

BRIDREPORT

Village-wide vibe for Fiesta Fringe

Organisers are rapt at the way local businesses are joining in the vibe of the Tassie Scallop Fiesta fringe.

The fringe has traditionally kicked off with the Mariners' Muse storytelling session

This year it's at the Bridport Footy clubrooms on Friday 25 July.

But a couple of enterprises are getting in early with a special Fire and Flavour evening of casual dining at St Marks Café a full week earlier on Friday 18 July.

St Marks is also hosting a poets' breakfast on Saturday 26 July, so you can rehearse, or not, and bring along your verse, or just happen in to listen to others over a special brekky.

The Bridport Hotel will also beat the starter's gun with a night of hypnotic fun on Thursday 24 July. The pub's regular trivia night is planning a marine theme for the Thursday 31 July session.

Some of Tasmania's best wines will be sampled and matched with a range of canapes at the Bridport Bay Inn during an evening curated by wine expert Mat Swallow on Wednesday 30 July.

Bridport Café will have it's award-winning scallop and seafood pies available throughout the month of July.

The pace picks up on Saturday 2 August, Fiesta eve with a growers and makers market in the morning followed by some hi jinx in the high seas with Priscilla Queen of the River performing on the bay and estuary for an appreciative crowd warmed by a bonfire.

The free family event will take place across high tide and sundown from about 4 pm.

As the bonfire starts to die down the well-dressed diners will be taking their seats under the dome on the Village Green for the Blunnies and Bows gala dinner (just a few seats still available).

The Bridport Golf Club will again join the fun with a three-ball Ambrose event on Saturday 2 August, open to golfing newbies and non members.

That's all leading up to Fiesta on Sunday 3 August, so if you're thinking of getting to all that's happening make sure you pace yourself.

Along with a line-up of providers of fine food and beverages the Fiesta will include educational displays and demonstrations by the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies, the Australian Maritime College, Fishcare, George Town's Bass and Flinders Museum and

even a craypot maker.

Tickets for the Fiesta, the Blunnies and Bows dinner and Mariners' Muse are only available on line via the tassiescallopfiesta.com.au website.

Those wishing to attend some of the events at other venues should contact the business concerned.

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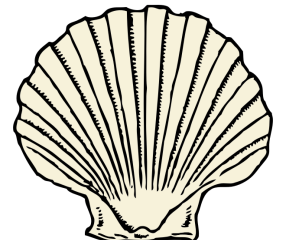
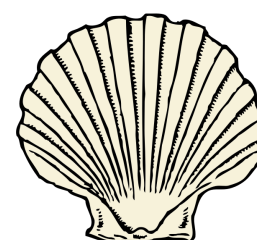
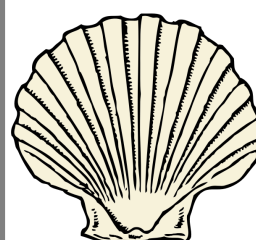
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Launceston, Scottsdale Bridport and Surrounds



The giant dome ready for diners on Fiesta eve





Bridport Village Market

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Email: bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com
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Bridport Football Club



Upcoming Events

JULY

19

CHRISTMAS

IN JULY

AUG

16

FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

BLUE & WHITE BALL

FEAT. GYPSY ROSE

Bridport Pickleball

Thursday's 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm
Bridport Hall



U3A Bridport Seniors Group

All seniors welcome
Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm
Bridport Hall



July 2	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	July 23	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Bingo		11.30	Visit to Matthew Bayles Bike Museum
	12.30 pm	Lunch at The Bay Inn, followed by cards			
July 9	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat	July 30	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Guest speaker: Rhys Beattie		11.00	TBA
	12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.		12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.
July 16	10 am	Tea/Coffee/Chat			
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee			
	11.00	Movie			
	12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.			

Bandits 2025

Fundraiser! Sun 27th July, Bridport Bay inn!

1pm till 5pm

Supporting and bringing awareness to suicide and mental health.

Direct Debit Bandits!

first prizes Flights and Acc to Flinders Island or \$1000 Grocery hamper you choose!

Lucky door prizes! Huge Raffle!

(cash preferred)

Blackouts, Aaron Worker and guest artists playing on the day!

