

THE VALLEY AND EAST COAST VOICE

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Established 1968

Price 50 cents

JUST YARNIN' - REVISITED - Tim McManus

Congratulations to Rod McGiveron for his historical recollections in the last issue of the "Valley Voice". Such contributions provide an invaluable record of past events, long after memories have faded.

The good thing about Rod's count of that disastrous flood and its consequences is its accuracy. He was uncertain about the month, it was in fact April not May but all the other details are correct, as those of us who lived through the period remember only too well.

An exacerbating factor was an immediately preceding wet March during which 342 mms of rain was recorded, followed by the flood rains in April producing a massive 501 mms. Indeed 1974 was one of the wettest years ever. A total of 1909 mms of rain fell on St Marys between 1 January and 31 December - about 80 inches in imperial figures or twice the annual average.

My children spent all of second term at St Helens school. Steels Beach at Falmouth was engulfed by an enormous quantity of debris, including about thirty beehives, some complete with bees and honey. They had been washed down from alongside the upper reaches of the Scamander River I eventually located the owner, the late Mr Bert Costello of St Helens, and helped him collect the hives, making sure he dealt with those boxes still full of live bees.

As Rod said, there were considerable livestock losses throughout the Valley, one witness declaring he saw several cows from

"Ormley" pass over the Trevallyn dam spillway. Two local farm employees were nearly drowned trying to save marooned animals. One of the main difficulties was the breakdown in communications the For some time floods caused. nobody knew what was happening or what roads were open or closed. In those days I was still providing clinical service the then Department of Agriculture and work of course had to continue despite hazards along the way. It is the only time in my career I ever had to be careful not to run over platypus on the roads!

Cullenswood Estate has traditionally endured the worst of big floods in the Break O'Day river system. Owners past and present have replaced every road bridge on the place many times. I remember one 'hairy' trip to that property after a substantial flood washed away their main bridge over the Break O'Day River, in November 1975 - the year after the 'big wet'. It was an urgent call, to a herd of cows suffering from acute bloat. The missing bridge had been temporarily replaced by two thick planks, slightly more than tyrewidth, stretching across swirling waters. Even worse, the approaches were from well below eye level, which meant one had to line up the vehicle beforehand, and drive with pounding heart and limited visibility, straight across without the slightest deviation; and it was a dark and stormy night. I think the return trip was worse!

I encourage everybody with

snippets of history to relate, or true stories to tell, to follow Rod McGiveron's example. Put your recollections on paper and send them into the "Valley Voice". When I was writing my history of Falmouth I was able to draw on many such records from their "Just Yarnin" series, of several years ago. Most of the contributors to that invaluable collection of local historical data have long since passed away.



CLASSIFIEDS

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WHAT'S ON

ST MARYS HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

A morning tea is to be held at the home of Mrs Doris Bullock at 10.30am on 9th March 1995. There will be a trade table and a raffle.

Everyone is welcome.

All proceeds are for the continuation of the work of the Hospital

Thank You Mike Wicks

ANTE NATAL CLASSES for expecting parents will be commencing on Thursday 2nd March at 6.00pm. Phone 722111 for details.

CAN YOU HELP THE HOSPITAL?

We are trying to establish an equipment pool at S.M.D.H. to lend out to people in need in the community. If you have anything you feel we could utilise please contact the hospital, physio dept or community health. Have a look in your sheds or cupboards, you may find old walking sticks or crutches. There may even be a bath board or shower chair, anything you feel we may need will be gratefully accepted and definitely put to good use.



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Visiting St Marys alternate Thursdays 9am - 10am 32 Main Street St Marys

Phone 34 0644 for appointments

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Church News

ANGLICAN PAROCHIAL DISTRICT OF THE NORTHERN MIDLANDS

FIRST SUNDAY	OF MONT	H	
Fingal	8.45 am	HC	
Campbell Town	9.00 am	MP	
Avoca	10.30 am	HC	
SECOND SUND	AY OF MO	NTH	
Fingal	8.45 am	FS	
Campbell Town	9.00 am	HC	
Ross	10.30 am	HC	
Avoca	10.30 am	FS	
THIRD SUNDAY	Y OF MON	TH	
Fingal	8.45 am	HC	
Campbell Town	9.00 am	MP	
Mathinna	3.00 pm	HC	
Avoca	7.00 pm	HC	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF MONTH			
Fingal	8.45 am	MP	
Campbell Town	9.00 am	HC	
Ross	10.30 am	HC	
Avoca	7.00 pm	EP	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF MONTH			
Campbell Town	9.00 am	HC	
Ross	10.30 am	HÇ	
Avoca	7.00 pm	HC	

