

THE VALLEY & EAST COAST VOICE

Volume 36 No. 15

Thursday 20 November 2003

50 cents

The high cost of fires

Since early September St Marys Fire Brigade has been called out to over 20 vegetation fires, all fires have been deliberately lit uncontrolled fires. Several of these fires have been larger fires with the possibility of causing major destruction to property.

There has been a high number of fires occurring around Top Marshes Road/Germantown road area. Could anyone that has information as to the possible cause of any illegal fire, pass this information on to the local police, regardless of how trivial you may think it to be, it might be the missing link to getting this problem stopped before someone gets killed. This information can be given anonymously.

The cost of these fires is quite considerable, with hundreds of personnel and vehicle hours involved.

Below is a summary of the hours and cost to the taxpayer, of the last three large fires.

3rd Nov. '03 Lower German Town Road:	12/13/14/ Nov. '03 Elephant Pass	15/16 Nov. '03 German Town Road
3 Tas Fire Service appliances	6 National Parks & Wildlife Units	4 Tas fire Service Units
1 Dozer	5 Tas Fire Service Units	1 Dozer
14 Personnel	32 Personnel	19 Personnel
Man hours: 117 hrs	Man hours: 275 hrs	Man hours: 230 hrs
Costing in excess of \$5,100.00	Costing in excess of \$10,700.00	Costing in excess of \$9,900.00

As you can see just in three fires these total in excess of \$25,700.00, when you take away the volunteer portion of this cost (approx \$5,500) it still leaves a bill of over \$20,00.00 which the tax payer has to pay. This sum is arrived from operational costs of equipment and insurances, and does not include any wages of Tas Fire Service personnel operating the communications and administration areas.

Playground Project under way

The Lions Club of St Marys have initiated a project to install a new playground to meet the current Australian Safety Standards, in the Lions/Library Park area on the level ground at the rear of the Public Library.

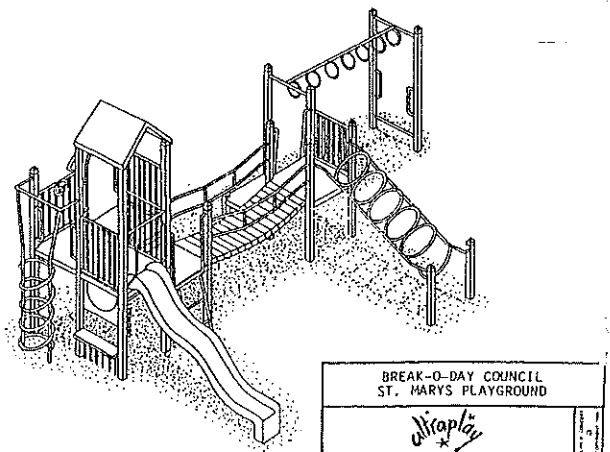
The equipment shown in the drawing should arrive in the next five to six weeks and will be installed during January 2004 with the assistance of the Break O'Day Council. The playground ordered is manufactured by Adventure Playgrounds in Melbourne and supplied by Sturdybuilt in Devonport and will be in earth theme colours of Mist Green, Sand and Tuscan Red. The cost is funded by a \$7,000 grant from the Break O'Day Township Funding and the remaining 50% by the Lions Club, raised from local fundraising and the sale of the train.

The project has obtained full Planning Approval to be installed and will provide a much needed facility for our children and passing visitors as well. It is planned to add other equipment in St Marys as funding becomes available. It will be your playground - Please care for it!

Lions Club of St Marys

Deadline for articles to be included in the next issue of The Valley Voice is **Tuesday 2nd Dec. '03.**

Last paper for 2003 will be on Thursday 18th December. The Valley Voice will take a break and return mid-February 2004



Coming events & Community notices

Farewell for Dot

A farewell barbeque will be held for Dorothy White on Friday 21st November at the St Marys Sports Centre. More details are given in the Sports Centre news

Break O'Day Community Enterprise Co-operative next get together will be at the St Marys Hotel Coffee Shop on Thursday 27th November at 2 pm

W.A.G.S raffle

1st prize: Tanya Greenwood
2nd prize: Charlie Cormack
3rd prize: Jessica Panoff

Next Tasmania Lymphoedema Centre Inc. meeting will be on Monday 15th December

St Marys Playgroup meets 1st & 3rd Thursday every month. 10 - 12 pm in the school Kindy room. New families always welcome. Pixie Photos taken 29th November only \$10.95 Great Christmas present. Bookings close soon.