\$10 cover charge

Raffle \$2 ticket or 6 for \$10

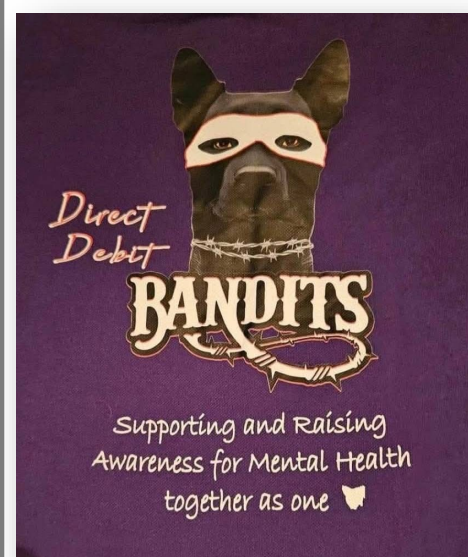
If booking in for lunch, mention Blackdog, bookings are essential

Just a lil background story of why we started this Blackdog journey - the outstanding number of suicides in this area, depression and mental health was hidden away, wasn't talked about, so our saying - doing something, better than doing nothing. In this 11 years of fund-raising I've seen many positives, if nothing else, we are being seen, its made public, its ok, not to be OK! There is a plan B. If you are needing a lil extra help, its not the end, you aren't alone, a lot of us deal with this daily, we find out there are coping mechanisms, there are medications, counselling, family, lifeline, doctors, friends who can help you, we gotta try! Not just for the person wanting out, but for the person's loved ones, left behind.



Please save the date Sun 27th July for our once a year fundraiser, a few bands giving up their time for free, some amazing prizes to be won. \$10 pp entry, Bay Inn Bridport, come for lunch beforehand, mention you're with Blackdog, as they are blocking out the place for us. If you wanted accommodation same gig, say you're with Blackdog, I have the number to call for both bookings, Derek 0408141177.

1.30 pm till 5 pm, unless you're coming for lunch beforehand. A lot goes into this, we would appreciate your support.



Bridport - Tasmanian Shakespeare Company

A Tender Thing

Imagine if Romeo and Juliet had lived. Imagine they have grown old together but now face being parted all over again.

Established writer, director and Bridport resident, Angela Witcher, and the Tasmanian Shakespeare Company will be bringing this beautiful play, written by Ben Power, to Bridport.

Saturday 12 July

Two shows 1 pm and 5 pm

Bridport Community Hall

tasshakespeareco.au



Saltmarsh Plants - Pigface by Lou Brooker

How on earth did this plant get its name? Seen commonly rambling over the sand dunes, spreading along the foreshore with its soft squishy leaves and psychedelic splashes of colour - crimson, purple and yellow. It's hard to work out at first how it might have got its name.



Well, after the flower comes the soft leathery fruit, and an early plant collector once noticed that the flat round tip of the fruit looked like the snout of a pig - hence the name pig face.

I remember when Field Naturalists visited Aunty Patsy Cameron at Tomahawk, I came away with a lasting impression of what her life had been like growing up on Flinders Island. I had a vivid picture of the kids exploring away from home all day and their constant foraging as they played. They may have stopped to eat native currants, Kangaroo apple, native cherries and there was always 'canygong' or the fruit of the pigface whenever they came across it. If they had sandfly bites, they would squeeze the juice of the pigface leaf onto their bites.

If you wanted to grow it in the garden, you'd find it has strong roots, grows quickly making an excellent ground cover, and doesn't need much watering. Break off a branch that shows signs of fine white roots and plonk it in the ground. Easy. Just add water.



The fruit of the pigface said to look like a pig's snout

Bridport Lions Club Inc.



Democracy Sausage Sizzle

Bridport Community Hall

Election Day

Saturday 19 July 2025

All funds raised will be donated
to our local community



Awesome job Dorset!

In the 7 weeks since the Scottsdale machine has been in use, nearly 250,000 containers have been received - this means nearly \$25,000 has gone back into the pockets of residents or donated to registered partners



TASMANIA PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



Public Notice

Access to Adams Beach CLOSED

The access point to Adams Beach is closed due to serious erosion caused by recent weather events and abnormally high tides.

The erosion has created a significant vertical drop to the beach with unstable edges, which present a risk to visitor safety.

Dog Walkers are advised there is an alternative dog walking area at the Trent Estuary.

