

BRIDREPORT



Mariner's Muse: Stories to be retold from beyond the grave

The popular storytelling session that kicks off the fringe for the Tassie Scallop Fiesta is going beyond the grave for one of its presenters this year.

The Mariners' Muse will be held from 5:30 pm on Friday 24 July at Bridport Primary School Hall.

On the list of four speakers is a sea captain who led a life of derring-do across the ocean trading routes of Britain and the West Indies.

From a naval-based education in France, William Pixley had to escape in a hurry because of links with the Bonaparte family at the start of the Napoleonic Wars.

A rendezvous with his seafaring father in the Netherlands eventually led to him assuming charge of his own vessel in a swashbuckling life, trading rum and sugar in the Caribbean and Europe.

His journals were kept in the family through to former Waterhouse farmer John, whose widow Bridport resident Jenny Pixley has made them available to local historian and Muse moderator Nigel Mercer, who will tell at least part of the tale of the colourful captain.

Other speakers on the night will be telling their own stories.

They are round-the-world solo yachtsman Tristan Gourlay, marine biologist and fish species researcher David Maynard and commander of the sail training vessel Windeward Bound Captain Sarah Parry.

Finalising the diverse panel had been difficult, but organisers say tickets have gone on sale for Mariners Muse, an event which generally attracts interest from locals.

They are only available on-line via the tassiescallopfiesta.com.au website.



Captain Sarah Parry will describe experiences on board Sail Training Vessel Windeward Bound with the Mariners' Muse audience along with those from another master of a square-rigger Captain William Pixley (1787 – 1863)

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Bridport Village Market

Brought to you by CWA Bridport, supporting our community since 1938.

THE BRIDPORT VILLAGE MARKET

is taking a Winter Break

We will return on

Saturday, 3 October 2026

Thank you to our wonderful community and amazing stallholders for their ongoing support. The money's raised in the last 12 months has assisted

- Bridport Fire Brigade purchase Equipment \$2,395
- Breast Cancer Research \$1,500
- Girl Guides \$150
- Asst Community needs \$450
- CWA TASMANIA State sponsored causes e.g. a room in Spurr Wing accommodation for rural families attending the LGH in Launceston.
- Bridport CWA Hall ongoing expenses and maintenance.

We look forward to welcoming you back in spring with fresh stalls and friendly faces :)

To book a stall or site
Email: bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com
Facebook: Bridport Village Market





The Lions Club of Bridport Inc.

Lions Club of Bridport, in partnership with Matthew and Shannon Bayles (FC Management), Fireworks at the Lighthouse Event was a hugely successful event – this was a Free Fun Family Event with over 1,000 people attending from our NE Community and visitors from all around Tasmania.

Everyone enjoyed a memorable evening from the warmth of the huge bonfire, delicious BBQ Food, Homemade Soup, Bloom Coffee Van and Little Devil Donuts. The Children's games included a Treasure Hunt organized by Bridport Girl Guides, Face Glitter, an Art Table organized by Annie and Declan from Hunky Dory Art Gallery Bridport, Dancing, Giant Outdoor Games donated from Bridport Primary School, Marine Flares Demonstration with Paul Hawkins from MAST and Volunteers from our Bridport Fire Brigade and Fire Truck in attendance to keep everyone safe.

The highlight of the night was our Fireworks Display by Josh from Spark Fireworks Tasmania —a breathtaking celebration of light, colour, and sound that transformed the night sky into a dazzling spectacle set against our stunning Gofton's Beach coastal backdrop, this unforgettable event featured expertly choreographed fireworks, vibrant bursts, and atmospheric effects that captivated audiences of all ages.

The priority for our Lions Club of Bridport was to provide a Free Fun Family Event giving our residents an opportunity to catch up with friends, neighbours and visitors – it was wonderful seeing so many smiling faces and happy children and families enjoying a great community event.

