THE VALLEY & EAST COAST VOICE

Volume 38 No. 16 Est. 1968

Wednesday December 21, 2005 50 cents

Wishing everyone the compliments of the season.

Congratulations

to one of our local ladies, Sandra Cook, on graduating from the University of Tasmania on Saturday 17th December.

The four year course has earned her a Bachelor of Education degree.

Not only has she received this, but she is also a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society which promotes academic excellence, which recognises that she is in the top 15% of undergraduates.

Congratulations Sandra, for a job well done.

Sandra is pictured, right, in her cap and gown on graduation day.



Above: Part of the audience at the St Marys Carols by Candlelight on Sunday, December 18. Due to inclement weather, the decision was made to hold the event indoors. The carols were well attended despite the weather. Compered by Lion Kevin Faulkner, and accompanied by Mr Don Ives on keyboard, the singing was entered into with the spirit of Christmas.

Pictured right:

Leith Gatty, home from Adelaide, with his two grandchildren Alexandra and Connor Rossi, and his brand new wheels!

Welcome home Leith. It's nice to have you back.

Hope you are feeling better.

Remember!! the New Year's Eve Pacing in St Marys





FINAL EDITION FOR 2005

The Valley Voice would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone involved with this small town publication. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes, done willingly by many volunteers, without whose help this paper would never get published. This goes for contributors, consumers, distributors, advertisers, paper girls and boys, and those of you who turn up without fail every second Thursday to help with the collating and stapling.

May 2007, will see the beginning of our 40th year of continuous publication. We hope we have improved with time. We welcome any suggestions on how we can make it a better paper. Also if you have any ideas on how we should celebrate our 40th year, please let us know.

There have been a lot of volunteers pass through our doors in the last 38 years. Thank you all

We are always looking for interesting stories. If you have one, or know of someone else who has a story to be told, please get in touch with us by email or post. We would love to hear from you.

This is the final publication for 2005. As we have a short break throughout the school holidays, the next issue will be February 16, 2006. Thanks once again to all.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year to all.

Community news

St Marys Hospital Auxiliary
meets the first Monday of every
month at 2pm at the St Marys
Community Health Centre.

The Break O'Day Woodcraft Guild Inc. meets every 4th Saturday at 2pm at the goods shed behind the St Marys Railway Station.

Thanks for the Memory held every 3rd Wednesday of the month: 1.30pm -3.30pm

Doherty's Resort Lounge St Helens

Ph: Mary-Anne 6376 2969

Grassy Bottom Regional Arts. Next meeting is the AGM on January 11th at e.ScApe 6.30pm.

Tasmania Lymphoedema Centre Will be holding its AGM on Monday, February 20, 2006, in the day room at the Health Centre.

Please note:

Deadline for articles to be included in the next Valley Voice is 5 pm <u>Tuesday</u>, February 14, 2006.

St Marys Police Station Officers and staff would like to wish everyone a Merry and safe motoring Christmas, and advise that the office will be closing at 12 noon, Friday, Dec 23, and reopening on Wednesday, Dec, 28.

Police will be on duty, and available for all enquiries.

For **EMERGENCIES** please call **000** We apologise for any inconvenience.

GENERAL MEETING

Cornwall Community Development Group Inc. invite anyone from within the Fingal Valley who would like to be part of the Back to Cornwall Celebrations on Saturday the 4th February, to a General Meeting on Tuesday January the 10th at 7.00 pm at the Cornwall Hall to finalize the organization for the day. For more details phone

Kim: 63722527 or Debbie: 63722261

St Marys Playgroup

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped at our end of year Christmas party last week. There were a lot of excited children. It was fantastic to see such a huge turnout.

Playgroup had another successful year, with many families joining.

Thank you to Janelle Anyon for her work as President, and Jane McCann for organising the raffle. The \$50 hamper donated by Banjo's was won by Jennifer Binns.

Thank you also to Cate Deak for all her great ideas and help at playgroup. We wish Max well in Prep. Cate has some Christmas party photos if you missed out.

Playgroup will resume in Term 1 2006. Meanwhile, remember library storytimes, in St Marys, 11.30am Wednesdays, starting in January, See you then.....
Tanya Greenwood.



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Welcoming new & existing clients.

Lyn Mondays Fran Tuesdays. Janelle Thursdays Emma all week

For all your hairdressing needs.

Ladies, Gents and Children. Come in and see us. PH: 6372 2108

Wishing everyone a 'Happy Xmas and a Merry New Year'' Salon closed for week 26th Dec Reopen 3rd Jan. (Wed) Cheers, Lyn.

Lions Club of St Marys



Christmas Party
and
Parade
will be held
Saturday
24th December 2005.

Children's Party 3pm
Santa Arrives 4pm
Christmas Parade 5pm sharp
(assemble in Newman St.
by 4.30pm)

Music on Faulkner's Block
With Ray Singline
& The Two Horse Johnson.
Begins 5.30pm.
Gypsy Rose
in St Marys Hotel 8pm.