Toy Catalogues: remember to order soon, home delivery option only.

Support any of our fundraising activities if you can. Thank you.

See you at the Spring Fair with lots of great activities for littlies.

More info: Trish 6372 2072 or Tanya 6372 2534

Designer Hair

St Marys 6372 2108

Monday	Lyn	10 - 8
Tuesday	Lyn	10 - 8
Wednesday	Kelly	9 - 5
Thursday	Kelly	9 - 5
Friday	Kelly	9 - 5
	Fran	10 - 1
	Lyn	2 - 8 (by app)



Tender: St Marys Cleaning Contract

Break O'Day Council invites tenders for a contract position in St Marys. Duties include cleaning of St Marys Town Hall, Public Toilets and Barbecue area.

Tenders should be submitted on a rate per fortnight basis. Tenders close 12 noon on Thursday November 27 2003 and are to be placed in an envelope marked "Tender - St Marys Cleaning Contract" and delivered to the St Helens Office or mailed to P O Box 21 St Helens 7216.

Full specifications are available from Council, please contact Marissa Southwell on (03) 6376 1281.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Brian Inches
General Manager

Email: admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

Web: www.bodc.tas.gov.au



Lions Club of St Marys Christmas Stocking

The Christmas stocking is now on display in the St Marys Post Office

Tickets on sale @ \$1 each

Stocking drawn at St Marys Christmas Party Christmas Eve

Giant Garage Sale

Medea Park Residential Care

17 Circassian Street St Helens

in the grounds of Doyle Cottage (enter via Viney Street)

Saturday 22nd November '03

8 am to 12 noon

Includes auction of TC Cortina at 10.30 am

Donations of marketable items will be gratefully received to help Medea Park in its fundraising efforts.

Please drop items off to Reception during office hours, phone 6376 1355 or call Gary during working hours on 0407 684 153 to arrange pick-up of goods.

Deb's Costume Hire

Do you need a fancy dress costume?

Plenty to choose from at a reasonable rate.



Please call Deb on 6372 2261





Break O'Day Council Australia Day Awards 2004

The Break O'Day Volunteer Resource Centre and the Break O'Day Healthy Community Project have joined forces with Break O'Day Council to expand the 2004 Australia Day Awards. The aim of the awards is to recognise the outstanding contributions made to our community by individuals and organisations each year and three new award categories have been introduced for 2004.

The Break O'Day Volunteer Resource Centre will be sponsoring two new awards - the Award for Outstanding Volunteer Effort (individual) and the Award for Outstanding Volunteer Achievement (organisations). The volunteer awards have been introduced in recognition of the generosity of individuals and organisations in the Break O'Day area who give their time, effort and skill to the community in a volunteer capacity.

The Healthy Community Project (which is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aging and managed by the Break O'Day Health Resource Association) has introduced a new award category for health. The Break O'Day Health Initiative Award will be presented to an outstanding initiative that encompasses an approach to health and wellbeing which can include social, emotional, spiritual or physical health. More information can be obtained about this award by contacting the Healthy Community Project on 6376 5242.

Mayor Stephen Salter commented that the Australia Day Awards are a terrific opportunity to thank individuals and organisations for their contribution to the community. "We are fortunate to have so many people who are willing to give their time to help others and their efforts help make Break O'Day such a great place to live and visit. I would encourage members of the public to take the time to nominate a person or organisation that they feel is worthy of recognition".

The 2004 Australia Day Awards ceremony will be held on the St Helens Waterfront on Monday 26th January, the conclusion to a weekend of fantastic events in Break O'Day. Other events being held on the Australia Day long weekend include the popular Rotary Club Regatta and Seafood Festival on Saturday 24 January and the St Helens Garden Club Summer Flower and Vegetable Show on the 24 and 25 January. The Rotary Club of St Helens is also planning a twilight rodeo to be held on 25 January which is an exciting new event for the area.

Information forms for all the awards are available from the Break O'Day Council Office.

P O Box 21 St Helens Tas 7216

Phone 6376 1281

Email: admin@bodc.tas.gov.au Website: www.bodc.tas.gov.au

Auxiliary fundraising

The members of the St Marys Hospital Auxiliary would like to sincerely thank those who assisted in any way whatsoever in making their stalls run at the Centre's Fair, the resounding success they were.

