also perch for long periods nearby. It looks as though a couple of Royal Spoonbills have made Trent Water their home this year; they can be seen sweeping their long black spoon-shaped bills from side to side through the watery mud, sifting it for small fish and crabs.



Residents have noted Owls hunting at night and the endangered Masked Owl has been photographed in the vicinity. The Nankeen Night Heron leaves its daytime roosting spots and flies to the Trent Water to fish at dusk.

This is a high priority feeding habitat that has been protected.

A thriving native bird population has also developed in the wetlands created as part of the Barnboughe Dunes courses. So there is a good chance that the bird population around the Trent Water will continue to increase.



Text and photos by Lou Brooker



FIESTA FUN

Food & Wine



Sebastian revels in storm

The stormy conditions of late July would not have had many people considering a quick dip in the ocean. But visiting backpacker worker Sebastian is not of the ordinary. The Canadian, working at Clovelly Dairies, is a regular swimmer at Goftons Beach.

As rain started to pelt down with workers completing the erection of marquees for the Scallop Fiesta Sebastian cut a strange figure running helter skelter clad in only shorts and carrying towel and smart phone in outstretched hand to record a selfie video.

“I’m from Quebec, so I’m used to the cold, and the water is so cold it feels great when you get out,” he said.



FIESTA FUN



Photo acknowledgment:
NB Media



Cooking Demonstrations



Face Painting



Entertainment

Many entertainment choices including Tori Rattray, Cotton Pony, Scattabrain and **Captain O'Brien's Craic** (pictured) who regaled with their 7-piece Punk/Folk band drawing influences from traditional Celtic sounds.

Bridport Girl Guides



Bridport Girl Guides held their annual unit camp on 23-25th June at Carnaroo Paper Beach.

The younger 'Puggle' Guides slept in the bunkhouse and the older guides tented.

Girls arrived by bus, hungry for tea. Following their tea they did some star gazing and native animal spotting. Not many spotted due to a lot of chatter and laughing!

Saturday was filled in with a Wide Game in search of treasure . The Unit had landed on a deserted island that was known to have pirates. The girls set off in their patrols to complete challenges hopefully to get close to the treasure. These included: making a bush donut, camophlaging a bag by tie dying it, making a hot milo on a gas stove whilst de coding a message, creating some bush art and building a raft to hold the patrol. We then proceeded to the water and in knee deep water tried to float the rafts. All sank!

We then got word that the pirates had been seen hiding the treasure on the other side of the camp. With that there was a rush to find it. However in doing so the guides were attacked by pirates who ambushed them using water cannons. Needless to say lots of laughs and fun when the treasure was found and shared. The treasure consisted of silver charms that could be made into ear rings or necklaces, gold coins and bubble blowers. Of course this was followed by hot showers and getting dressed for a WAGGS Banquet. Guides dressed in costumes from all over the world.

They then had to cook the banquet. The Puggles cooked pizzas and mini Quiche Lorraine's inside and the older girls cooked stir fry chicken and noodles, tacos and Bhajas outside, which were all shared, some girls trying chop sticks! Saturday evening saw us all rug up and enjoy a campfire led by some Olaves who had come to visit. After toasting marshmallows we returned to the hall as the weather was starting to break.

During the night it poured with rain. On Sunday morning the outside leaders came in and said all girls had slept well but they did have internal water features in their tents! Consequently those tents went into the skip bin. As it continues to rain the Olaves took the Sunday program with lots of fun activities. Following lunch we made the decision to go home a bit early, so at the conclusion of our Guides Own, we packed up very wet tents and shelters, cleaned up , loaded onto the bus, with all guides were returned safely back to Bridport, having had an awesome camp but extremely tired.

Lyn Commane
Dorset District
Manager



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.

August 2	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Bingo
		Lunch at Bridport Cafe
		Games - Old favourites, or try a new one
August 9	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Guest speaker - Lou Brooker - Environmentalist
		Lunch
		Games - Old favourites, or try a new one
August 16	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	DVD - A feel good musical - TBA
		Lunch
		Games - Old favourites, or try a new one
August 23	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Show and Tell and Funny Quiz Trivia
		Lunch
		Games - Old favourites, or try a new one
August 30	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11-12.30	Gardening Day, share cuttings, plants, bulbs
		Lunch
		Games - Old favourites, or try a new one



Lions Club of Bridport



Christmas in July Lunch

Lions Club of Bridport hosted a Christmas in July Lunch on Sunday, 9th July at Bridport Bay Inn. We had 88 people attend, including a bus load from George Town Lions Club and Senior Citizens, Members of Kings Meadows Lions Club and Bridport Lions Club and Community Members.

We were entertained by Jan and Glen Foster playing their guitars and organising community Christmas Carols Singing, a visit by Santa and Mrs Claus, and lots of laughter and fun times shared.