BREAK O"DAY UNITING CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF MONTH		
Scamander	11.00 am	
Fingal	9.00 am	
St Helens	7,00 pm	
SECOND SUNDA	Y OF MONTH	
Scamander	9,00 am	
Fingal	9.30 am	
St Marys	11.00 am	
St Helens	7.00 pm	
THIRD SUNDAY	OF MONTH	
Scamander	9.00 am	
Fingal	9.30 am	
St Marys	11.00 am	
St Helens	7.00 pm	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF MONTH		
Scamander	9.00am	
Fingal	9.30 am	
St Marys	11.00 am	
St Helens	7.00 pm	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF MONTH		
St Helens	7.00 pm	

ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST HELENS

FIRST SUNDAY	OF MONTH
St Helens	9.00 am
Falmouth	11.00am
St Marys	10.00 am

SECOND SUNDAY OF MONTH St Helens 9.00 am St Marys 10.00 am

THIRD SUNDAY OF MONTH St Helens 9.00 am

Pyengana 11.00aam St Marys 10.00 am

FOURTH SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens 9.00am
St Marys 10.00 am
EIETH SUNDAY OF MONTH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens 9.00 am

SALVATION ARMY

Main Street ST MARYS (RSL HALL)

SERVICES

Sunday 9.30 am Sunday School 11.00am Family Worship

Wednesday

2.00 pm Ladies Fellowship

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Aux Captain & Mrs Tolputt Phone (003) 722 352

THRIFT SHOP

Wed-Fri 10.00 am - 2.00 pm Pickups phone (003) 722 352

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Hodgman Street Scamander

Sabbath School 10.00am Divine Service 11.00am

FINGAL VALLEY CRUSADE CENTRE

A Christian Revival Crusade Church meets at the Fingal Council Chambers

Sundays at 10.30 am Sunday School 11.00 am

> ALL WELCOME Enquiries - 741099



CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST MARYS

FIRST SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens Sat Vigil Mass 6.00 pm St Marys Sunday Mass 9.00 am Fingal Sunday Mass 10.30 am Bicheno Sunday Mass 4.00 pm SECOND SUNDAY OF MONTH St Helens Sat Vigil Mass 6.00 pm

St Marys Sunday Mass 9.00 am Mangana Eucharistic Ser 11.00 am Bicheno Sunday Mass 4.00 pm

THIRD SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens Sat Vigil Mass 6.00 pm St Marys Sunday Mass 9.00 am Fingal Sunday Mass 10.30 am Bicheno Sunday Mass 4.00 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens Sat Vigil Mass 6.00 pm St Marys Sunday Mass 9.00 am Bicheno Sunday Mass 4.00 pm Swansea Sunday Mass 6.00 pm

FIFTH SUNDAY OF MONTH

St Helens Sat Vigil Mass 6.00 pm.
St Marys Sunday Mass 9.00 am
Mathinna Eucharistic Ser11.15 am
Bicheno Sunday Mass 4.00 pm.

PRIEST: PAUL CONNOLLY

ST MARYS

PHONE (003) 722 252

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

BREAK-0-DAY COUNCIL OFFICES

WHERE WILL THEY BE LOCATED?????

Sir

Amalgamation of the Fingal & Portland Councils appears to have gone fairly smoothly so far and one would expect the next thing on the agenda will be to address the issue of location for the central office.

You don't have to be a mathematical genius to realise that the cost in running two offices results in considerable wastage of rate payers money. As rate payers I feel it is time that we the community took a look at the options and then make sure that we let all Councillors know our feelings, what ever they may be.

So what are the options?

- Move the entire office to St Helens, to a building that has seen better days and is probably inadequate for the job at hand.
- Move the entire office to Fingal, utilising a relatively new modern building, which until amalgamation was meeting the Fingal Councils needs.
- 3. Build a completely new office at a new location, probably on the coast, at considerable cost to the rate payers.