A huge thank you to our amazing volunteers, local businesses and organizations that supported our Lions Club Members ensure our Fireworks by the Lighthouse was a resounding success.

Leonie Johnston
Secretary
Lions Club of Bridport





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PO Box 138 Bridport 7262
0438 28 1352
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SEAVIEW VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 25 th SEPTEMBER, 2026

13 Mary Street Bridport
(Maureen’s home)

COMMENCING AT 9.30 A.M.

ENQUIRIES LEONIE JOHNSTON
MOBILE 0438 281352
President@Seaviewvillage.au



BRIDPORT FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB

ANNUAL BALL

BRIDPORT FOOTBALL CLUB

25TH JULY 2025
7:30PM

\$40 per person
or
\$70 per couple

FEATURING GYPSY ROSE

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA EVENTBRITE

U3A Bridport Seniors Social Group

All seniors welcome
Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm
Bridport Hall



July 1	10 am	Meet	July 22	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Bingo		11.00	Movie
	12.30 pm	Lunch		12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.
July 8	10 am	Meet	July 29	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Lunch in Scottsdale		11.00	TBA
July 15				12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.
	10 am	Meet			
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee			
	11.00	Guest Speaker: Deb Groves			
	12.30 pm	Lunch			

‘There is a fountain of youth - it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you have truly defeated age.’ Sophia Loren

Inspirational Quotes for those aged 70+ and beyond

North East Field Naturalists

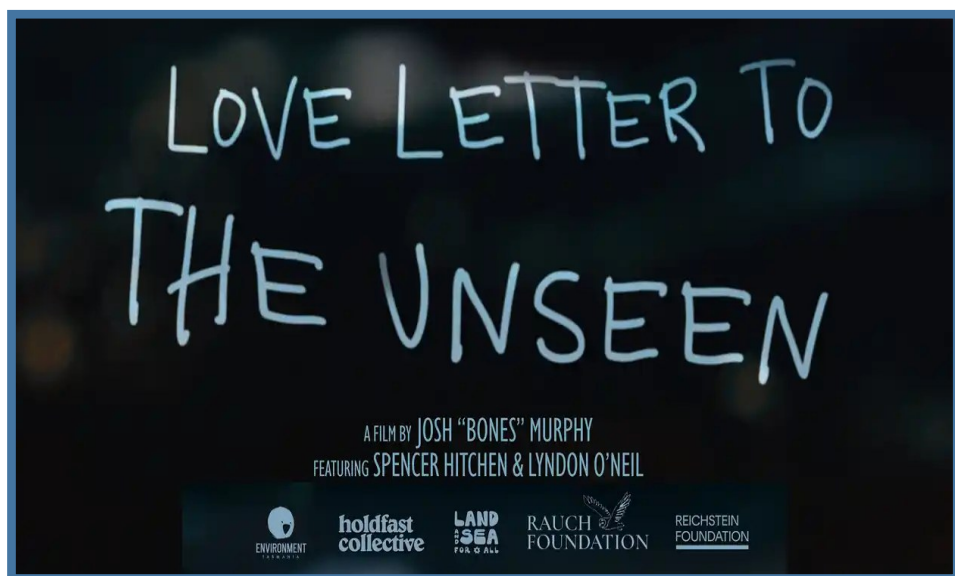
Field Nats usually hold an outing once a month, but in the Winter months, they hold indoor meetings. At the July meeting there will be a showing of the film 'Love Letter to the Unseen'.

The film follows youth conservationist Spencer Hitchen on his journey to understand the imminent threats to the endangered Maugean Skate and the intrinsic beauty of a species that exists both in the real world and in the imaginations of its supporters. The 60-million-year-old Maugean skate has been around since the time of the dinosaurs, and Macquarie Harbour, Tasmania, is its sole remaining home. The environment and the skate are at risk. The heroes of the film are calling out to have the conservation advice for the Maugean Skate to be implemented in full, as the skate now faces a 'very high' risk of extinction.

