

THE VALLEY & EAST COAST VOICE

Volume 36 No. 7

Thursday 31 July 2003

50 cents

You allowed us to dare to dream

Firstly, thank you for your cards and calls after the birth of our beautiful baby boy - Fraser Maclean Russell. We're looking forward to introducing him to all his friends in St Marys!

On a less joyous note, we feel very sad and angry that our journey with Todd's Hall has ended the way it has - sentiments we no doubt share with many others. For obvious reasons, the Council required us to make the site safe after the fire and unfortunately we haven't been in a position to rebuild any part of the building. A swift resolution to liability issues had been hoped for to provide necessary funds but while the walls of Todd's have come down, the walls of silence have risen in their stead! Indeed it is now nine months since the fire and we feel we are still yet to cross the starting line.

When we first saw Todd's Hall in October 1998 it was the start of a dream for us. In March 1999 we moved to St Marys and the dream became one heck of a reality! With just a saw and hammer we were obviously never going to do it alone and from the word go we received help and support. There are so many moments that we will hold onto but what we will always celebrate is that the town of 600 people, having passed bank managers who laughed in our face, and even our families better advice, Todd's awoke and we had a lot of fun. In years to come, when we remember our time in Todd's Hall, it will be the support you gave that made it what it was to us and allowed us to dare to dream.

Please join us for a drink in the St Marys Hotel on Friday August 15 from 6 pm to celebrate the good times in Todd's Hall. *Jen & Andrew*



Crime Report

There have been several reports from concerned members of the public in relation to excessive speeds within the Township by drivers of motor vehicles.

I would ask that consideration be given when driving in the town, to pedestrians and school children for safety reasons. I remind everyone that penalties for breaching of the Road Rules and Traffic Regulations can incur heavy fines.

In regards to crime within the town, there has been one report of Burglary from vehicles belonging to Civil Construction. Stolen was a UHF radio and several two way radios. Any assistance from the Public would be appreciated.

Robert Baker
Sergeant St Marys Police

**Please !
Deadline for next
issue of the
Valley Voice is
Tuesday 12th Aug.**

Inside reading.
Community notices
Letters to the Editor
Council notices
Grassy Bottom events
Golf Centre news
Junior & school footy



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Happy Hour TONIGHT

Thursday 31st July
between 6 and 7 pm.

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Ray, Joff & Low-Beam
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Nibbles & usual Meat trays
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Next Gig:

The Spa Pikers'
Saturday 9th August

Happy Hour with
Live music - coming:
14th Aug: Comedy
28th Aug: Ray Singline
11th Sept: Paul

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Come watch on the BIG screen

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- ♦ White Bait \$3.50

Excitement for JAM !

Recently at JAM, an exciting time was had, when Mayor Salter, Cllr John McGiveron and his wife Ruth, Cllr Henry Holder and Cllr Robert Legge were invited for afternoon tea !

Also invited were Marissa Walker, Community Economic Development Officer for Break O'Day Council, Peter Sanders representing the Examiner Newspaper and Audrey Wright, a friend of JAM.

The reason for this wonderful event was to give the children of JAM the chance to thank the Mayor and the Councillors for their generous grant of \$500. The money was applied for under the umbrella of the Council's Small Grants Programme.

The money has been used to go toward paying for a much needed vacuum cleaner and a CD player.

The children of JAM were very excited to be host and hostess to their guests, and displayed their best manners when serving afternoon tea !

As part of the gesture of thanks, the children sang three songs to the Mayor and the Councillors. The first song, 'He died upon the cross', was a new one learned at Easter, and it was sung with lots of actions!

The second song, 'God's not dead' left the guests in no doubt about the children's ability to launch into roll and roll!

And for the last song, the 'JAMmers' sang a prayer, as a way of goodbye and Blessing to their new friends of JAM.

This song was called 'May the road rise to meet you' and has been newly learned over the last few weeks.

The afternoon was a treat for everyone - the children and the leaders of JAM.

It was fantastic to see such community spirit between the Break O'Day Council and Sunday School on Monday.



North East Bioregional Network

At a recent North East Bioregional Network meeting the constitution for the organisation was discussed.

The main objectives are: *"the protection and restoration of bioregional ecosystems in North East Tasmania, promoting an ethical approach to conservation based on nature having value in its own right as opposed to being solely considered a resource, commodity or product for human use and exploitation and sharing information and networking with individuals and groups interested in the environment of North East Tasmania."*

The next meeting in St Marys will be:

Tuesday 19th August at 4 pm
St Marys Hotel Dining Room

Anyone who interested is most welcome to attend.

Contacts:

Pat 6372 2418 or Todd 6376 1049

Coming events & Community notices

Tasmania Lymphoedema Centre Inc. Next meeting Monday 18th August at 10 am.

Fingal Valley Meals on Wheels Inc. AGM

The Annual Meeting of the above group will be held at St Marys Health & Community Centre on Monday 18th August 2003 at 1.30 pm.

North East Bioregional Network meeting Tuesday 19th August at 4 pm in St Marys Hotel Dining Room.

Break O'Day
Community Enterprise
Co-operative

Next get together
at the St Marys Community
Hall (Supper Room)

**Thursday August 14
at 2 pm**

more info from
Marion on 6374 1009

Contacts for Valley Voice

Ron: 6372 2105.
Audrey: 6372 2337
Fax: 6372 2172
Leave written material with Kathryn,
Marys Health & Beauty Centre, or
post:
Post Office St Marys Tas 7215

Valley Voice Advertising Rates:

Classifieds, (25 words or less) are free.
Small ad. \$6. ¼ page \$15.
½ page \$25 Full page \$40

Redline deliver this paper.
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Payment of Rates

A reminder to ratepayers that the first installment of Rates is due on the 15th August '03.