Thank you for your cooperation.

For any enquiries, please contact: PWS Scottsdale Office on 6778 8520.

Date: 26th June 2025



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES,
PARKS, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



WANTED articles for up-coming
events and/or wrap-ups -
general informative
articles - please email:
bridreport@gmail.com

The Footy @ Bridport



Past Player - Marcus Robinson

by Michael Finlayson



Marcus Robinson grew up in Devonport and first played football with the magpies in the local mini league competition in the early 1970s. He continued playing in high school and later with the Devonport U/19s in the North West Football Union (N.W.F.U.)

They won the premiership in 1978 by defeating Wynyard and were then beaten by Sandy Bay in the State final. He moved to the North East and started working for Telstra and began to play football with Bridport in the early 1980s. He went on to play 260 games for the Seagulls in the Seniors and Reserves under coaches like Brian Hill, Chris Lovegrove and Tim Gillespie. He is a life member of the Bridport Football Club and likes to get along to the games to watch his son Joey, who is captain of the senior team.

Marcus still lives in Bridport and keeps busy selling his crystals at the local markets and expos. He also spends a fair amount of time helping out with his grand children.



Bridport Pontoon

Something is not right about this photo. In the recent wild weather, combined with an extra high tide, the pontoon was picked up and dumped on the other side of the pylons.

Council workers were busily securing the structure before it 'escaped' while they pondered how to match it up again with its ramp.

Mementos by Mike Douglas

Browsing in the Gladstone cemetery I mused on the very different origins of our local settlements.

Gladstone sprung up in the late 1870s to service miners seeking tin and gold. In its heyday ten years later, 120 European and 100 Chinese miners worked the local area.

Bridport in these days was a tiny settlement and has never had a Chinese diaspora.

Headstones for prominent miners are dotted around the cemetery and at the back are six Chinese were repatriated to their homeland, Guangdong Province in Southern China.

A barely legible epitaph of one of the locals on a weathered tombstone caught my eye:

William A. Dawson

Dearly loved son of Mrs G. Dawson

Accidentally killed by a fall of earth

On Scotia Mine, 17th February 1903

Aged 45 years

We miss thee from our home dear Will

We miss thee from thy place.

A shadow o'er our life is cast

We miss the sunshine of your face.



Chinese miner's grave, Gladstone Cemetery



The Lions Club of Bridport

Lions Club of Bridport are hosting a Christmas in July lunch on Sunday 20 July at 12.00 pm at The Bridport Hotel. All community members are warmly welcomed to attend this fun afternoon of great food, entertainment, singing and laughter.

Cost is \$30.00 per person.

RSVP to Cathy Purdon 0409 862 936 or Alison Jones 0439 611 328

Payment Details

BSB: 067-407

Account: 28007567

Sunday, 20 July 2025 @ 12.00 pm

The Bridport Hotel, Main Street, Bridport

Christmas in July Menu

Mains

Roast Turkey and Pork

Roasted Vegetables

Served with Gravy

Dessert

Christmas Pudding served with Ice Cream/Cream

Pavlova served with Cream and Berries



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Tuesdays @ Dynamic Osteo

28 Ellenor Street, Scottsdale 9 am - 5.30 pm

About Karl Thomas

I am an experienced physiotherapist with over 40 years experience practicing in Tasmania. I previously established and ran Launceston Physiotherapy Services for over 20 years.



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Bridport Pharmacy - The Importance of Vitamin D



Low vitamin D is an important public health issue and is common in Tasmania.

Vitamin D deficiency occurs when your body doesn't have enough vitamin D. It's the most common nutritional deficiency worldwide. Vitamin D is a fat-soluble vitamin that is very important for bone health. While there are usually no symptoms of vitamin D deficiency, it is possible to have: mild bone pain, muscle weakness and tiredness. In adults, long-term vitamin D deficiency can cause loss of bone density and increase your risk of osteoporosis. Older people who don't have enough vitamin D are more likely to fall and fracture their bones. In babies and children, ongoing vitamin D deficiency can cause rickets (where growing bones don't develop properly).

Sunlight (UV light) is the best source of vitamin D but your body cannot make vitamin D with sunlight that has passed through glass, as it filters out the UVB. Safe sun exposure is recommended to maintain adequate vitamin D. Sun protection (hat, sunscreen, protective clothing) should be used when UV levels are greater than 3.