We must think about these options now, if you have a preference on the options write to Council and make sure that they are aware of your preferred site for the Break-O-Day Council Offices.

A. Wines

Ratepayer

PR ROGER PUCKRIDGE DENTIST

NOW VISITING ST HELENS ON THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS

AND

DR POTTER IS VISITING ON TUESDAYS.

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The article "Come on St Marys" signed R.McGiveron in last issue was submitted by Rodney McGiveron not Mrs Ruth McGiveron

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S M A C D History Committee

Just a reminder that SMACD are hoping to establish History Rooms in the future.

Please keep us in mind before you throw out anything that is old, it is probably just what we need.

Remember if it's old it has history value. Please contact

Lyn Brown

722 184 or

Karen Saunders

722 242

We will be only too happy to come and have a look at your old items or photos.

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CHECK OUR BLACKBOARD FOR WEEKLY SPECIALS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Since the amalgamation of the Fingal and Portland Councils, it is obvious that some members of the new Break O'Day Council and the Groom Government are giving very little support to the Fingal Valley residents.

We are aware that development is taking place in the coastal regions, but new houses are also being constructed in inland areas.

It is a publicised fact that almost 40% of the houses constructed in the coastal area are for shack owners, and not permanent residents. Why then in the Fingal Valley are all services such as Council Chambers, Hydro Office, Police Station (vehicle checks etc only at Campbell Town or St Helens) Banks, Aged Care, Telecom being transferred to St Helens, where it is recognised that an influx of 10 000 people occurs only for a short period throughout the year.

Since St Marys and Fingal are the centres of this Municipality it stands to reason that all services should remain at these centres and not be moved at an excessive cost to the tax payer.

Fingal Council Chambers is an impressive building needing very little upgrading, so why should money be spent to combine the St Helens Police Station and Council Chambers and convert it to a new Council Chambers. Does this mean that St Helens must also have a new Police Station when St Marys already have one which was built for Head Office in this region.

When services are not centralised citizens in such places as Upper Esk, Mathinna and Mangana are greatly disadvantaged.

LET US ALL IN THE FINGAL VALLEY STAND UP FOR OUR RIGHTS.

Marelene Guy Mathinna

It is time the people of the Fingal Valley were made aware of the disruption occurring in our region of the Break O'Day Municipality. The Groom Government and some councillors are closing important facilities to our detriment.

Considering the Fingal Council Chambers is easily accessible to the far reaching members of the Community it is an obvious choice for this to remain open.

All services at St Marys are also in danger of being transferred to St Helens and if we, of the Fingal Valley, do not proclaim our dissatisfaction we are going to be left with ghost towns.

Let us not be complacent regarding this matter, let the council know of your disapproval by all writing letters.

M Wicks

ACTIVE GIRLS TRIATHLON

Any girls interested in competing in the 1995 Commonwealth Bank Active Girls Triathlon please collect an entry form from Mr Pickett.

The event will be held at the Cressy pool on Sunday 12 March at 8.30 a.m.

Entry Fee - \$3.00

Swim 200 - 400m

Ride 6 - 12 K

Run 2.4 - 4K

Depending on age

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

am delighted to be able to write to you all in this our first newsletter for 1995. By now all school staff and students are hard at work aiming for that goal of excellence.

As many of you would already know, all teachers began work on Monday 13. We spent our first two days undertaking Professional Development work with Ida McCann from the University of Tasmania on National Statements and Profiles. This time has enabled the staff at St. Marys to gain a better understanding of the use of these national curriculum documents. It has also meant that we are now as well informed or indeed better informed about these documents than most teachers in this State.

I am happy to report that once again St. Marys District High School has a most professional and skilled staff to work with your children. I am delighted to welcome Mrs June Wise who will be working with Mrs Anne Bennet, and Miss Megan Piercey who will be teaching kinder, a day with Mrs Lodge's group and primary music. Obviously a talented young teacher. Mrs Jane Pickett also joins us in a senior teacher role in charge of the 5-8 area of the school. We look forward to the skills Mrs Pickett can bring to our school.