To assist our ratepayers in St Marys and Mathinna, an Officer from Council will be in attendance to receive payment for Rates, Water and Dog Registrations at the following locations.

- Mathinna Community Hall Friday 8th August 2003 from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm
- St Marys Town Hall Tuesday 12th August 2003 from 9.30 am to 2.00 pm.
- Payment can be taken at these locations in the form of Cash, Cheques, Money Orders or Credit Card.

Payments can also be made at the St Helens Office between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm weekdays.

Fingal residents can make payments at Holder Brothers store during normal opening hours.

As of the 1st August 2003 all Rates can be paid at any Post Office using BillPay - this requires the original rates notice that includes the bar code.

All Rates and Water Meter accounts which are not paid by the due date will incur interest.

If you have any queries please contact the Council on 6376 1281



Township Funding 2003

The Break O'Day Council is currently calling for submissions from community organisations for grants for township projects. All community groups that represent the ratepayers of their township/area are eligible to apply for funding.

An application must be submitted which addresses the criteria set out in the Township Funding Guidelines. Guidelines are available from Council and submissions can be left at the Council office or mailed to PO Box 21, St Helens 7216

Closing date for all submissions is Friday 29th August 2003.
For further information contact Marissa Walker on (03) 6376 1281 or email marissa.walker@bodc.tas.gov.au

St Marys Child Health Centre

Regional Office 6336 2130
Ah 1800 808 178
Mobile: 0409 361 005
Lorraine McGee RN.
Appointments: 6372 2111

Open Sessions
1st & 3rd Thurs. 9 am to 12 noon
Next Session: Thurs 7th & 21st August

St Marys School Op Shop

Main Rd St Marys



Monday-Friday
10 am to 2 pm

Grassy Bottom Regional Arts

What's coming up...

✠ "Reserved Seating Only"

A funny and revealing on-stage look at life, love and the footy. Reserved seating Only brings the colour and controversy of football to the stage. Suitable for audiences of all ages, Reserved Seating Only is about an unlikely pair who meet at a football match and the subsequent evolution of their relationship. This becomes a neat set up for a comedy that milks the football fan stereotype for all it is worth. The play is generously spiced with 'footy' language and commentary that defines an important and quintessentially Australian sub-culture.

Where: Portland Memorial Hall St Helens

When: Tuesday August 12th at 8 pm

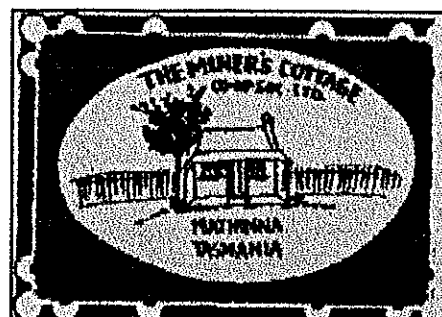
Bookings: Terese 6372 2846

✠ **Brackets & Jam** — this event will be held at Surfside Motel Beaumaris as a fundraiser for the BOD Aquatic Centre. All performers be they poets, players, comedians, dancers, others, can come along and entertain an easily impressed crowd. A gold coin donation at the door gets you a fun night out and a chance to experience the multitude of local talent here in our community. **7 pm Friday 15th August**

Report from GBRA

✠ On Saturday night last Grassy Bottom had the pleasure, and indeed, honour of hosting the Premiere Tasmanian performance of Roman Rudnytsky, a world renowned concert pianist. Roman's 2 hour recital which he played flawlessly and from memory included works from Mendelssohn, Schuman, Beethoven, Chopin and short works by Spanish composers. My favourite being a variation on a theme from 'Carmen'. A charming man and incredibly talented pianist, Roman thrilled and amazed all who were fortunate enough to attend. For those who missed out Mr Rudnytsky has promised to return to Tasmania in 2 years time. I would like to thank Don Ives for all his help and the Filby's for their generosity in hosting our guest at the Old Schoolmasters House in St Helens (and for the wonderful supper).

Cheers, Terese Tanner
Grassy Bottom President



Make money from your hobby

We can offer an outlet for local artists and craftspeople to sell their work.

We are looking for high quality art and craft and interesting items to sell on a commission basis through our newly built premises

The Golden Gate Gallery

Located at
47 High Street Mathinna

Interested ? Then ring:
Linda Burns 6377 1132 or
Carlene Simpson 6377 1143

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)

Scamander Beach Surf Shop

6 Lagoon Esplanade
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- 1 cup strong espresso coffee
- 4 tablespoons maple syrup
- Peanut slabs (at least one each)

Place a scoop each of vanilla and chocolate ice-cream in four small glass bowls or tumblers. Pour the espresso coffee and maple syrup evenly over the ice-creams. Serve immediately with peanut slabs on the side.

Cadbury Light (but very creamy) vanilla ice-cream \$6.20

Peters Xcreamy chocolate ice-cream \$6.09

Camp Maple Syrup (original) \$9.29

Greens Maple Syrup \$2.92

Whittakers Peanut Slabs each \$1.00

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matters

Appointments:
St Marys Health & Beauty Centre
6372 2172

Variety Show

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Variety Show on 5th July.