As a result of the raffle and stalls, in excess of \$1,000 was made which in turn will be for the benefit and well being of the patients or clients of our Health Centre.

Our congratulations and commendations go to our Centre Manager Sophie and her staff for the dedication and hard work required to turn a vision into a brilliant reality. Well done.

The raffle winners were:

- 1st. Sheet set. Dillon McDonald
- 2nd. Dinner Set. Joan May
- 3rd. Pasta Set. Dawn Lodge
- 4th. Oriental Dinner Set. Shirley Phillips
- 5th. Travel Bag. Jack Kellaway
- 6th. Pot Plant. Mrs Clout
- 7th. Multi-picture frame. R Margison

Many thanks,

K J Faulkner Secretary



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AH 6372 2277



Police report. *Constable Simon Triffitt St Marys Station*

No helmet - could be \$80 on the spot !!

We have had a number of reports of people of all ages not wearing helmets while riding bikes and it seems to be a few particular names are continually to us. We can issue an \$80 on the spot fine for anyone not wearing a helmet, and I'm sure we could all think of better ways of spending that amount of money.

The fire season is upon us and the past number of weeks we have seen a number of fires close to the St Marys township. Although given the fact that there has been a period of warmer weather leading up to the start of the fires, there seems to be an indication that the fires have been purposely lit. With the fire ban period just commencing, we would ask everyone to be vigilant in reporting any signs of fire and also note people or vehicles that may be seen in the area of the fire in case the fire has been purposely lit.

Leading up to Christmas the Police Station office hours will be changed slightly, so if your registration or licences are due, we suggest that you pay them early to avoid any inconveniences.
St Marys Police Officers will still be on normal duty.

St Marys Station Hours for Christmas/New Year Period Only

Monday 22nd December 2003	9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday 23rd December	Closed
Wednesday 24th December	Closed
Thursday 25th December	Closed - Christmas Day
Friday 26th December	Closed - Boxing Day
Monday 29th December	9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday 30th December	9.30 am to 3 pm
Wednesday 31st December	9 am to 4 pm
Thursday 1st January 2004	Closed - New Years Day
Friday 2nd January	<i>Resumption of normal office hours</i>
Closed during 12 to 1 pm each working day	

Meals on Wheels Roster

Nov / Dec		St Marys	Fingal
Mon	24h	Audrey Wright	Debra Speers (W)
Tues	25th	Lorraine Gill	Katrina Johnson
Wed	26th	Glen Lodge	Debbie Speers (N)
Thurs	27th	Yvonne Salter	Sue Woods
Fri	28th	Tracy Bean	Mim Woods
Mon	1st	Debbie Barnes	Carole Woods
Tues	2nd	M & P Berwick	Prev Mills
Wed	3rd	Mick Sharman	Barbara Saunders
Thurs	4th	Yvonne Salter	Patsy Death
Fri	5th	Peter Williams	Malcolm Saunders

Fingal Online Access Centre

Old Tasmania Hotel
Fingal Ph 6374 2222
Neighbourhood House 6374 2344
Email: fingal@tco.asn.au

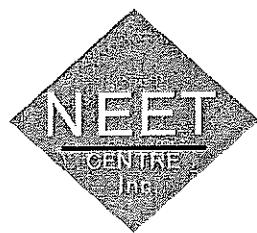
ST MARYS NEWSAGENCY

Storey Street St Marys
Ph 6372 2143
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK



We have 16 Christmas cards for \$2
5 m Wrap for \$2.50
Plus lots of Christmas lights & decorations

Short Courses on Offer



Water Awareness for Toddlers

to coincide with the 2003—2004 pool season. A great opportunity to get your toddler water aware with summer fast approaching.

Instructor: Trish McArdle
(AustSwim Accredited for toddler and infant water safety)

Age: 18 months - 4 years

Venue: School Pool (adult to be in pool with toddler)

Date: Monday 1st December - Friday 5th December

Time: First Session - 12.45pm

Sessions: 20 minute daily sessions

Cost: \$25.00 for 5 sessions



If interested, please leave details with Liz at the office on 6372 3900.

Spaces are limited so early bookings are essential.



**2004
CALENDAR**
\$7.95ea

Beautiful Tasmanian Scenes

Available from the School Office.
Proceeds to Parents & Friends to assist
with the End of Year Book Prizes.



**PARENTS & FRIENDS
GENERAL MEETING**

TUES 29TH NOV

**7.00pm in the staffroom
ALL WELCOME**

Dental Clinic

The dental clinic will again be open on
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th November

Please phone and leave a message on
their machine - 6372 2488.



For emergencies please call Kelham Street on 6336 4100

Proposed purchase of the St Marys Railway Station

To the residents of St Marys and the Fingal Valley communities, this letter is to clarify a few rumours regarding the purchase and use of the St Marys Railway Station.

To see the building being vandalised and falling into a general state of disrepair, made us realise that something had to be done to preserve it, before it was too late.

We have been negotiating with Tasrail, Crown Land Department and the local Council in an attempt to purchase the Station since July 2002.

After a conversation with our local Real Estate agent, we discovered the building was for sale and the process to purchase was to submit a Business Plan through the Break O'Day Business Enterprise Centre. This Business Plan was to indicate our intentions of use for the building, purchase price etc.

At that time it was open for the general public to purchase.

The Business Plan was then to be submitted to Tasrail for the decision of which proposal was in the best interest of the township.

The building is on the National Trust Registrar and was built in 1886, and our intentions are firstly to do much needed maintenance work on the building. The future plan for the building is to have a History Room mainly with Fingal Valley history, brochures on some pioneering families and identities of our area.

We also hope to place in the two small rooms of the building, giftware, new and quality preloved clothing. Outdoor plants and Devonshire Teas are other ideas we would like to offer later down the track.

All these things take time and money, it has been a long process dealing with different departments, with some hurdles presented to us in just purchasing the land and building alone.

We hope the community will welcome the plans we have for the Railway Station and when everything has been finalised and we are finally the owners of the building, we will be asking the community if they would be interested in helping in any way with information, photos, small memorabilia or just a good tale of the past for the History Room.

We are local people, with our families being long term residents of St Marys, with Darlene's ancestors, the Dakins, being early settlers in the Valley.

Michael and Darlene Wright

Dear Sir

In answer to "Just wondering" 6 November '03, we the folk of St Marys definitely pay our "dues to Rome". Apart from a vacant block which has been bought for a specific purpose, I think our main street is clean and tidy, unlike Fingal which has old stone buildings along it's main street. I can't wait till our line of trees really grow. Also congratulations to the man on the mower. Some of our dues must go to that.

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Ph/Fax 6376 1153

0418 133 420

Office & Residence: 114 Cecilia St. St. Helens
Chapel: 46 Tully Street St Helens

*We are here when you need us to arrange Burial or
Cremation. Pre-paid and pre-arranged funeral plans are
available.*



Beautiful Spring in St Marys

Tim Morris, Green Member for Lyons

I had the pleasure of spending a couple of days in the St Marys area in early November. Lots of things to see, the weather was great, people were welcoming, and I didn't want to leave.

Many local issues were brought to my attention such as the proposed logging of South Sister and St Patrick's Head, various development proposals along the coast, and road safety.

A smaller but very noticeable issue I also came across was the roadside vegetation slashing along German Town Road. That was the worst bit of slashing I have seen for a long time. It was messy to say the least, sharp stumps have been left; it seems to have been done by somebody who truly didn't care for the area. I know that in the big scheme of things, roadside slashing is maybe not the most important issue but I felt that it was a slightly sad symptom of cheapest is best. Whoever was responsible for that needs a good talking to! (it is not the fault of the tractor driver, he was only doing his job).

One of the most beautiful spots I visited was near Scamander where a very large development is now about to be proposed in a quiet, minimally disturbed patch of coastal forest where I photographed some stunning wildflowers. I suggest that interested/concerned locals keep an eye open for a developmental application, which is just about to be lodged with the Council, and make representations.

Regarding the various proposed logging coupes in the area, I am pleased to see how organised locals have managed to get a better outcome for the Irishtown logging rather than the initial proposal.

The Tasmanian Greens will of course continue to provide support where we can be of assistance and will be a voice for positive change and the protection of important community and environmental values.

Be back soon, cheers, Tim

Good things to remember:

- We don't stop laughing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop laughing.
- It is better to regret something you have done than to regret something that you haven't done.