This year I look forward to working with you, your children and our staff. I am of the strong opinion that a good principal is an involved principal. I will therefore be spending time each day moving about the various classrooms working with all students. In order that I can undertake what I believe to be a very important part of my job I will be unavailable for interviews, letc between 9.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. I also have teaching responsibilities at certain times of the week.

lease bear with me in my pursuit of moving around your school working with your children and staff. I will make myself available at all other times and a timetable below will outline to you the best times to contact me.

I could go on forever expressing what I believe and understand to be important about education and my other roles. However, if I don't stop soon your first newsletter will contain nothing more than a letter from me, and besides there are more newsletters for me to contact you all.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your children a very rewarding and educative year. I look forward to working with all concerned. Don't hesitate to visit the school at any time. WE ARE AN OPEN SCHOOL.

I will be available for interviews, etc at the following times.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10.30 - 11.30 1.00-2.15	11.30-3.00	11.30-3.30	11.30-1.30 2.30-3.30	10,30-3.30

John Marshall ACTING PRINCIPAL



THANK YOU

Anyone entering the school on the first day would have to notice the terrific job that our cleaning and ground staff had done prior to the beginning of school.

I have never seen a school look cleaner or better presented than St. Marys District High at the start of 1995.

Thanks Keri, Jennie, Vivien, Ron and Olivier.

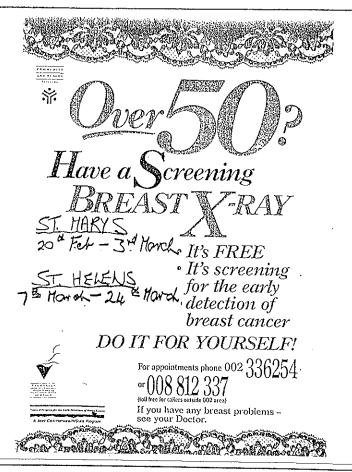
Also a big thankyou for the work carried out by Maureen and Karen prior to the start of the year. Their handling of book sales, etc. was extremely efficient and I'm sure appreciated by all.

John Marshall ACTING PRINCIPAL



Hands are clapping and toes are tapping. We are dancing our way through 1995. Australian Teachers of Dancing Examinations will be available to all prepared students. Examiners usually come from the Mainland in July. It is hoped we will be able to have a staged performance this December and would love to have you dancing with us. Enrolment forms are available by phoning Miss Francesca on 76 1127.

All dance classes are held in St Helens.



"MAC'S OPINION -LEAVE PEDDER ALONE"

Almost a quarter of a century ago a momentous decision was made to increase the capacity of a largely inaccessible and ordinary lake for hydro - purpose. That controversial decision of the time caused a furore, as surely now, would a vote to reverse the situation. That lake of course is Pedder.

If people were serious and analytical could they justify the estimated \$5000 million cost of reverting Pedder to its original size. There must be better ways of spending that sort of money. What about cleaning up the King River for a start. Conservationists seem to think that to drain Pedder would be symbolic and an example to the world.

Apart from the monetary cost for that work, what of the additional substantial cost to the adapted eco-system over the past 23 or 24 years not to mention that of the enormous loss to the trout fishing and tourism industries.

Trout and tourism go hand in hand and Pedder as it is now is a mecca for enthusiasts and is renowned for the quality of its fishing world wide. That \$5000 million would probably blow out beyond comprehension just so that a few people could observe a much smaller lake with a beach around it. Of course there are reputable business people and employees whose whole future relies on Pedder and its associated side effects.

The flooding right or wrong will be debated for ever more. It has however led to a terrific resource that provides so much enjoyment for anglers and tourists alike. Lets hope that our pollies leave well enough alone and let the Big Pedder become an ongoing integral part of our States future.

What do you think?????

FINGAL FESTIVAL SATURDAY MARCH 4TH

St Marys Takeaway

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OUTPATIENT WARNING

THOUSANDS OF TODAY'S operations are done on an outpatient basis – but merely because a procedure doesn't require a hospital stay doesn't mean it's risk-free. All operations carry risks during surgery and for several days afterwards.

According to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, more than one-third of serious post-operative complications – such as heart attack, stroke or pneumonia – occur more than 48 hours following the procedure, well after the patient has gone home. Here's some advice for those planning same-day surgery:

• Don't go home alone or stay alone on the first night.

● Don't drive for several hours – preferably not for a day – after surgery, because the effects of anaesthesia are comparable to several alcoholic drinks.

• Get the telephone number of the surgeon, the anaesthetist and the facility

where the procedure was performed.

Make sure you have postoperative instructions on medications, what to eat and drink, activity level, bathing, wound care and what to do in an emergency.

TRY HUGS NOT DRUGS

CAN YOU HELP?

No matter how carefully a speed laboratory is concealed inside normal-looking premises, manufacturing the drug produces unusual circumstances and behaviour. As part of the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse, police say these are indicators to watch for:

- * Unusual activity or traffic to and from vacant or remote premises.
- * Unusually tight security like guard dogs and high fences.
- * Stored or discarded chemical container.
- * Unaccountable fires, smoke, explosions or odours.
- * Inconsistent or irregular occupancy of motel and hotel rooms, rented premises, factories, warehouses, caravans or commercial buildings.
- * Blackened or covered windows.
- * Delivery of chemicals, gas cylinders or laboratory equipment.
- * Alterations to water and/or electricity services.
- * Unaccountable headaches or nausea.

If you notice anything suspicious, do not investigate premises or question anyone involved, police advise. Instead, call the appropriate number Tasmania (002) 30 2690 or 1 800 005 555.

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6	Kath Read
7	Helen Napier
8	Audrey Wrigh
9	Kaye Nailer
10	Col Webster

13

14

15

16

17

FINGAL
Carol Woods
Patsy Death
Prev Mills
Jill Miller
Data Water

MATHINNA
Mavis Brooks
Kaye Turner
Cynthia Webb
Christine Scott
Kaye Turner

Col Webster	Bob Yates
Barbara Mitchell	Christine Wood
Wendy Aulich	Debbie Speers
Glen Lodge	Jessie Burbury
Shirley Britton	Jack Miller
Liz Guy	M. Saunders

Mavis Brooks
Kaye Turner
Cynthia Webb
Christine Scott
Kaye Turner



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES, TASMANIA PUBLIC DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ONLY

It is proposed that new licensing arrangements will become effective in October 1995 and are based on recommendations from the recreational sector. These arrangements will include a recreational fishing licence that will require endorsements for taking crayfish, abalone and scallops and to use beach seine nets and gillnets. A licence will not be required for other activities, such as line fishing. Provision is made for a simple numbering system so that gear will not have to be remarked each year and a renewable licensing system.

The endorsement that will be required to use a graball net, a beach seine net or a 20 metre mullet net will, for the first time, allow monitoring of participation in those fisheries. Splitting the dive licence into three components will provide data on participation in the separate dive fisheries.

Plans to introduce a crayfish tagging system have been dropped due to cost and because a similar arrangement is not likely to go ahead for the commercial fishery in 1995/96. An alternative proposal (used in Western Australia) requiring crayfish taken for recreation to be tail punched or tail clipped will be more effective than tags in reducing the illegal sale of crayfish.

Recreational netting will face some new restrictions, to reduce fishing pressure on depleted scale fish stocks. Only one graball net is being allowed per person, and the length of mullet nets is being cut to 20 metres.

A limit of three will be placed on the number of gillnets that can be carried or used on a boat. This restriction which equates to a maximum of 150 metres of net will apply also to commercial vessels not qualifying for special scale fish licences. Commercial operators will also be restricted from using graball nets and crayfish pots for recreational fishing on a trip when fish are being taken for sale or commercial gear is

Subject to other controls, only the following gear may be used by the person while recreational fishing without a noncommercial fishing licence:- rods and hand lines with no more than 5 hooks, or lures attached, one cast net, one minnow trap, one hand spear, one spear gun, one shrimp trap, one landing net or gaff, one dab net, one starfish trap, octopus traps, up to 4 crayfish rings, each having a maximum diameter of 1 metre Subject to other controls, the following gear may be used by a person while recreational fishing only when holding a noncommercial fishing licence with the appropriate endorsement:one crayfish pot, one graball net up to 50 metres in length, one mullet net up to 20 metres in length, one beach seine net up to 50 metres in length, one scallop dredge less than 1 metre wide and with no teeth or depressor plate.



Mick Bramich & Mandy McDonald Licensees 722181

COUNTER MEALS

Mon - Sat 12 - 2pm 6 - 8pm

SPECIALS

NA APPLICA	
Vat 69	\$22.50
Johnnie Walker Red	\$28.00
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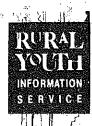
Campbell Town

Enquiries may be directed through:

Mr Leo Lane Campbell Town 811 472

Mr T Pears Campbell Town 811 167

> **B** Davidson Launceston 444 577



Dear Editor,

I've been visiting the Fingal Valley/St Marys area for a number of years as the Rural Youth Information Service Officer, sponsored by Glenara. As a visiting service I encounter a number of difficulties, such as access to young people - there is no youth structure to network into, apart from the schools; local contacts with all members of the community are hard to establish and maintain; trust and acceptance are difficult to achieve with a visit to a town once a week.

As your readers are no doubt keenly aware, the majority of young people, who are able to, often leave the area at the end of Grade 10 and there are not enough jobs to go round for the ones who stay. The challenge is to find ways to enable those who stay to participate in a meaningful way in their own community. The community often only notices the young people in its midst when they express themselves in an anti-social manner, such as by crime, vandalism, drug and alcohol abuse or, tragically by suicide.

There are funds from various sources to assist local communities to provide services to young people, especially in Tasmania where youth unemployment is so high. However, to access such funds requires a creative and collaborative approach. It is difficult for individual services, particularly visiting services to initiate projects which will fully meet local needs. What is required is that key organisations, such as the Local Council and local business groups, tapping into regional economic development plans, assist services to be more effective and to take advantage of whatever resources exist.

I would be interested to hear the views of others in the community on ways in which we might work together to help our young people lead fulfilling lives.

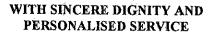
Yours sincerely, Lynda Taylor Rural Youth Information Service Glenara PO Box 328 Kings Meadows 7249

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SMACD INC REPORT

COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, ART & DESIGN

Funding for this project has been made available from the AUSTRALIA COUNCIL. Development so far: John Latham, Urban Designer, has been appointed project co-ordinator. Last week John visited St Marys to have a look around and get an outsiders view of the town.

Thanks to the Fingal History Room ladies, the Historian on the project has been provided with a thesis on the districts history.

In the next few months, the specialists working on the project will visit St Marys to conduct workshops with the community. It is hoped these workshops will be well attended, as community participation should play a major role in the project.

FOSSIL DISPLAY

The Rubenach family are to be commended for their work done with this display. Over the two weeks that Sarah and Hannah were open they had 117 people through the door and caused quite a bit of interest from visitors to the town. Unfortunately the girls school commitments don't allow them to have the display as a permanent fixture, maybe we can work on it for next year using volunteers.

The display is now available for viewing at the Rubenach family home in Dalmain Road, Gray.

SMACD INC OBJECTIVES

"TO PROMOTE A SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AND CO-OPERATION WITHIN ST MARYS COMMUNITY AND STIMULATE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY..."

Please, if you agree with these objectives and share our concern as to the future of St Marys and the surrounding district come along to our next meeting. We are presently in need of fund raisers. If you have any new and innovative ideas in this regard we would love to hear them.

The next meeting has been moved to Tuesday 7 March due to Monday 6 being a public holiday.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY J MARCH COACH HOUSE 7.30 PM SEE YOU THERE

Annette

. Coach House Restaurant

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LANDCARE NEWS - Jan Sparkes

MARCH IS NATIONAL LANDCARE MONTH

St Marys Landcare Group celebrates National Landcare month with 2 200 other landcare groups across Australia. St Marys Landcare Group believes this is a time to remember how vital it is that Australians work together to save our land and water resources.

The theme of National Landcare months is "Catchments", and so it is important we all look at the impact of our actions on our local catchment.

The St Marys Landcare Group is currently working on cleaning up and beautifying a highly visible stretch of St Marys Rivulet. The good news is that despite the recent heavy flooding none of the seedlings planted on the bank was lost! Plants are growing rapidly and the excellent mulch bought from Doug Preece is certainly helping to send down a deep root system which kept the young trees and shrubs on the bank.

The major problems we are facing in this catchment are The "crack willows", gorse and caused by weeds. blackberry growing on the stream banks cause water flow problems of which we are all aware. The flooding problems we experienced last month are a consequence of this land degradation issue. The St Marys Landcare Group is currently tackling these problems with the Break O'Day Council in writing submissions for funding to help overcome some of these problems.