Extra big thank you to Sue, May, Heather, Barb, Rina, Jenelle from St Helens and a huge big thank you to Rachel, Alesha, Keith, Nick, Fran, Bec and everyone else I may have missed.

A successful evening raising the total of \$682.00.

Thanks to Bob Legge without his help this function would not have been possible.

Your continued support was much appreciated by the organisers.

Thank you, Lyn.

CBA BANK ST MARYS

Monday to	Thursday	9.30 am	- 4 pm
Friday		9.30 am	- 5 pm

Closed between 12 noon and 1 pm

ST MARYS POLICE STATION

Monday to	Friday	9 am -	4 pm
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Closed between 12 noon and 1 pm

ST MARYS LIBRARY

Monday		12.15 pm	- 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.15 am - 1 pm	2.00 pm	- 5.00 pm
Friday		12.15 pm	- 6.45 pm

ST MARYS WASTE SITE (Rubbish tip !)

Monday	Closed		
Tuesday		10.00 am	to 4.00 pm
Wednesday	Closed		
Thursday		10.00 am	to 4.00 pm
Fri & Saturday	Closed		
Sunday		2.00 pm	to 5.00 pm

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DR GENIOLA Sat 9th— Sun 10th

DR SHAH Sat 16th—Sun 17th

Dr Geniola on call phone: 6374 2288

Dr Shah on call phone: 63722311

Medical Emergencies phone:

000 or

The Ambulance on:

1800 008 008

000 works on Mobile Telephones.

DAY CENTRE RAFFLE

1st— Hamper Raffle

2nd— Neon Sport Watch

3rd— Tickle Me Doll

4th— Bathroom Bag

5th- Gift Card Pack 20 cards.

\$1.00 ticket or 3 for \$2.00

Tickets at reception area.

Drawn 10th September 2003.

Funds raised will be split and divided between the:

* *Red Cross Lending Library and*

* *The Special Children's Christmas Party*

Thanks you for your contribution.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

14TH August 2003 @ 2pm

Day Centre Room.

For further details phone
Sandra Oliver on 63722111
Or just come along and join
us on the day! All welcome.



'WHAT'S ON AT THE CENTRE'

31st/July **Tai Chi** 6:30pm-7:30pm
in Day Centre Room 5.00

31st/Aug **Registration Day**
Living Longer Living Stronger.
12:30pm St Marys CHC
2:00pm Fingal FBC

31st/Aug **Garrotts.** It's Tax time! Peter
Hayworth 9am-5pm

5th/Aug **Jan Dawkins** 1:30pm-3:00pm DC

7th/Aug **Child Health Clinic** with Lorraine
McGee. 9am-12noon. Afternoon
appoints available by calling
0409 361 005

7th/Aug **Tai Chi** 6:30pm-7:30pm
in Day Centre Room. \$5.00

8th/Aug Sue Hayes, **Diabetic Clinic**

12th/Aug Tom Bain, **Barrister**

13th/Aug **Pap Smear Clinic**

14th/Aug **Continence Clinic** with Karen Bell.

14th/Aug **Tai Chi** 6:30pm-7:30pm
in Day Centre Room. \$5.00

HEALTH CENTRE DRIVEWAY

Please note that there is a **SPEED LIMIT** within
the grounds of the CHC of **15km/hr.**

When coming off the entrance on Gardiners
Creek Rd— This is a one way driveway going up to
the Centre.

*Please be aware of 'one way and exit
signage' as there have been a few close misses
of late. As requested by CHC staff.*

Information from this page was submitted by:

The St Marys Community Health Centre, Gardiners Creek Rd, St Marys, TASMANIA. 7215

Todd's Hall

So much history, so many memories.

Todd's Hall was first mentioned in the Valuation Rolls in 1896

It all started in Omagh, County Tyrone, Ireland in 1866, when William James Todd was born to William and Elizabeth Todd. The family arrived in St Marys in 1890 and father William leased a shop next to the Criterion Hotel for 5 years to test the market.

William James then built Todd's Hall in 1895, whilst his father William extended the original St Marys Hotel by adding an extra 8 rooms and a balcony.

In 1990 Cyclopedia Tasmania carried the following description of Todd's Hall:

"He then erected a handsome two story building, Todd's Hall. The store is lofty, well lighted and ventilated and the stock is thoroughly comprehensive embodying jewellery and stationery, besides the usual goods kept by a first class store, viz groceries, ironmongery, drapery, boots and shoes etc."....

In 1917 Todd's Hall burned down and was soon rebuilt.

From the 1920's the Hall was used as a picture theatre and for roller-skating. Keith Bullock remembers the first talking picture, which was a disaster, the only words heard were*"I don't want any lunch"*. The next picture was a musical and was much better. Admission 9 pence and 3 pence for a peanut bar. When a Charlie Chaplin picture was being shown Todd's Hall would be booked out.

About that time Garney Perger had a sweet and icecream shop on the right hand side while the Launceston Bank for Savings with Manager Shaven Bayles was on the left, but reportedly had few customers. Waterworths sold 'Warts Whoppers' from an icecream shop.

Later owners and businesses remembered are Mr and Mrs Col Royle who ran the theatre and other business. Mr Jenkins cut every ones hair in one of the front shops and it was a very popular place with the men to say they were going and to buy the 'Express' newspaper when it came in on the late Saturday night bus, and if late home after going to the hotel instead of for a haircut the excuse was that the bus was late coming in !

Peter Rubenach had the Post and Rail Museum for a few years. Thomas and Kristina Moore were there in 1990 and sold whole foods and operated a Laundromat.

Our last Todd's Hall owners who did so much for the town were Andrew and Jen and that is a special story of it's own.

The interior: Hardwood floors, heavy pine doors, architraves and dado. Gold trim pressed tin decoration surrounding the proscenium arch above the sloping stage. The hall had a vast arch ceiling of blackwood and pine.

The original seats were wrought iron and there was a ticket window in the foyer.

Those were the days !!

The memories I have of Todd's Hall are mainly of the pictures that everyone always went to on a regular basis.

Saturday afternoon matinees were mostly for the younger ones with cartoons, a serial and a main feature. Of course the serial always ended in suspense, you had to return next week to see the outcome. The wooden seats at the front were always your domain until you became a teenager and then you moved backwards onto the good seats.

Mrs Studt who was the owner then, and usherette, didn't put up with any funny business and many (mainly boys) felt the tap of her torch on their head.

Wednesday and Saturday nights especially, were always packed out, you would hear the knitting needles clicking away as women continued their knitting in the dark.

If there was a musical being shown, people would be singing and whistling the tune on their way home.

I also remember the concerts with Mrs Dorothy Aldred-Smith giving her wonderful recitations with either a cockney accent or a 'La-de-dah' plum in the mouth one.

For a few years the CYSS held meetings for the young, discos etc. upstairs in what we knew as the supper room.

Kaye Nailer

Wonderful Balls at Todd's Hall

What memories we have of Todd's Hall.

My memories go back to the wonderful Balls held in this grand hall. Bachelor and Spinster Balls were held every year with the Bachelors and Spinsters arranging all details for their night, then the married folk would hold their ball in return.

In those days, in the 1930's, the orchestra would strike up at 8 o'clock for the 'Grand March' and if you missed the grand march you lost the highlight of the year.

The floor was just magnificent for dancing. Work would go on for a week ahead, waxing and polishing, such a lot of work, but it was worth it. Supper at these balls was served by a ladies committee and all was laid out upstairs with everybody able to be seated. The food was real country style, sandwiches, sausage rolls and then every sweet you could think of. Supper usually took three sittings.

Badminton was played in the hall and later it was turned into a picture theatre when my husband Col and I took over from Bob Studt. We bought the hall and the picture business.

At that time it cost 4 shillings to go in to the pictures but I cannot remember about the price for children. We had Bill Mitchell and my husband in the projector room, Mr Mick Gatty in the Box Office, Ted Hayes on the door and I was the Lady with the torch !!

An afternoon matinee every Saturday was great for the children and some adults too. If we had a very big picture like South Pacific or Exodus, we had to show these for a whole week. We had regular patrons come from Bicheno, Fingal, Mathinna and Mangana etc. These seats would be booked for every show.

Occasionally we would have a break in the film, there would be some whistling and calling out, but not too bad. I always remember the Jaffas rolling down the floor, always at a quiet time in the picture.

We also had some wonderful concerts in Todd's Hall, always with packed houses and with all local people performing. There were to name a few, Mrs Dorothy Smith, Clive Berwick, Dawn Bushing, Graham Neil, Gib Gillies and many, many more, but my memory fails me to name them all. Then along came television. We tried to keep the theatre going but it was not to be.

We had a shop in the front of this building, one for clothing and fancy goods and the other one as a theatre shop. This shop was run by our daughter Judy Spilsbury and it was very successful.

I can still see Ted Munley as the ice cream boy in the theatre.

After the theatre closed we turned the hall onto a general store, stocking most items.

It is indeed a very, very sad day to see Todd's Hall come to such a sad end.

Maisie Finney (Royle)

Thank you Maisie for this great story of those wonderful days, many readers will remember these times along with you.

One wheelbarrow too many !

We purchased Todd's Hall from Col Royle in 1974 and set up a museum, Tea room, Craft Shop and Art Gallery for about three years. We then sold the building to Tas Yates.

My great uncle Tom Stephenson told me a story about what once happened when they were building Todd's Hall. He said that two of the builders got drunk one night and one of them climbed into a wheelbarrow while the other one wheeled him around the block. They both made such a lot of noise that the police were called and the pair were locked up for the night for disturbing the peace.

Beverly and I had our wedding reception in the upstairs reception room on the 1st February 1975 and our daughter Esther celebrated her 18th birthday with a party in the hall.

We have a lot of fond memories of our own involvement with Todd's Hall and such a fine building is sadly missed.

Pete Rubenach

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- ❖ Planning a development ?
- ❖ Unsure of your property potential ?
- ❖ In dispute with an adjoining owner ?



Church Services

Catholic Parish of St Marys

Priest: Father Bill Egan 6372 2252

Fingal

Every Friday Mass 10am
1st and 3rd Sunday Mass
10.30am

St Marys

Every Sunday Mass 9am

Bicheno

Every Sunday Mass 3pm

St Helens

Every Saturday
Vigil Mass 5pm

Mangana

5th Sunday Mass 11am

Anglican Parish of the Northern Midlands

Services each Sunday

Avoca 8.00am
Fingal 10.00am
Mathinna: 2nd & 4th Sunday
monthly at 11.30 am

Daily Office Reading

Avoca Tuesdays 10am
Fingal Tuesdays 12 noon
Ross Wednesdays 10am

Anglican Parish - St Helens

6376 1144

St Helens

8am and 10.30am
Every Sunday

St Marys 10am

No service 5th Sunday

Monday JAM:

3.15 pm to 5 pm
for children 5-12 yrs

Pyengana 11am

2nd and 4th Sunday

Break O'Day Uniting Church

Fingal 9.00am

St Helens 11am and 7pm

Seventh Day Adventist

Hodgeman Street Scamander
Sabbath School 10am
Divine Service 11am

New Beginnings Church

Every Sunday at 10.30 with
children's time, tea and coffee
afterwards.