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★★★★½ Accommodation
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St Marys Health & Beauty Centre

42 Main Road St Marys
Phone 6372 2172

New packs of Aches & Pains Spray
now available

Wrought iron & glass tulip tea light
holder \$19.95

Tea light lantern \$11.95

Floating candles set of 3
assorted colours \$5.95

Green Tea Gift sets now available
\$79.00. Fragrance, hand & body
cream & shower gel make up this
delightfully packaged set

Jovan White Musk gift set \$39.95
Fragrance & body lotion

Jovan Wild Musk gift set \$29.95
fragrance & talc

Assorted Bargains

\$2 basket, \$4 basket, \$7.50

Each basket contains an assortment
of goodies.

Aqua ear for swimmers ears . Close
to expiry was \$13.20 now \$6.00

Bio Ace Excell vitamins, close to ex-
piry, were \$23.35 now \$12.95

St Marys School Op Shop

Main Rd St Marys

Monday-Friday
10 am to 2 pm

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- * Shower screens
- * Wardrobe doors
- * Double glazing
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The Say by Cage Rattler

Colgate or McCleans ?

Not all that many years ago absolutely everyone in St Marys knew everyone else, what they did, how many children they had, who they were related to and possibly what brand of toothpaste they used ! Suddenly the other day I realised that's not really the case any more.

One huge advantage about living in a small community like ours is that we all tend to look out for each other and pitch in if needed. A prime case in point was when Todd's Hall 'went west' last year. The whole community treated it as if they'd lost their very own property and the support to Andrew and Jen was overwhelming.

At the moment as we all know there has been a terrific influx of new families into the town. These newcomers are looking to forge a new life here. I've come to know a couple of these families and what shines through is their enthusiasm and wish to meld into the community, as well as contributing to our way of life.

Another impression gathered from talking to them involving longer term residents, is best described by a well known analogy, "Sometimes you can't see the wood for the trees". By that I mean that many of us have been here so long that we take all that we have for granted and most at not a heavy expense.

Think about it and you'd have to agree. In return for these new families wanting to join us, we have to do our part to help them with a leg up toward finding work, joining our vast array of groups or by just making friends and listening to their new ideas for the future.

I know I probably sound like a cracked record, but pooling our resources, particularly with our new residents in mind is surely the only way to go. This can only benefit the whole community because some of the ideas from these new 'St Maryites' are exciting.

We cannot afford to let the grass grow under our feet because contrary to some misguided opinions a little while back, the tourist visitor dollars are crucial to our survival. Who wants tumbleweeds rolling down Main Street, I certainly do not and I'm sure just about everyone else does not either.

To capture those dollars we have to be interesting and innovative enough to make people want to pull up their cars and have a look around.

Do not forget 2007 is our sesqui-centenary, what better platform to really show what sort of people and place we are.

We must work together and we must start soon encouraging development through co-operation. I know there are plenty of us, old and new, who would embrace this, but we will leave the toothpaste out of it.

What do you think ?

St Marys Pacing Club

The club's annual race meeting is fast approaching and we are again getting grounds etc, ready for the big day.

January 1st is the first day of Tasmania's Bicentennial Year celebrations and we plan to have a few other attractions on the day.

The Veteran Car Club of Launceston will be in attendance with their wonderfully restored cars which are well worth viewing.

We also are going to have a room under the grandstand showing memorabilia of the race club and also of the town and local district. If any person has any items such as old photos of race days or of the town, old race trophies or anything of interest, we will be happy to put them on display. We would like these items a few days before January 1st so we can set them all out. If you can oblige, you can leave them with Peter at the Post Office or leave them at our house at 61 Gray Road or call me on 6372 2136.

We also invite as many people as possible to dress up in period costumes. Cash prizes will be given for Best Couple and also the Best Lady and Gent. As we get more organised there will probably be more.

A \$100 lucky TAB ticket (unplaced) and a \$100 lucky programme will also be available plus some more to be finalised.

The Dorothy Dragon bouncing castle will again be there for the children, plus face painting etc.

We would like as many as possible to participate in these events and help make it a great day.

We look forward to your continued attendance and any help would be very welcome.

Hope you can assist us,

Eric Bean Secretary

Scamander Beach Surf Shop

6 Lagoon Esplanade Scamander Ph 6372 5529
scamandersurf.com



& Bay Surf

Shop 2. 2 Pendrigh Place St Helens
Ph 6376 1755