Some foods such as oily fish, eggs and mushrooms contain small amounts of vitamin D and some milk and soy products have vitamin D added. As food only has a small amount of vitamin D it is difficult to get enough from diet alone.

Who is at risk of low vitamin D?

- People with naturally dark skin
- People with little or no sun exposure:
 - those in institutions, aged care facilities, hospitals or housebound for long periods
 - those who wear concealing clothing
 - those who deliberately avoid the sun.
- People with certain medical conditions or on certain medications
- People with a BMI over 30 kg/m²
- Exclusively breastfed babies who fall into a risk category above or who have mothers with low vitamin D.



Vitamin D deficiency is surprisingly common, but the symptoms are often subtle and nonspecific, so it may be hard to know whether you have a deficiency or some other health condition. If you think you may have a deficiency, speak to your doctor or staff at Bridport Pharmacy.

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Bridport District Ghost Towns

The broad history of many towns around Bridport has been very diverse in why they existed, many short lived. Many grew out of mining and sawmilling needs, whilst others were simply placeholders for future growth. There were many proposed towns, or paper towns, because they only ever existed on paper, but were never developed. A number of these exist in the broader Bridport district. Some of these towns began as a result of gold rushes, lived a few years or so, then vanished.

Others were as a result of a broader plan to populate areas of the state that otherwise have not eventuated. Why did these “Paper Towns” exist? Were they an attempt to persuade London that the colony in the mid to late 19th Century was progressing at a greater rate than in reality?

To quote Michael Holmes in his book, “Vanishing Towns”, you get a perspective of how the great state of Tasmania formed in the early years of Van Diemen’s Land when he articulates that “a disproportionate number of towns and settlements originated in the first fifty years or so of Van Diemen’s Land...”. Many towns and villages, including those that rose to become well established, like Bridport, often began through a combination of official proclamations, settlement by colonists, and the naming conventions of early explorers and settlers. There may have been a certain amount of alleged “cronyism” on the part of the Lieutenant Governors, and their senior administrators, whose intent may have been to control who was allocated land, to provide an opportunity to have a town named a particular way.

In early Tasmania, the proclamation of towns involved a multi-stage process rooted in British colonial practices. It typically began with the Governor’s decision to establish a town, followed by the selection of a site, its survey, and then formal proclamation in the Hobart Town Gazette. This process also included defining the town’s boundaries, often by the Surveyor-General, and sometimes involved the creation of regulations for land allocation and building. Funding for a town’s infrastructure, like a post office, a school or police station, was largely based upon the number of permanent residents. By permanent, this means they lived in a rigid house.

Paper towns in the Bridport District include Charmouth, Corfe Castle, Lades, Lime Regis, Poole, Seaton, St Albans, Swanage and Williamsport. Many of these were considered because they held some measure of activity that warranted it, or that they were simply town reserves noted on early Tasmanian publications, such as Frankland’s Map of 1839, Sprent’s Map of 1859, and Bailliere’s Tasmanian Gazetteer of 1877. Other official sources include the Tasmanian Government’s Land and Surveys Department’s list of township reserves.

A few other significant towns in the Bridport district include Du Cane, Bell’s Hill, Lyndhurst, Forester and Portland, not to be confused with Cape Portland. Du Cane was originally known as Portland, located on the Eastern side of the Tomahawk River, but was renamed after Governor Du Cane.

Nonetheless, Du Cane was intended to be developed into a port to support the Lyndhurst Goldfields. Lyndhurst was also named by the then Premier after the Governor’s wife’s father, Lord Lyndhurst.

Whilst a significant gold rush was recorded in the Waterhouse area, which inspired the town of Lyndhurst, it only lasted about two years, before it was abandoned. Lyndhurst carries the stigma of having its quartz reefs “salted” with gold to encourage investment. The perpetrators were caught and dealt with in accordance with the law. Forester grew out of the Closer Settlement Scheme, with the town growing to about 400, but finally succumbed with the closure of the post office in 1971.

The Northeast Tasmanian region around the Bridport District is littered with “Ghost” and “Paper” towns from a bygone era, providing us with a rich historical tapestry to enjoy.

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.

The publishers acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Bridport and North-East Tasmania, the leenererter clan of the Coastal Plains Nation, with respect for Elders past and present.

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