Last Sunday of month we will
share lunch together.

108 High St Mathinna
Ph 6377 1234

New Beginnings Church is a
branch of The Vine Church A.
O.G Launceston

Letters to the Editor

*Please note that the Valley Voice does welcome comment from both sides of any subject raised, but due to the number of **very lengthy** letters being submitted, in several instances well exceeding 1000 words, it is requested that letters be kept to 250 words or less.*

R Sumner

Editor Valley Voice

Sir

We enjoyed reading Bob Hersey's article in the last Valley Voice. It put forward our own views on all issues mentioned, especially the state of the Esk Highway regarding travelling in the back of an ambulance.

It was good to see someone put their name as well as their ideas.

Barry and Sue Nelson

St Marys

Off the Fence

'Resident' V.V. 17-7-'03 claims the Esk Highway 'is a real issue... a danger and an embarrassment' and 'if you feel really strongly, you can nominate for election to actually do something, instead of sitting on the fence.' I assume 'Resident' intends to nominate for Lyons so that he can do something about the Esk Highway. He will get my vote.

But to effect change, you need to be informed. I can let him have the 62 page copy of 'Safety Audit of the Esk Main Road, Midland Highway to Tasman Highway' obtained under FIO for Townsafe St Marys as part of its research into safety issues affecting St Marys.

Welcome to the fight, Bob.

David Clement St Marys

Sir

I am part of Townsafe, we need a flagship to put safety issues on the public record and to lobby the appropriate 'authorities to fix safety issues in the town.

Residents of Irishtown know that the junction with Pass Road is unsafe. Also the road markings are dumb, I break the traffic law every time I go home by having to cross an unbroken white dividing line. The so-called footpath to the church is a joke-dangerous, badly constructed, badly maintained and unfinished. And where has the roundabout got to at the junction of Main Street and Storey Street. This was the number one priority at the workshop meeting input to the St Marys Townscape Project.

A Safety Audit by the Department of Transport states that sight distances are obstructed, the junction is a non standard angle and there is no channelisation (??). This corner is an accident waiting to happen, and it nearly does at least twice a day.

If we all get behind Townsafe St Marys, these sorts of things might get fixed, because they sure aren't very fixed by the 'authorities' now.

Karl Micek

Letter to the Editor, Sir

Mr Bob Hersey's letter, Valley Voice 17 July 2003, echoes Voltaire, "I may disagree with all that you say but I will fight unto death for your right to say it". The Valley Voice is confirmed again as an effective forum for dialogue on matters of public interest. After much study over many years, I am now more than ever aware of the grave dangers inherent in our use of agricultural chemicals within town boundaries and public places, should these chemicals enter the human gene pool.

The World Health Organisation report a wide variety of known health effects, both chronic and acute, from exposure to pesticides including cancer, damage to the immune system and reproductive system and birth defects.

Mr Ewan-Street of the New Zealand Government has reported " There are thousands of people who are sick from spray drift and who have no legal redress.

It is the writer's position that a Code of Practice regarding chemical spraying by government agencies and contractors within town boundaries and public places be made mandatory, thus giving the population an area of redress. Also there are vast quantities of documental material available from very reputable scientists and one such person, Mr David Leaman, Geo-hydrologist of Hobart, recently spoke at St Helens on the problem of chemicals entering the underground water resources and the effects of this water when used on the land.

We are all aware of what happened with asbestos at Wittanoom, the authorities knew long before that mine started what dangers there were in mining that material, yet they went ahead, "were those people disposable, for the financial gain that was envisaged by the authorities" ? Also the DDT debacle, that was safe too, very safe indeed. It is my contention that the very same scenario is being applied today with the use of agricultural chemicals on the population.

I have been requesting from all levels of Government, a copy of their Health Impact Assessment, and to date nothing, so one can assume that this Health Impact Assessment report has never been done. A similar situation with the American Government who have been requesting such a report from Monsanto and others of like ilk, and they too are still waiting. I would say that this resistance from these chemical giants is all in the name of greed and their world wide distribution of their chemicals and the opportunity to dump onto third world nations chemicals they are unable to dispose of elsewhere.

Should you care to read our very own Break O'Day Council's Handbook on Chemical Safety, you will see there on page 13 and I quote, "Remove livestock and people not involved in the application and sign post if necessary " and "during application, monitor the weather, increased wind, increased drift", it has been my personal experience that neither of these dot points were applied. Since 1998/9 I have been requesting a few safe guidelines for our town, from Council and State Government Department of Infrastructure and Main Roads, their contractors and sub-contractors, to apply a few simple rules/guidelines and they are as follows:

1. Not to spray within towns and public areas at all.
2. Send out to all householders, fliers announcing that spraying is to be undertaken and in which areas/roads etc., thus giving residents the opportunity to lodge an objection, or the choice not to travel on stated roads on that day of spraying.
3. Signage at both ends of the roadways etc. being sprayed.
4. A logo to be visible on all trucks carrying out such work.
5. Emergency numbers to be visible on all vehicles carrying out chemical spraying.
6. The name of the chemical being used to be displayed on the vehicle.
7. Workmen not to stand on back of vehicle to do spraying, as this exacerbates the situation.
8. That no spraying be undertaken in any windy conditions, as spray will drift even on a still day, and St Marys has an average wind velocity of 11 kph.
9. No spraying to be carried out near or onto waterways, storm water drains etc. The buffer zone of at least 20 metres should be applied here.

We have a Workplace Safe Policy so why is there not a Townsafe Policy to protect the health of the population and future generations. *Patricia O'Donnell St Marys*

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

Cage Rattler - Valley and East Coast Voice 17 July 2003

In response to 'The Say' by Cage Rattler regarding employment opportunities in the Fingal Valley, I would like to specifically address Cage Rattler's suggestion for a coordinated approach to developing 'cottage industries' in the Fingal Valley.

The Break O'Day Community Enterprise Co-operative Soc Ltd. Has been working for several months with the aim of developing community based enterprises, which will provide employment for local people. Currently the co-op is working in partnership with the St Marys District High School to develop a community 'market garden'. The garden should soon be a reality and apart from the very important training and social opportunities it will provide, it is intended that it will be the starting point for a network of gardens around the area growing organic produce. It is well known that there is increasing market demand for quality organic food and the Break O'Day area is well suited to this type of niche agriculture.

The co-op is also working hard on developing a business plan to acquire the Fingal Valley Railway Station from Tasrail. The plan is to restore the station which will then house a historical display of the valley, a visitor information centre, a retail outlet for arts and crafts and also tea rooms.

There has also been discussion of developing a local farmers market, a model which has proven successful in several other regions in Australia and possibilities for tourism and art/craft ventures are also being explored.

I would like to extend an invitation to Cage Rattler and any others who are interested in developing employment opportunities in the area to attend the next Co-op meeting. Meetings are held 2.00 pm on the second Thursday of every month at the St Marys Hall Supper Room. Next meeting is Thursday 14th August 2003.

There is a growing body of evidence which indicates that the small, rural communities that have grown and prospered in recent times, are those that have been proactive in developing their own enterprise opportunities, rather than waiting for governments to step in and 'fix' the situation for them. Residents of the Break O'Day area have all the skills, talent and passion needed to create long term solutions to unemployment - we just have to work together!

Yours sincerely,

Marissa Walker Community & Economic Development Officer

Who needs a fitness program ?

We should all be fit by:

- ✍ Jumping to conclusions
- ✍ Flying off the handle
- ✍ Carrying things too far
- ✍ Dodging responsibilities
- ✍ And pushing our luck

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Come into the Coffee Shop in the newly refurbished Dining Room and admire some beautiful locally made quilts, including 'Jen's Quilt' now on display.

Cornwall days *told by Jim Haas*

For some time the Valley Voice has been asking me to put pen to paper and talk about Cornwall and it's people. I have been slack, but reading the stories by Jeff Morris in recent additions has spurred me on. Thank you Jeff, they were excellent.

As a boy growing up at Cornwall in the fifties and sixties, the town sported about 80 houses, 2 shops, a butcher, a post office, daily bread delivery, Church of England church and a Salvation Army hall and residence. A place to buy sly grog and an illegal bet on the side was also available. The coalmine at that time was employing 120 or so men, some travelling by bus from St Marys and Fingal.

We now have some 40 houses, no shop, butcher, post office, churches or bread delivery, we do however still have a daily paper and mail delivery - thanks to the ever reliable Deb.

Fingal and St Marys would often play off in the football grand final. On the Friday before the big match whilst the men were at work, a few of the Cornwall ladies would decorate the Fingal bus in St Marys colours. This would always create a big stir, we would see the bus going down the hill with the Fingal blokes throwing black and gold streamers out the windows.

The miners, (they were the men at the coal face), always worked on contract and in pairs. Each pair would only receive one pay and every second Friday the miners would sit in their pairs outside the mine office and share up their hard earned wage. Quite a number of them could not count, so some would get the paymaster Jack Spilsbury and son Peter to help. Others would share up by going "A pound for you and a pound for me". If any kids were about and there was a halfpenny or a penny left in the bottom of the pay packet, the kids would be the benefactors. Believe you me a penny would buy a nice bag of mixed lollies back then.

Many people have said the fifties and sixties were perhaps the best times financially, whilst the money wasn't all that much, it certainly went a whole lot further.

Like most mining towns around the country, Cornwall has seen the boom days and is now slowly diminishing, but it has a great history and it's people have left behind some great stories. Hopefully in future editions I can share more of Cornwall with Valley Voice readers.

A story I often tell which has been handed down from the early part of the century is of a little man by the name of Webber Scales. Webber's family lived at Cornwall, but Webber for some reason had moved to Dublin Town. He lived in a small shack about half a kilometre from the start of Lohreys Road - there are a couple of large pine trees near the spot today.

At the time there was a track which ran from Dublin Town, west of the South Sister and down into Cornwall, parts of the track are still visible. Once a fortnight Webber would saddle up the old horse and ride over to Cornwall to see the relies and buy his supplies from the shop. When he was ready to go home he would store his supplies in a back-pack made out of a spud bag, load it onto his back, climb up onto a stump and then onto the old horse and off he and the horse would go, back over the hill.

One day the shop owner who was watching the procedure, asked Webber why he put the pack on his own back and not just strap it over the horses back. Webber's reply was quite simple, "Oh, the old mare is getting a bit old to carry us both, so I carry the pack for her."

Whether it is work or sport
The principles of being the best at your craft are the same
Study your craft
Knowledge is the first step to being a champion at your craft
Work hard, nothing comes easy
Hard work makes dreams come true for an achiever
Avoid excuses at all times
You get one of two things - results or excuses - choose

Do your best at all times
Triumph is just 'try' with lots of 'umph'
added to it
Be very competitive at all times
Be very humble
Be fair at all times
Humility is the hallmark of a true champion
He gives more than he takes

Junior Football Final Day

Last Sunday Junior Football held it's final roster day for the season 2003.

On a typically fine and warm St Marys winter day, around 60 children and their parents turned up for our annual parents versus kids day. First up was a combination of our Prep to Grade 4 challenging their mums and sisters and after some shrewd recruiting by the mums (getting a few dads to play), the result saw the parents hold on to a small margin victory.

At a loss to find better players for the mums, it would be more appropriate to mention some of the interesting and innovative style and skill of this team, with such passage of play involving netball, soccer, kickboxing, horizontal belly dancing and goat herding skills combined with something that resembled the running of the bulls - it was very interesting indeed.

For the boys, well they were only allowed to play as well as their mums told them they could.

In the next game Grade 5,6 and 7 took on their dads.

This game resembled something that looked a little more like football and once again the parents were too good for the kids.

It was reassuring for the dads to see good old football knowledge hang on to beat youthful enthusiasm, although next day with most of the dads unable to get out of bed and at least two requiring a visit to the doctor, it is now wondered why we did it !!

Overall it was an enjoyable finish to another good season of junior football.

To finish off, I would like to thank every person who helped with junior football in any way this year be it in a big or small way. You know who you are and that this great opportunity for our kids will not and would not be available without your input.

Thanks to all the people who travelled every week to give their children a game and finally thanks to the children for their (almost) perfect behaviour throughout the year.

Leigh Spilsbury



A dog owner knows companionship, loyalty and love. A dog adds pleasure and fun to life. Owning a dog is generally considered a right, but with that right goes the responsibility for proper care and management of the dog and consideration for our neighbours and the environment.

It is sobering to understand that a dog can be a joy to its owner and a nuisance to other people. Lesson one in caring for your dog is to make sure it is not the neighbourhood

Meals on Wheels Roster

August	St Marys	Fingal
Mon 4th	Debbie Barnes	Carole Woods
Tues 5th	M & P Berwick	Rachael Reid
Wed 6th	Mick Sharman	Barbara Saunders
Thurs 7th	Kaye Nailer	Patsy Death
Fri 8th	Trish Pike	Christine Woods
Mon 11th	Annette Davey	Shirley Parker
Tues 12th	Patti O'Donnell	Robyn Holder
Wed 13th	Mary Viney	Janine McGill
Thurs 14th	Heather Griffith	Susie Smith
Fri 15th	Kath Read	Robyn Miller

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SUPPORTING COUNTRY COMMUNITIES

The Say by Cage Rattler

Our History

There is one thing of which I am really envious of that St Helens has. That thing is their fabulous St Helens History Room. A major congratulations to all those involved with it's beginnings and day to day running. They should be very proud of what it provides to the local community there. Anyone who has visited will agree.

That said, and with the deepest respect to all involved, I reckon that if we in the valley could ever get up off our apathetic backsides (me included) and research our own history in the valley in all sorts of areas, we could one day establish something of significant benefit to this region. Of course there would need to be a decent site to house such a museum. There would also need to be the necessary personnel interested enough to track down the archives and memorabilia required to start the initial collections. Voluntary labour to catalogue and verify the facts and pieces would also be needed and of course volunteers interested to staff such a place.

At the end of the day though wouldn't it be great for us to be able to celebrate where we have come from and be able to pay respect for the monumental efforts of our forebears all those long hard years ago.

I have no plan of action for this and do not pretend to have any real knowledge at this stage of where to begin. Suffice to say though that I know there are plenty of talented locals in our area who collectively could achieve a Valley Museum if we could agree to start such a project.

What I am asking all readers, is to consider such an idea and to come up with what you think might work, if at all.

Places like St Marys, Fingal, Avoca, Mathinna, Mangana, Cornwall, Cullenswood, Irishtown, German-town, and Royal George could all be part of something like this and the mind boggles what we could end up with.

I know it is pie in the sky but just imagine having a reason for people wanting to stop and spend time here checking out yesteryear, maybe having a refreshment or two and possibly even spending a few dollars around the place.

There, I've planted a seed, now all we need is for some rich fertilization from some of the valley people who like me do not want to sit on our hands watching tumbleweeds rolling down the street in the future.

Tell us what you think and if there is any merit at all in such a proposal.

Let's hear your opinions.

GOT A GREEN THUMB TO LEND?

Then you might be interested in the new Community Garden being established as a joint venture between the BOD Community Enterprise Co-op and the St Marys High School.

In its formation stage now, it will soon be time to get down and dirty preparing the soil for spring planting. There is a chance to have a say in the planting program and where and how the eventual produce will be marketed.

This will be a good learning program for the students as well as providing a means of income for those people who initially can volunteer their time and expertise to assist. This will be one of the topics discussed at the Co-op's next meeting on August 14th.

There are a couple of other good ideas in the pipeline that may be eligible for the Government's new Partnership for Jobs funding to get them off the ground.