The theme of Landcare month is Catchments because everybody lives in one, and we want people to be more aware of the impact that each one of us has on soil, water and vegetation.

Water catchments like St Marys Rivulet are really big drainage systems. All parts are linked. Action in one place can have a big impact on another part of the catchment.

Soil is a farmer's most precious asset. When soil is left

unprotected, wind and water can cause erosion and runoff into the nearest waterway, causing problems downstream with silt and pollution. In the same away, someone using detergents with high levels of phosphate can be adding phosphate to the waterways and contributing to blue green algae blooms in rivers in other states.

People are starting to think along the lines of their catchment and recognising the effects that their actions have. It is vital that we see the links between our actions and their results. Cutting down trees at the top of a catchment can cause the water table to rise and create salinity problems lower down in the catchment. In towns and cities we can easily see how a catchment works with our storm water drains. Everything that's lying on the street gets swept into the drain when it rains and ends up in a river or ocean. This is the bottom of the catchment - and that's where you get to see the problems.

So let's all remember EVERYONE lives in a water catchment!

RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB NEWS **NEXT SHOOT**

MARCH 1995

PISTOL Rapid Fire/Free Pistol 50 m Sun 5 Double 700 yards - Campbell Town RIFLE Sun 12 COMMITTEE MEETING Fri 17 Club Championships - Fingal RIFLE Sat 18 PISTOL Centre Fire Sports/Silhouette Sun 19 Inter Assoc Shoot - Smithon RIFLE Sat 25 800/900 Yards - Campbell Town RIFLE **Sun 26**

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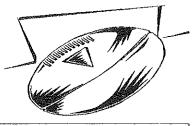
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SPORT



FOOTBALL

A lot has happened in a short lead up to our '95 season, with the amalgamation of Fingal and St Marys to form the new Valley Saints Football Club. This option was taken up by both committees to solve the ongoing problem of player shortages and the growing cost of fielding competitive teams with contract players. The new club sees this as a new start, hopefully to a brighter and more certain future for football in the Valley. Although it is always a sad thing that so much history is shelved through the amalgamation, both Clubs I'm sure will always remember their heydays with great relish.

Although there were always doubts about the smoothness of such a great change, you only have to see the endeavours of the players so far on the training track to realise that they like the idea of a new start. The new committee have worked very hard to compromise a few points, but always looking at what is best for **both teams!** This has worked well so far, and we hope that in the long run, football will be the big winner.

Senior coach is Craig Jones, Reserves Glenn McDonald and Thirds at this stage to be announced. Practise matches organised at this stage are Ringarooma at Fingal Saturday 11 March, Branxholm at Branxholm on Saturday 19 March and another at St Marys on Saturday 25 March to be announced. As everyone can see, there's only two training runs until the first practise match. That's fine for those who have done most of the hard training early, but for the ones not sighted on the track yet, it will only make it more difficult to get to match fitness. So if you have intentions of playing, let's see you on the track and I'm sure you'll be surprised, as everyone is, about how well the players are blending in.

There may be bigger problems ahead, but they will be dealt with as they arise, the main thing that everyone can look forward to is the continuing of our favourite winter sport and hopefully the new Club can put to the ground every Saturday some competitive and high local-content teams.

Valley Saints Football Club

We are offering \$50 first prize for a suitable theme song and music (just write, sung to Waltzing Matilda etc) which includes the line "Oh When The Saints Come Marching In". Keep the entries to several lines only and addressed to:

The Secretary

Valley Saints Football Club

St Marys Tas 7215

Decision by the Committee will be final and compeition will close by last mail on Friday 10 March, so get those pens running hot.

GOLF NOTES

OPENING DAY - 22.2.95

Canadian Draw Partner

Winner N

M Cook - B Cobb

621/2

Bev Cobb is a visitor from Queensland

Nearest Pin

L Clayton - J Tapp

BROOCH - 1.3.95

Winner

Jess Redshaw

7th

65 nett

(Jess reduced her handicap 29 - 28)

Judy Blake had 66 nett

2nd Div

Wendy Haas

67 nett

Nearest Pin May Cook

Jess Redshaw won the raffle that was donated by A Calder. Maureen Murray had a gobbler on the 3rd.

NEXT WEEK - 8.3.95 - STROKE

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