The film is directed by Emmy award-winning filmmaker Josh Murphy and made in partnership with Environment Tasmania. It features Palawa man Lyndon O'Neil, artist Wendy Edwards and Andrew Wilkie MP.

It will be shown in the Meeting Room of the Scottsdale Library beginning promptly at 1pm. Field Nats welcome interested members of the public and ask those attending this FREE film to book on the Humanitix site.

<https://events.humanitix.com/scottsdale-tasmania-screening-love-letter-to-the-unseen>



parkrun: Could this be for Bridport?

Every Saturday morning, all around the world, a free, community event takes place where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. This is the 5km parkrun and already there are over 20 registered groups in Tasmania including three in Launceston and one each in George Town and Whitemark. Could this be something for Bridport?



Everyone is welcome on the Whitemark Wharf parkrun

There have been several enquiries recently from visitors, hoping for a Saturday run. While the answer at the moment is 'No', all it needs is a small number of enthusiasts to register a group and take it on as another great activity for both locals and visitors.

The parkrun website gives all the information needed: <https://www.parkrun.com.au/>

'Already operating in hundreds of locations around the globe, we understand that parkrun is about so much more than a free, weekly, timed 5km run. It's about friendships, families and bringing people together to help one another achieve sustainable and healthy changes to their lifestyle.'

(From the Australian parkrun website.)

With luck, there is someone out there with the time and enthusiasm to take up the baton and run with it.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2	LAST MAN STANDING	MAY 23	A NIGHT WITH ZACH MERRETT
JUNE 13	SHIT KIT BEER PONG TOURNAMENT	JULY 25	FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB BLUE & WHITE BALL Feat. Gypsy Rose
AUG 1	SPONSORS DAY	AUG 15	LADIES DAY
AUG 22		AFL DAY	



Dorset Community Market

Craft, Car Boot and Produce

3rd Saturday of the month

To be held at Scottsdale Recreation Grounds,
George St Scottsdale
8.30am – 1.30pm

FREE ENTRY!

Email: dorsetcommunitymarkets@gmail.com Phone: 0403 420 311



BRIDPORT Branch circ. 1938

Join Us To...

Connect • Create • Contribute

Looking for friendship, purpose, and a place to belong? Our CWA branch welcomes women of all ages who want to make a difference in the community — whether you love cooking, crafting, organising events, lending a hand, or simply sharing a cuppa and a chat.

♥ What We Do

- Community projects & fundraising
- Craft, cooking & skill-sharing
- Social gatherings & events
- Supporting local families
- Building lifelong friendships

🌿 Why Join Us

- Warm, welcoming members
- No experience needed
- Flexible involvement — join in as much or as little as you like
- A chance to give back while having fun

☕ Come Along & Meet Us 😊

Get in touch, pop in, say hello, and see what we're all about.

We usually meet 1ST Monday of the month

☀️ Everyone is welcome

Contact Details

Email: cwabridport@gmail.com

Facebook: Bridport Village Market
message us on Facebook or come and visit us at the markets.

Keep an eye on the notice board.



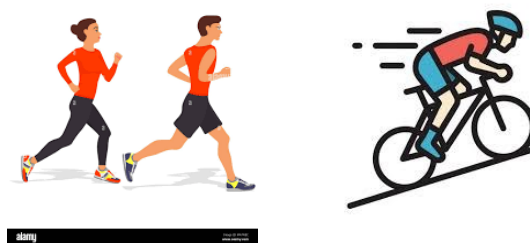
The Rail Trail Run and Ride

takes place along the picturesque [North East Tasmania Rail Trail](#), stretching between Scottsdale and Bilycock Hill. Established in 2018, the event is proudly hosted by the [Rotary Club of Scottsdale](#) in partnership with the [Launceston Running Club](#).

Mark your calendar and get ready to lace up or gear up:

- **Tuesday 2 June 2026** – [Registrations Open](#)
- **Friday 18 September 2026** – Festival Opening (@Little Rivers Brewery 5 - 8pm)
- **Saturday 19 September 2026** – Running Events
- **Sunday 20 September 2026** – Riding Events

Scottsdale and the surrounding region offers a variety of attractions, accommodation options, and free camping. Why not turn your event into a weekend getaway?



UPCOMING TRAINING IN DORSET

JUNE 22

First Aid courses

Scottsdale RSL
Fees apply

JULY 22+23

ChemCert

Lords Hotel
Fees apply

JULY 22+23

Forklift license

Dorset Trade Training Centre
Fees apply

JULY 23

First Aid courses

Scottsdale RSL
Fees apply

Training provider:

- ProMED Tasmania
- TasTAFE
- ATLAS Training

Enquiries?

admin@dorsetec.org.au

Find out more!



All details were correct at time of publishing but are subject to change.



dorsetec.org.au/calendar

REGISTER TODAY

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big difference.

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PlasticFreeJuly.org

Jurassic Park by Mike Douglas

What is an emblematic Tasmanian rock exposed over 22 percent of the state's area?

The answer is dolerite, a dark crystal-line rock seen in the Waterhouse Conservation Area just along the coast from Bridport.

Hardwicke's Hill, topped with a Telstra Tower and the privately owned Waterhouse Island, both visible from our village, are dolerite entities.

About 175 million years ago in the Jurassic period (think dinosaurs) a dark magma welled up and spread out between layers of sedimentary rocks. The top layer of this sandwich has eroded away to reveal the solidified dolerite.

Tasmania was part of eastern Antarctica, then without an icecap, where there is a corresponding occurrence of Jurassic dolerite.

Since the giant southern continent Gondwana broke up, Australia, dragging behind an Antarctic chunk, now Tasmania, has drifted northwards for 40 million years and is still moving at six centimetres per year.

Tasmania has all the Jurassic dolerite in Australia giving us a unique coastal and mountain scenery. Nearly 60 percent of our mountains are capped with dolerite. Local examples are Mt Victoria, Mt Barrow and Mt Arthur.

The rock seen in the northern part of the Waterhouse Conservation Area is granite and is much older than the dolerite.



Coastal dolerite in the Waterhouse Conservation Area



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TAJ'S FISHING

Competition

Something for EVERYONE!

Raising awareness for Mental Health in Dorset, Tasmania.

MAY 23rd 2026 – 8.00 AM
to
JULY 26th 2026 – 8.00 PM
TASMANIA | 10 Week Comp

Registrations FREE & Open!
All you need to do is send your photo(s) to Julie Gillespie via text to 0400057564 or through Messenger & return a completed form. To be in it! Registration close July 26th 2026

Info & Contact: Julie Gillespie 0400057564
<https://www.facebook.com/events/27024033793926798>

Fishing Competition Categories

- Flathead – All Species
- Gurnard
- Tuna
- Gummy Shark
- King George Whiting
- Australian Salmon
- Land based catch
- Biggest Tangle
- Funniest Fishing Face
- Sunrise/sunset photo with rod or tackle box and water.
- Squid
- Snapper
- Bream

Prizes for each category & A 'REEL' LUCKY DOOR PRIZE
Winners announced on Sat 1st Aug. 26.



POETS BRUNCH

SATURDAY 25TH JULY

**BREAKFAST SPECIALS FROM 9AM**

**POETRY READINGS COMMENCING AT 10AM**

**AVAILABLE TO ALL AGES**

**FREE EVENT**

An open mic style morning of poetry and good company.





ST. MARKS BRIDPORT
101 MAIN STREET, BRIDPORT TAS



TASSIE SCALLOP FIESTA
FRINGE EVENT



Sunday August 2
10am—4pm
On the Bridport Village Green

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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.

Bridport Game Hunting

Before and during the early colonial period, the local Aboriginal people hunted for basic survival. The nearby Waterhouse coastal plains and lagoons were especially rich hunting grounds. In 19 th Century Tasmania, both Aborigines and settlers alike hunted for both food and furs, albeit to different ends. Kangaroos and Wallabies were an important food source for the Aborigines, whilst their furs were used for clothing in Tasmania’s cold climate. Whereas, settlers and professional hunters hunted for food, but sold the furs commercially. In the early days of Northeast Tasmanian European Settlement, competition with the Aborigines for access to game often resulted in conflict. Settlers also hunted native birds, Rabbits and Possums for their fur, and other wildlife for food, trade, and pest control.

The first Europeans regularly visiting the Bridport coast where sealers operating from the Bass Strait and Furneaux Islands. From the late 1790s through the early 1800s, they hunted fur seals for skins and oil along the northeast coast and offshore islands. Sealing was one of the earliest European hunting industries in the region. Kangaroo hunting was common among settlers, as it provided meat, skins, and recreation. One notable local story in 1869 tells of a young man named Lewey Richardson, who was out kangaroo hunting near Waterhouse, when he discovered gold-bearing quartz, triggering the Waterhouse gold rush. The wetlands, lagoons, and estuaries around Waterhouse and Bridport supported large populations of ducks, swans, and other waterbirds. Hunting of waterfowl for food was a common activity throughout the 19 th century. Early European observers remarked on the abundance of waterfowl in the area.

Once Bridport became a popular holiday destination, boasting excellent sporting opportunities, hunting Kangaroo became a significant attraction. However, with the advent of the 20 th Century, hunting was regulated by the Government, with annual seasons operating. This attracted a great deal of attention from a number of fronts. Farmers had two concerns; on the one hand, their livestock feed stocks and vegetable gardens were being ravaged by Kangaroos and Wallabies, whilst others were concerned that shooters were placing livestock at risk, particularly at night. One farmer wrote to the Launceston Examiner in 1919, raising concerns about shooters operating on his property without permission, in and out of season. His concerns were that his cattle were being shot at or chased away with dogs, as they got in the way of their game shooting.

In the 1920s-1930s, fur prices were generally good, attracting many hunters to local forests. Indeed, some concerns were raised in the Northeast that tin miners and farm hands would leave their work to shoot game for fur, as it paid better than their normal jobs. The Attorney General was besieged with letters seeking advice on when the hunting season would open. Mr A.T. Marshall, MHA for Bass, produced a large number of letters recently received from farmers and settlers in the Northeast Districts. These letters disclosed the depredation local game was having on crops and grass in the district, and urged that the interest of settlers be placed in front of the Kangaroo and Wallaby. The arrival of the Great Depression in 1929 provided significant opportunities for the unemployed to take advantage of the hunting season each year. Whilst it was reported in 1931 that game was not plentiful in the Northeast, and that fur prices were low, it provided an alternative occupation for many. In 1933, concerns were raised that land owners were preventing game from leaving their properties, keeping it for themselves. Parliament stated that, whilst lessees and hunters would be managed impartially, that large tracts of Crown Land were available in the Northeast, and that lessees were not permitted to charge hunters for the right to hunt on their land. This policy was not well received by farmers.

In the 1950s, the fall in fur prices and the general increase in wages removed the incentive to hunt Kangaroos and Wallabies, causing a considerable increase in their population in the Northeast. A number of property holders raised concerns, including a deputation from Bridport, that they would not be able to make a success of their farming interests if something was not done about it, and farmers wanted a five-year open season declared. Today, Kangaroo and Wallaby culls in Tasmania are large-scale wildlife management operations. Driven by overpopulation and agricultural conflict, they primarily target Bennetts Wallabies, Rufous Wallabies, and Tasmanian Pademelons under Crop Protection Permits and Open Season hunts.

Dorset Tasmania History Society.

The publishers acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Bridport and North-East Tasmania, the leenererrerter 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