We desperately need jobs for our area and it seems the best way to achieve this is to create our own. So why not come along and see if there is something you can contribute to your community.

The Co-op is also needing some assistance with office admin—so if you would like to join us but don't fancy getting dirt under the fingernails, then there is a place just for you.

See our ad for next meeting details or contact Marion on 6374 1009 for information.

Break O'Day

Community Enterprise Co-operative

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St Marys High School U/16 Football

Last Saturday we made the long journey down to Beauty Point to play Scotch Oakburn who is currently on top of the ladder which was a daunting task.

The boys bounced out of the blocks with Lee Gillies kicking the first goal of the game. And played great footy for the first half.

The boys battled hard after half time, but the older and bigger Scotch boys were too strong in the end.

Best players on the day were Ben Miller, Daniel Cooke, Brock Leedham, Matthew Spilsbury, Lee Gillies and Matthew Hoskinson.

We have a bye this weekend and after that we play Grammar at Evandale.

We would like to thank everyone who helped and supported the raffle and a special thank you to Bobbie Mason who sold over \$200 worth of tickets.

Winners were: 1st Rachael McGiveron, 2nd Tim & Ruth Aulich, 3rd Pam Gillies and 4th Shirley Bryant

Redline Bus Service

Departing from St Marys Newsagency

Monday -Thursday

Depart St Marys 9.10 am

Arrive Launceston 11 am

Depart Launceston 4 pm

Arrive St Marys 5.45 pm

Friday

Depart St Marys 9.10 am

Arrive Launceston 11 am

Depart Launceston 6 pm

Arrive St Marys 7.45 pm

Sunday

Depart St Marys 4.30 pm

Passengers wishing to travel to Hobart connect at Conara at 10.10 am, arriving Hobart 12 pm

From the Minutes

The following items are from the BOD Council Minutes for its meeting of 14 July 2003.

4.0 Speed Limit, Fingal - because of the speed that trucks, including log trucks, are travelling through the town, Fingal residents have asked Council to advise DIER that they require a 50 kmh zone.

5.2 Council Vehicles - the General Manager stated that as a vehicle was part of a salary package, a 6 cylinder car was more attractive to prospective employees than a 4 cylinder vehicle.

11.1 Tourist Association - Council allocated \$82,000 plus GST for the Break O'Day Regional Tourist Association (BODRTA) for 2003-04.

11.2 Enterprise Board - Council allocated \$14,000 to the Break O'Day Business Enterprise Board Inc. for 2003-04

12.6 State Fire Commission - Council agreed to adhere the titles to 20-22-24 Main Street St Marys to resolve any boundary anomalies if and when a new fire station is constructed.

13.0 Strategic Plan 2003-2008 - the Plan was advertised extensively in newspapers and the BODFM, was forwarded to fifty community groups, displayed on Council Website, available at Post offices, and two senior officers conducted a workshop. Council received 8 submissions. (5812 residents did not make a submission).

Submitted by D Clement St Marys

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- ✓ Firewood
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Sports Centre News by Kackhander

What a terrific fortnight we've just had, particularly in regard to player number. First of all let's say a huge thanks to the Spilsbury Family. A true testimony to the family and the prestige in which the Spilsbury Memorial Trophy is held, is that we had our biggest club day fields for the year on both Saturdays. Well done everyone and lets keep it up.

It's great to say that for the first time in many years a single figure player has their name on the trophy. Not only that but the club's equal lowest handicapper is also runner-up. Both Jack Viney and Dale Ridgers returned incredible rounds on the second day in particular. Jack shot a 65 off the stick while Dale come in with 68. Both played well under their handicaps. Jack's 124 nett was followed by Dale's 130 nett for the 36 holes. Congratulations also to Todd Spilsbury who returned a 131 nett to finish third.

In the next few weeks we have the Newman Memorial Trophy on August 2 and our pennant challenge August 9 which will be open to all club members and ladies. This day should be a lot of fun with Daffy's team taking on Roy's team over 18 holes match-play with no handicaps. Each player will be matched up with a player of similar handicap. Plenty of stirring is assured.

A special mention here must go to another junior coming through. In a very short space of time Corey Floyed is showing a terrific amount of potential and everyone is commenting on the very nice natural swing he has. He is very quickly going to shoot some excellent scores by all accounts and is keen to practice after school. Well done Corey, keep it up.

Unfortunately our Ladies Team just missed out in the Cons Pearce Shield final at Ringarooma. All in all it's been a great year for them though just to reach the final. St Marys hosts the Teams Match this week and hope to win the double for the year.

The end of the club year is drawing closer and a date in September for our Annual General Meeting will be set in the next week or so. Times are getting tougher so an active membership will be needed during the next twelve months. Please be ready for the AGM.

Finally some sad news for one of our members. Ray White passed away in the last fortnight and our much loved and respected former voluntary bar steward Dot will miss him terribly as will her sister and former member Polly McGee.

Ray was an institution around St Marys right up until he and Dot moved to Launceston recently for health reasons. Our thoughts are with both Dot and Polly and all the White family. Good luck to you all.



Anyway until next time good hitting and rolling.

YOGA

St Helens Neighbourhood House

Thursdays: 6.00 - 7.30 pm Starts August 21st '03
6 Classes \$50
(no classes during school holidays)

St Marys Yoga Room

Wednesdays: 11.00 - 12.30 pm Starts 20th August
6 Classes \$35.00
Fridays 10.00 - 11.00 am Starts August 22nd '03
6 Classes \$30.00

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