

BRIDREPORT

It's an Art Invasion!

If you see a few more berets than usual bobbing around the streets of Bridport over the coming months, it's probably not a French invasion, but more likely to be an influx of artists looking for inspiration.

Bridport Innovations Inc is proud to present the inaugural Bridport Art Prize. Boasting \$10,000 in cash prizes, the exhibition will be held at the Bridport Community Centre from 20 – 31 January 2027. To be eligible, artworks must feature or represent an aspect of Bridport. The deadline for entries is 15 December 2026.

"Establishing the Bridport Art Prize is a great way to engage with the creative community, and the exhibition will be a major drawcard for our wonderful town in summer. Bridport will be well positioned to become the arts and craft centre of the North-East. It's all about creating opportunities," said Bridport Innovations Art Prize Chair, Ian Goninon.

Exhibition coordinator, Gina Lee, has over 30 years experience in the fine arts, with many curatorial and art-publishing notches in her belt. She will be launching the Bridport Art Prize at the Scallop Fiesta and welcomes any enquiries.

Full details are available on the website:

www.bridportartprize.com.au

or you can contact the exhibition coordinator, Gina Lee on 0411 818 862.

For further information, please contact Wendy McLennan on 0427 583 853 or Gina Lee on 0411 818 862.



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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



Lions Club of Bridport CHARITY GOLF DAY 2026

Lions Club of Bridport are celebrating their **20th Anniversary Charity Golf Day** to be held on Thursday 17 September at Barnbougles Dunes.

Early bird registration at discounted price close on 31 July 2026. We are limited to 20 teams, therefore, to avoid disappointment, please email (secretary@bridportlionsclub.com.au) if you would like to register a team.

Prizes will be allocated as follows:

- Team Prize – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes
- Team Prize – specifically for teams with players all 70 or over – kindly donated by Peter Bond and David Vautin
- Team Prize – women's team
- Individual Prize – Longest Drive
- Individual Prize – Nearest to Pin
- Individual Prize – Longest Putt

In 2025/26 our Bridport Lions Club supported the following Community Organisations:

- Bridport Primary School – Major upgrade of playground equipment
- Fireworks at the Bridport Lighthouse Event – Free Community Event
- Need for Feed/Red Dirt Café – ongoing NE Community Support
- Lions Skin Cancer Awareness (in Rural Areas) Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Tasmania
- Operation Christmas Child – Shoe Boxes for Overseas Children
- Parkinson's Research
- Childhood Cancer Research
- Crime Stoppers
- Memorial Seat – Bridport Foreshore
- Scottsdale High and Bridport Primary School Bursaries
- Tasmanian & Australian Lions Foundation
- Australian Lions Wellbeing Foundation

Lions Club of Bridport is a very active club with 33 members (including 5 new members in 2026). Projects/Events include:

- Show and Shine Car Show
- Gig on the Ground—In partnership with Bridport Football Club
- Easter Egg Drop—Free community event
- Scottsdale Rodeo—Managed gates
- Fireworks by the Lighthouse—Free community event
- Christmas in July—Community lunch
- Battery collection—Car/Boat/Tractor recycling
- Recycled Rewards Program—Partnership with local café
- DV Safe Phone—Supporting domestic and family violence prevention
- International Recycled Reading Glasses Program
- Sale of Lions Christmas cakes and puddings
- Charity Golf Day—Barnbougles Dunes
- Morning Tea for Senior community members—Partnership with CWA
- Catering at wedding breakfasts
- Annual Tasmanian Lions Convention
- Huon Pine Boat restoration project—Supporting mental health
- Lions District Roadshow—Media opportunity to share the work of our Club
- Member of Lions Global membership team—Recruitment support

Our Club has applied to community road safety grants program to upgrade and install improve signage in the main street of Bridport to address the increasing safety risk to our community members from e-Bikes and e-Scooters. We are still awaiting the outcome of this submission.

Our Club was successful with a funding submission to Australian Lions Wellbeing Foundation for \$500.00 to provide a community lunch in Bridport to support our Senior Citizens who are experiencing loneliness and social isolation.

If you would like further information, please contact:

- Leonie Johnston 0438 281 252
- Cathy Purdon 0409 862 936
- Yvonne Segda 0408 402 833

A Doomed Voyage by Mike Douglas

The popular Mariners Muse at Bridport served up a smorgasbord of seafaring yarns. For readers with an appetite for more, the journalist Lisa Wilkinson has dished a new book about the *Titanic*.

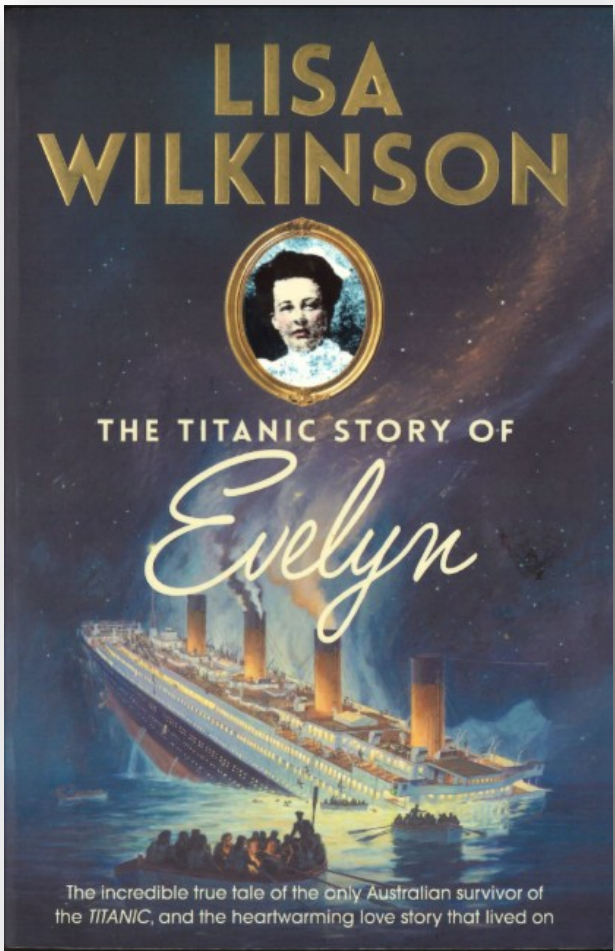
In April 1912, the 52 000 ton luxury liner *Titanic*, the biggest ship in the world and supposedly unsinkable, struck an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York and went down with the loss of more than 1500 lives.

Woven through the book is the story of Evelyn Marsden, an Australian nurse who was a stewardess on the ship and survived the sinking.

A fascinating suite of old photos complements the narrative, including portraits of the eight-man orchestra that played until the end.

This book will chill the marrow of your bones, the actual fate of many of the victims who died from hypothermia.

Illustration: Book cover



U3A Bridport Seniors Social Group

All seniors welcome

Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm

Bridport Hall



Aug 5	10 am	Meet	Aug 19	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Bingo		11.00	Something new
	12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards		12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.
Aug 12	10 am	Meet	Aug 26	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Guest speaker Lou Brooker		11.00	Movie
	12.30 pm	Lunch at Bay Inn, followed by cards etc.		12.30 pm	Lunch followed by cards etc.



New to Bridport?



Did you know we produce a “Welcome to Bridport” flyer for new and prospective residents?

It has information on local services, clubs and organisations and is a great way to find ways of becoming part of your new community.

Call in for a copy 10 am-4 pm daily.



New Sign by Lou Brooker

For a year or more, there's been an old faded sign on the waterfront and some have suggested that it should be taken down. And indeed, that was considered.



But the Dorset Coastal Working Group took up the challenge when they learned that new signs were being installed at various places on the East Coast. Would it be possible to liaise with NRM North and Parks for one of those signs? That is what happened and finally the new sign has been installed.

The sign gives relevant information about birds' nesting habits, though not all of it is pertinent to Trent Water.

For example, the terns seen on the sign are fairy terns; here we have great crested terns. The endangered hooded plovers have been seen here, though not nesting. The pied oystercatcher is a common sight.

But on the whole it's the overall take-home message that matters. This area is important for both nature and people. The information that is relevant to the site is that it is **illegal** to drive on the sand and the saltmarsh.

Yes, the area is set aside for "dogs off lead", but it is hoped that owners are aware that many birds do feed in the shallows and many more roost in the saltmarsh area at night. They roost there because they feel safe.

It's hoped that here on the Trent Water, the two situations can co-exist. It might mean that dog owners are a little more sensitive to the fact that this is a bird's natural habitat.



Great Crested Tern often seen in Trent Water

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 three. 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?

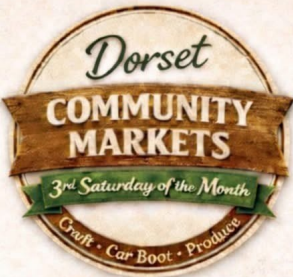
- People with naturally dark skin
- People with little or no sun exposure
- those in institutions, aged care facilities, hospitals or housebound for long periods
- those who wear concealing clothing
- those who deliberately avoid the sun
- People with certain medical conditions or on certain medications
- People with a BMI over 30 kg/m 2
- 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.





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

Learn a little too at Fiesta

The ninth Tassie Scallop Fiesta kicked off with about 80 people hanging on the words of wisdom from a diverse panel of speakers at the Mariners Muse.



Solo round the world sailor Tristan Gourlay, (pictured left), followed up his presentation with a poem reading the next morning at the Poets Brunch, hosted by St Mark's Café.

The events set in motion the fringe which will culminate in the Fiesta on the Bridport Village Green on Sunday 2 August.

Organisers expect patrons will go home a little wiser as well as well-fed and hydrated on after the event.

Along with the Fishcare sustainability message, the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies display on the life and times of a scallop, the Australian Maritime College and the Bass and Finders Maritime Museum stands, for the first time this year a demonstration by a traditional rope maker is certain to have onlookers enthralled.

But Graeme Creighton, (pictured right), is no Indian rope trickster, and his presentation should have special significance for Bridport, even if by association.

The original Bridport in Dorset England is synonymous with rope making since a decree by King John in 1211 that the town supply rope and cordage for the Royal Navy's war effort. "I really like seeing children's eyes come out on stalks when you weave together a few strands of fibre to make a rope, especially if you get them involved," Mr Creighton said.

He'll be joined in the traditional marine craft theme by the return of craypot maker Pete O'Neal, who has been a hit with his hands-on display of making a pot from scratch with steamed wood stems.



FOUNDATIONS IN COLOURED PENCIL WORKSHOP

*invites you to slow down, explore your materials
and rediscover the soft joy of drawing.*

with Tasmanian Artist ~ Marilyn Theisel



A Gentle Invitation to Colour

Step into a quiet, imaginative space where colour becomes a language of curiosity and creative play. Whether you're starting out or refining your skills, this course gives you the building blocks to create resolved artworks across any subject.

What You Will Explore

- How colours speak to one another
- How surfaces shape your marks
- How simple tools unlock depth and luminosity
- Techniques for expressive, resolved coloured pencil artworks

About Marilyn Theisel

Marilyn brings a warm, exploratory teaching style shaped by her multidisciplinary background and international training. Her approach supports artists at every stage of their creative journey, encouraging curiosity, experimentation and gentle confidence.

Let Colour Lead You Somewhere New

Bring your pencils, your curiosity, and a willingness to explore.

Workshop Details

Saturday, August 22, 2026 10:00am – 4:00pm
Venue: CWA Bridport Hall, 4 Main Street, Bridport

Fees

Cost: \$120 **Deposit:** \$30
Early Bird Fees: \$100 if paid in full by the first Saturday in August

Light lunch provided

(Save Travel and Course Fees, non members usually pay \$170 at the Launceston Art Society for the Workshop & no lunch :)

Bookings

Email: cwabridport@gmail.com
Mobile: 0437 752 762



CWA Bridport is excited to offer Foundations in Coloured Pencil one day workshop at our hall on Saturday August 22.



Please register your interest before 1st August at cwabridport@gmail.com or phone 0437 752 762.

Marilyn Theisel is a Tasmanian artist with a diverse creative background spanning textiles, drawing and mixed media. She holds an Associate Degree in Visual Arts from the University of Tasmania and a Diploma of Design completed in Kenya, along with further training in visual arts and innovative tapestry practices in Brazil.

Beginning her formal art studies later in life through the Wicking Research in Dementia program, Marilyn's practice has been shaped by curiosity, experimentation and a willingness to explore new materials and techniques.

BRIDPORT COMMUNITY MENS SHED

We have been busy splitting sticks which will be for sale soon.

We need more old fence palings.

We need more active members.

Interested? Please contact:

Jonathon (Jake) Frost

Treasurer 0427 026 493

jonathonfrost56@gmail.com

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**Saturday & Sunday
August 1 & 2, 2026
10am – 3pm
CWA Hall
4 Main Street, Bridport**



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0438 28 1352
Email: president@seaviewvillage.au

**SEAVIEW VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

FRIDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER 2026

Bridport Uniting Church

Corner Bentley & Main Streets

COMMENCING AT 9.30 A.M.

ENQUIRIES LEONIE JOHNSTON

MOBILE 0438 281 352

President@Seaviewvillage.au



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

British visitors charmed by another Bridport



A British couple managed to complete a long-distance newspaper delivery when they dropped off a copy of the Bridport and Lyme Regis News to the Pavilion.

Sue and Tony Browne were on a seven-day visit to Tasmania and had a call to Bridport at the top of their list of must dos.

The former Londoners did a real "escape to the country" 11 years ago, when they retired to an old pub building, the George, in Main Street, Bothenhampton, a suburb of Bridport, Dorset, England.

"We liked the seaside atmosphere and friendly locals," Mrs Browne said.

During their brief time in Bridport, Dorset, Tasmania, the couple could see the parallels. But they had an unexpected reminder during their visit to the pavilion, where a print of the Spirit of Bridport welcome sign by renowned English signwriter and illustrator George Biles hangs over the entry and a poster advertising their town's old tannery adorns a wall.

Picture: English visitors Sue and Tony Browne on the paper delivery run.



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The Barnboughe Cut by the Dorset Tasmania History Society

Whilst the property now known as Barnboughe has been covered in a previous Bridreport, this article will focus on “The Barnboughe Cut”, which was completed in 1923 in an attempt to drain the marsh land on the property for agricultural pursuits. Much of Barnboughe was a once a marshy area, located East of the mouth of the Great Forester River, and was described as a “terraqueous region of swamps and tea-tree forest.”

Barnboughe was originally granted to the Anderson Family in the 1830s, and was named Big Forrester. After Mrs Janet Anderson died in 1845, Martin

Stephenson of Launceston wrote to the Surveyor, James Scott, to “mark off” the Anderson original grants, as he intended to acquire them. Scott replied by advising Stephenson that the land was under four feet of water, over a swamp and could only be reached by boat.

Notwithstanding, Stephenson acquired part of the Anderson grant, and renamed it Barnboughe. In the early 1870s, the Barnboughe estate was noted for the beautiful English grasses and clover marshes on which grazed herds of Durham cattle. However, in later years, a sand drift blocked the river, causing the water to back up and flood the alluvial river flats that made up a large part of the property.

After Martin Stephenson passed away in 1895, Barnboughe was passed to his son, Charles Stephenson. As early as 1910, Charles considered the diversion of the river in an attempt to improve the arability of the marsh. Whilst there were many differences of opinion on the practicality of the project, Edward (Ted) Adams, who had experience draining the Jerusalem Plains, was determined the project should proceed. In 1913, Adams convinced the Government to spend about £600 of Waste Lands money on the project.

However, the money ran out before the project was completed and storms kept sending sand into the canal, closing it. After Charles Stephenson’s death in 1919, the property was acquired in 1920 by the brothers, Ted and Gordon Adams.

Determined to resurrect the project, Ted Adams recommenced the work in 1922, eventually completing it in 1923, at a cost of about £700. About £113 was contributed by the Government, whilst the remainder was raised through private enterprise. Ted Adams, would recover hundreds of acres of exceptionally rich river flats by letting the river run out to sea about seven miles upstream from the original mouth.

Newspaper reports of the 1930s said what was useless swamp, is now successful with the fattening of large numbers of sheep and cattle, and growing of a variety of crops. Challenges of shifting sand dunes continued, however stabilising programs generally arrested their drift. The North-Eastern Advertiser said in 1930 that “anyone looking at the canal for the first time would be pardoned if he asked what plant was used in cutting and deepening it. Many were surprised to learn that a plough drawn by bullocks was used to loosen the earth from the bottom over the width of the cut, and as the water came in from the river it washed the debris through to the sea, while men with picks and shovels built up the banks.” Tall tea-trees were removed by wires attached to stump pullers, and many logs and snags had to be removed. Once completed, The Cut was about one mile long, six to twelve feet deep, and about 30 feet wide.

Diverting Winter flooding through The Cut was later blamed for much of the silting up of the river downstream. Mr Charles Barnett once said the cut spoiled both the fishing and the river, stating that it is now possible to wade in the river, when it was once at least 15 feet deep and black with fish. Despite this, reports of fishing in The Cut in 1936 indicate that there was good Brown Trout to be found there.

In 1946, the Tasmanian Lands and Works Minister sought a report on the cost and viability of building a breakwater at Bridport as a result of serious deterioration of berthing facilities “largely caused by The Cut at Barnboughe”. The growth of commercial and recreational fishing required an improved berth for the various boats using it. The Cut has since closed and is no longer used. It would be interesting to see whether the project would have succeeded with the current environmental impact studies required for such an enterprise.

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.



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