Thank you to Leanne and her team from Bridport Bay Inn for hosting this function for Lions Club of Bridport.



Bridport/Lilydale Lions Club Changeover Dinner

On Saturday, 15th July Members of Lions Club of Bridport attended their Annual Lions Club Changeover Lunch with Lions Club of Lilydale at The Bowls Club at Lilydale.



The Following Office Bearers for 2023/24 were nominated for Lions Club of Bridport:

President – Ann Maree O’Keefe

Vice President – Jan Foster

Secretary – Leonie Johnston

Treasurer – Jenny Cox

Congratulations to Lions Club of Lilydale Members for the very successful and enjoyable Lions Club Changeover Lunch. We enjoyed a great afternoon, delicious lunch and were entertained by Guest Pianists Mackenzie and Philip Adkins – who are both very talented and played very easy listening music!



Winter Solstice — Need for feed fundraiser

Over 20 community members gathered on Gofton’s Beach on Thursday, 22nd June to celebrate Winter Solstice with a chilly winter dip. Funds donated supported Karen Rainbow’s Red Dirt Café who are running a program each Wednesday from the Nugget Sellars Pavilion at Scottsdale.

Karen and her team of volunteers are providing meals for the needy in our community each Wednesday with up to 50 meals served each week.

Donations of \$740.00 in cash were collected at the Winter Solstice on Gofton’s Beach – a huge thank you to our Bridport/North East Community Members for your support.

The Red Dirt Café opens each Wednesday from 4.30 – 7.00 pm focussing on good, hearty meals. If you would like to donate food items or have some time to assist with the preparation of meals each Wednesday – please contact Karen Rainbow on 0408 635 230.



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.

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

Leonie Johnston
Secretary
Mobile 0438 281352
Email: leonie.bridport@gmail.com



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When you come to the pharmacy to buy reliever inhalers, the pharmacist might check if you (or your child) is on a preventer and how often they have been using a reliever.

This is so the pharmacist can assess whether you are managing your asthma well, or whether you may need to see your doctor.

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Scotland The Brave by Mike Douglas

Some happenings are surreal. On a sunny July morning I was sitting on the patio reading the 'Age' when above the rustling of a lazy winter breeze I seemed to hear bagpipes. Bagpipes in Bridport? Must be dreaming I mused, then it came again, clearly and unmistakably the strains of a medley of Scottish airs emanating from expertly played bagpipes.

Curious as a cat I walked down to Westwood Street, seemingly the source of the music, then realised it was below in the caravan park. Sure enough, on the rocks alongside Croquet Lawn Beach stood a lone piper playing for a group from two nearby caravans. They and the pipers were visitors from Hobart and Burnie and were surprised to learn that the performance was audible from 500 metres away.

They professed an interest in Bridport's history, stimulated on reading the information displays along the foreshore track - so I told them of the tramway that passed close to their caravans and ran onto the now vanished 300 metre jetty, completed in 1913, extending out from the rocks of the piper's stance. Two concrete-lined cavities are now the only reminders of this pier where the schooner 'Rahra' loaded sawn timber for Melbourne.

The visitors commented favourably on the unusual character of a seaside town with a foreshore largely untrammelled by building development. "We'll probably revisit next year, so keep your ears pricked", said the piper.



Relics of the original tramway jetty at Croquet Lawn Beach



Donations of pre-loved books, glass jars and tennis racquets welcome at the Pavilion Information Centre

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Audience amused and enlightened



An appreciative audience at the Bridport Golf Club was entertained and enlightened at the Mariners' Muse for the start of the Tassie Scallop Fiesta fringe.

A panel of four speakers spoke of their diverse experience with the sea or fishing industry to an appreciative audience.

Former company executive Tim Hess gave a history of the Petuna fishing organisation, including the joys of chaperoning his mother-in-law through a sales trip to the USA. They were on a mission to find markets for their relatively new aquaculture production.

Dr Louise Adams continued the aquaculture theme alluding to her research into the intricacies of fish digestive systems.

Filling in at short notice ocean kayaker and keen photographer Jeff Jennings had people spellbound by his images and videos of birdlife among other subjects.

Flinders Island farmer, fisher and tourism operator James Luddington entertained with his take on local history and a little-known fact of how to walk from Tasmania to Victoria.

The Golf Club also hosted a special themed tournament on Saturday, Fiesta eve.

Mariners' Muse



Debbie Reid, Ros Gerke, Urbana Morton and Steve Gibson



Louise Brooker, Robin Sullivan and Bart O'Brien



Linda Noonan, Karlene Cuthbertson, Mandy Hall, June Atkinson and Christine Russell slaving over supper in the kitchen

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