Free raffle tickets for children's presents as per usual.

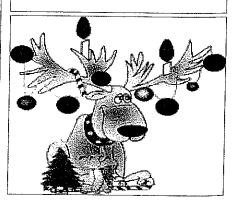
Give-aways of sweets, ice-creams & chips.

Dance Prizes -Treasure hunt BBQ on sale, Cordial on sale
Fairy Floss -Children's tent Chocolate wheel.
Join in the fun
Assemble a float Decorate a bike Light up your house.
Prizes for these presented after

parade.

Lions Christmas stocking drawn 7pm.

The Lions Club of St Marys wishes everyone a very safe and Happy Christmas.



Classifieds

Items for sale 2nd hand surfboards.

Scamander Beach Surf Shop

Under 6ft – Nev, Chapman, Sane. 6'2" to 6'5" - Island Impact, Energy, Widow.

7' to 7'10" - Sane. PipeD, Sane, Stranger, Milch. **PH:** 6372 5529

Wave Ski. Good Condition. \$200. Ono. Ph: 6372 5529

Ceiling fan (white) \$20 Upright floor fan (white) \$20 Men's 24" Malvern Star bike. As new \$70

Heritage/Convict style bricks (Apricot) Approx 120. \$30 4 doors 1 entrance, old style/ 4 panel

with lock & deadlock 2 old style/ 4 panel 1 standard. \$50 the lot.

Black entertainment unit. \$25. Contact Karen Polden.

PH: 6372 2438 Mob: 0437 463 370

1 20" girls bike. Great cond. \$30. ono 1 scooter, Great cond. Not used once. \$30.ono

Ph: Georgina 6372 2164

1981 Mazda flat tray diesel ute. \$495. PH: 0407 042 433 or view at 219 a Hobart Rd, Launceston.

Simpson Microwave (large) in excellent condition \$30.
Alfresco 4 burner barbecue with hood, trolley, rotary, 9kg cylinder. In excellent condition. \$199.

PH: 6372 2437

1981 Toyota Corona. No rego. \$500. **Ph: 6372 2895**

I have 25 htrs of grass hay.-Will sell standing.

Tel: 6376 1316

Combustion stove plus water cylinder, in good working order. \$300 ono. Be quick.

2 Rinnai gas heaters. I cream, I brown. Good cond. \$150 ea. ono.

PH: 0407 725 442

Deep Freeze \$100 PH: 6372 2895

To give away
Kittens. Ready now.
Call 0427 607 991 / 0439 389 415

Items for sale cont'd HAY FOR SALE

Orders taken now. \$4.00 per bale. **PH: 6372 2492** or

Mobile 0419 558 739

Aluminium Savage 4m, '97 – 8 HP Yamaha, with trailer. \$1800. ONO. **PH:** 6374 2267 or 0427 802 970

TV, DVD player and CD Player TV - 53cm, Digitor, remote -\$65. DVD - Celestial, Mp3 compatible, Kodak picture compatible, remote -

CD – Teac, speakers, remote -\$20 ONO.

The lot for \$100!!

Contact Alex on 0400 664 072

Malleys heavy duty washing machine. Goes well, suit shack. \$100. ONO. Ph: 6372 2634 AH

Single bed. White steel frame with brass knobs. Innerspring mattress included. As new. \$130.

PH: 0418 136 028

Wanted to buy

Old surfboards. Timber or Fibreglass PH: 6372 5529.

EXERCISE BIKE . IN GOOD ORDER PH. 0419 868 979

Freezer. Must be in good condition PH: Toni Smith 6372 5486 or Mob: 0419 984 566

Glass sliding door.

Ph; 6372 2381

bunk beds, small bookcase, desk, double bed mattress (no base) Please call Maree on:

6372 2216 or 0439 367 015

Older style double bed with solid wooden ends. Spring or wire base PH: Kate 6372 2240

To give away to good home. Jack Russell female. Good with children. Ph: 6372 2107

Classifieds in the Valley Voice are free of

If your articles are not sold after the first entry, we will repeat the ad in the next issue.

Please inform us if your items are sold.

More items for sale

Old tractor (David Brown) 60 HP suit hobby farm. Goes well. \$3,500.

Slasher, Needs work, \$400.

14 plate offset discs. Suit 3 P.L. \$500

2 furrow disc plough. Suit 3 P.L \$500

8 truck tyres, 9-00-20, with rims. Suit International. \$200 each or \$1,400 the lot. **Phone:** 6372 2107

1986 4WD Lada Niva. Reg. 2006 Goes well. Plus lots of spares. \$1,200 O.N.O. **Ph:** 6372 2050

Mob: 0438 086 467

1986 Holden Barina 2 months rego.

5 speed, goes well. