BRIDREPORT

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Tassie Scallop Fiesta

Circumnavigation re-enactment to be retold

A keen sailor and boatbuilder fresh back from a ceremonial expedition to England will be one of the speakers at the

Mariners' Muse storytelling session to signal the start of the Tassie Scallop Fiesta fringe.

Craig Dixon has been a representative of George Town's Bass and Flinders Maritime Museum for the reburial of the remains of Matthew Flinders.

Flinders' coffin was dug up during excavations in London and arrangements made to rebury his remains in the village of Donington, where he was born.

Mr Dixon will join the commemoration on July 13 before returning home in time for the Muse.

However, he's likely to speak more about his experience in the wake of Flinders' circumnavigation of Tasmania rather than the trip to his reburial.

Mr Dixon helped build then sailed the replica sloop Norfolk right around Tasmania 200 years after the original voyage proved the colony was an island.

He will be among a panel of four diverse speakers assembled to relate their tales of involvement with the sea.

The Muse this year will be held at the Bridport Footy clubrooms, taking advantage of the big screen, but will follow the tried-and-true formula for the popular event – a welcoming scallop taster a couple of presentations, some food served in an intermission, then another two speakers and an open forum to wind things up.

Adelaide businessman David Harris, who came to Bridport to look at a boat and went home owner of the whole ferry operation, will also speak about his sailing adventures from Hong Kong to Port Adelaide along with Maritime Safety Authority officer Claire Cunningham, who will share some of her life on the water at work and play.



Maritime enthusiast Craig Dixon at Bass and Flinders Maritime Museum

And Mike Stevens is bound to extoll the virtues of a

recreational fishing life, having a spent a lifetime studying and enjoying the subject.

Tickets for Mariners' Muse like tickets for all Fiesta events are only available through the tassiescallopfiesta.com.au website.

But some other organisations are also getting involved with the Fiesta vibe so Bridport Hotel will host a special trivia night, St Marks restaurant is cooking up a murder mystery night, Nic Betts' golf simulator is offering a hole-in-one challenge throughout the lead-up week, Bridport Bay Inn will host a special oyster and whisky tasting evening and the Bridport Golf Club is holding a themed competition. Information and ticketing is available through the individual organisations.



Seaview Village Association Inc. 26 Albert Street Bridport PO Box 138 Bridport 7262 0438 28 1352 Email: secretary@seaviewvillage.au Notice of Annual General Meeting Friday, 27th September

The Bunker Club

Commencing at 9.30 am

WANTED

Community interest articles

Please email:

bridreport@gmail.com

Help us share information to the community!

Bridport District Postal History

Whilst European settlement in the Northeast commenced in the Bridport District as early as 1833, we often wonder how their isolation enabled communication with the outside world. These early settlers needed to maintain communication, not only for contact with relatives, both in Tasmania, and abroad, but for mercantile pursuits too. As a result, postal services became the communication lifeblood to the outside world to Launceston and beyond.



The first overland mail delivery service in Van Diemen's Land (indeed in Australia) commenced in 1816 from Hobart to Launceston. In those days, mail carriers used convict labour to perform the task, and the first mailman absconded with all the mail, forcing the implementation of a contract delivery system. This was extended to George Town in 1823, with the opening of a Post office in 1822. Post Offices that grew in the Northeast were initially under the control of the George Town Post Office. Prior to 1850, those postal workers usually did so as a side line to other government appointments.

The earliest records of postal services in the Northeast indicate that contractors were engaged to ensure the mail went through. The earliest record of formal postal services in the Bridport District commenced at Bowood in 1865. Postal deliveries to Bowood came from George Town, passing through the Lower Piper, and on to Cape Portland, stopping at settlements that grew along the way.

The discovery of gold in the Northeast, at locations such as Lefroy, Waterhouse, etc, in the 1870s led to more formalised postal services to those locations. Indeed, the postmaster at Waterhouse operated from the Commissioner's Camp, with Mr A.J. Morrison appointed as postmaster in 1869.

One of the fundamental problems, and most complained about, with postal delivery in the Northeast was the condition of the roads/ tracks, which often prevented delivery in Winter. The time mail took to be delivered to Launceston from Waterhouse could take four to five days each way. A two-week turnaround was considered unacceptable for responses to issues of mercantile or official business. A letter of complaint was sent by miners and others to the Colonial Secretary, raising concerns about the length of time taken for postal services, arguing that a letter sent via Scottsdale on Monday would be in Launceston by Tuesday, with a response by Friday. The miners recommended surveying a route to Tucker's Corner to reduce the mail transit time.

The cost of posting a letter prior to 1853 was collected from the receiver. Many used this as a means to discover if someone had moved or passed away, as such letters were returned if they could not find the addressee. In 1853, the Postal Act introduced pre-paid mail with the introduction of adhesive stamps. Letters sent overland from Hobart or Launceston would cost one penny for mail up to four ounces in weight, and four pence per half ounce for ship letters.

Tenders were variously released throughout Tasmania in 1869 for the establishment of official post offices. The successful tenderer for a Post Office at Telegraph Point, near Mt Direction and Cape Portland, via Piper's River, Bridport and Waterhouse, was Thomas Malley. Whilst a formal Post Office was not established at Bridport until much later, the above tender must have instigated the establishment or relocation of the Bowood postal receiving house to Bridport, as it appears to have moved there in 1869. Whilst the post office at Bowood did not close until 1893, once Bridport received official town status in 1883, an official post office was established there.

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.

Influenza

Influenza is a common viral infection that affects people of all ages. While it may be a mild disease for some, it can also cause serious illness and even lead to hospitalisation in otherwise healthy people.



Vaccination, administered annually by a health professional is the safest means of protection from influenza. Common side effects from the vaccine include mild pain, redness or swelling where the vaccine was given. These side effects usually last for a few days and go away without any treatment.

Babies and children younger than 5 years have a higher risk of complications from influenza potentially leading to hospitalisation. Even healthy children can get very sick from influenza. Influenza vaccination is especially important for some. If you are not eligible for a free vaccine, you can buy the vaccine. Talk to your health professional to find out how much it will cost.

Vaccination is very important for people aged 65 years and over as they are at high risk of getting sick from influenza. All adults aged 65 and over are eligible for a free influenza vaccine that is specifically made to boost the immune response for better protection.

You should get vaccinated each year from April onwards to be protected before the influenza season. The peak influenza season is usually June to September in most parts of Australia, however it is never too late to get the vaccine as influenza can spread all year.

Vaccination appointments can be booked at a range of health services including, your local doctors surgery or pharmacy. Please do not hesitate to call Bridport Pharmacy on 6356 1555.

Waterhouse Recovers by Lou Brooker

The February fire burned hot in the Waterhouse Conservation Area. Everything above ground was charred black and brown. Dry lightning had struck and strong winds had fanned the fire quickly causing ignition of the coastal scrub and forest.



Afterwards, the area was closed to the public while Parks and

Wildlife teams made repairs. Headquarters Road was resheeted, culverts were cleaned out and many overhanging burnt trees were cleared away. This mammoth task has now been completed to make the area accessible once again.

When it rained the first vegetation to regenerate was in the grasslands. Species like the grass tree, the rushes, the sedges, the native grasses and lilies can regrow after fire from dormant buds that are underground. These survive the fire because they are somewhat protected from the heat of the fire by the soil.

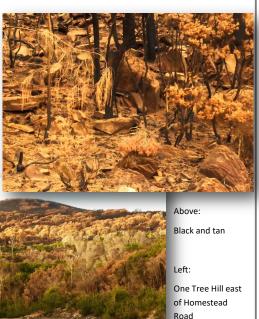
Eucalypts have buds under the bark which, after the fire, will produce new shoots up and down the trunk.

In the case of wattles, heat can cause the seeds to pop out of their pods but it can also break the dormancy of seeds already in the soil.

With the coastal banksia and the tea tree, fire causes the opening of woody fruits releasing seeds onto the soil surface.

The heathlands and coastal forests of Waterhouse are of high conservation value containing some 30 rare and vulnerable plant species and it is not the first time they have been ravaged by fire.

It will be interesting to watch the recovery process.



Bridport Lions Club



RAW – Eb's Ride for RAW

Lions Club of Bridport supported Eb's Ride for RAW with a donation of \$3,000. Ebony Lette raised a total of over \$16,000 to support the work of RAW (Rural Alive and Well) who provide face to face support to individuals in rural and remote communities across Tasmania.

RAW works to support participants who are experiencing greater situational stressors and challenges, by using tools that help minimise the risk of suicide.

The support RAW provide is nonclinical, non-crisis and with no costs.



Ebony rode her horse from Georgetown to St Helens a total of 200 kilometres over six days.

Thank you to our NE Community Members who supported Lions Club of Bridport at the Free Community BBQ on the Bridport Village Green on Monday, 20th May from 6.00 pm and generously donated to Eb's Ride for RAW.

Christmas in July Lunch – The Bunker Club

Lions Club of Bridport are organizing a Christmas in July Lunch on Sunday, 28th July at The Bunker Club. Bridport Community Members are warmly welcomed to attend this fun afternoon of great food, entertainment, singing and laughter. Cost is \$35.00 per person. RSVP to Leonie Johnston (mobile 0438 281352) or Jan Foster (mobile 0417 518 811).



The Eastern Spinebill by Mike Douglas



Have you seen this bird? A small honeyeater about the size of a sparrow, it frequents Bridport gardens in autumn and winter, especially those with some nectar-producing Australian plants.

Seemingly possessed with boundless energy it darts at speed around the shrubbery, sometimes hovering in front of a flower. The piping voice is surprisingly loud for such a small bird.

When spring arrives many depart for local heathlands and dry bush where that long bill is used to probe the tubular flower of various wild flowers.

U3A Bridport Seniors Group



All seniors welcome - Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm

		Bridport Hall	
July 3	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee	
	11	Bingo	
	12.30	Lunch at The Bridport Hotel	
July 10	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee	
	11-12.30	Guest speaker Retired Prison Guard	
	12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games	
July 17	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee	
	11.00	Movie	
	12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games	
July 24	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	
5017 24	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee	
	11.00	Bring your favourite winter recipe to share	
	12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games	
		Lunch followed by card/board games	
July 31	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee	
	11.00	Favourite board games	
	12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games	

Spectacular Fireworks Night Dazzles Community

Last month, the skies above Bridport were transformed into a kaleidoscope of colours as the annual Fireworks Night brought together families, friends, and neighbours in a celebration of light. Held at Peter Sattler's property, the event drew a record-breaking crowd of around 600 attendees eagerly awaiting the fireworks display.

The festivities began at dusk, with hot food and a giant bonfire, before the main event. Children's laughter filled the air, while parents and friends took the opportunity to relax and catch up with one another.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, about 200 cars began rolling in, and anticipation grew among the crowd. The evening air buzzed with excitement, and just after 7 pm, the first firework shot into the sky, marking the start of a spectacular 20-minute show.

Each explosion of colour was met with oohs and aahs from the crowd, their faces lit up with wonder and delight

As the final echoes of the fireworks faded into the night, attendees began to make their way home. For many, the night served as a reminder of the simple yet profound joy of coming together as a community.

With another successful Fireworks Night in the books, The Birdport Lions Club would like to thank everyone who attended and assisted in making the night a success. Profits for the night will be donated to Childhood Cancer Research.

Bridport Golf Club

Community spirit alive and well in this little Village by the Sea



Due to the Bunker Club going into a winter break for four weeks till 26th July, the Community Club Friday night regulars have been invited to continue their happy hours at Bridport Golf Club during this time. The usual raffles and meat boards will still be conducted for Community Club's benefit.

Our bar opens at 4:30 pm and happy hour prices will apply. If you wish, you are welcome to bring your own nibbles and grazing platters to share.

Mahjong at the Bridport Hall



Come along and play Mahjong (Western game) Bridport Hall meeting room

1 pm - 3 pm Mondays

Beginners Welcome

Expert tuition given

Any queries come along and ask 😃

Party time for the Bridport Social Group!



Last Wednesday, the Bridport Social Group celebrated ten years of fun and friendship.

The group invited past members and speakers who shared and presented an interesting talk of their experiences, skills and knowledge. It was an opportunity to say 'Thank-you' to them, and to those who cooked lunches, drove a bus, or led the group through a healthy variety of gentle exercises.

Photos from over the decade dotted the walls of the meeting room. This proved an interesting display and brought back lovely memories. Those who had passed away were also remembered.

Many people returned for morning tea, even some from the inaugural gathering at the R.S.L. After a scrumptious lunch, a birthday cake was cut by the maker and another original member. Everyone was asked to guess, in cubits, low long was a ball of string – a challenge the participants were asked ten years earlier. Prizes were awarded and the day drew to an end.

The present members, aged over sixty years, from around Bridport and Scottsdale look forward to enjoying another ten or more years of making friends, sharing experiences, drinks, food and other activities. An invitation is extended to retired men and women who would care to join the social group, which now comes under U3A, every Wednesday from 10 am – 3 pm at the Bridport Main Hall. Watch for the programme or ring mobile: 0474 087 100 for further details.



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Bridport Girl Guides

Bridport Girl Guides welcomed 10 new girls when they made their Guide Promise. Despite being a very cold night, guides, parents and friends wrapped up to support the girls at a campfire, which included guide songs and s'mores.

Three of the Unit's unit Helpers recently completed their training and became qualified leaders. Congratulations to Viv Sarich, Hayley Catlin and Olivia Kershaw.

Our younger group is now full but we would love to welcome girls 10 years and over to come join in the fun. The rest of this term will see guides preparing for a unit camp at the start of the school holidays at the guide house at Nindethana Deviot

Lyn Commane Dorset District Manager GGT

Guides who made their Promise

L-R back: Tahlia Blyth, Summer Millwood, Hazel Viney, Sasha Fahey, Remi McDougall Front row: Olivia Lovell, Imogen Smythe, Charlotte Maxwell, Ivy Howlett and Louisa Smythe Anika Collier was away









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Bridpo

Netball Club

Bridport Netball Club

This month we held our annual ball with the Bridport Football Club, was great to see strong support from the Netballer's and we all had a great night.

Finals are just around the corner and it is looking like Bridport will be strong contenders in many grades.

We held our last home game on 19th June, we would like to thank everyone who supported our canteen and volunteered their time to help out behind the counter and making food. Big thanks to Jess Burke for being our Canteen Coordinator she did such a great job organising and keeping things running smoothly.



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ALWAYS FREE

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

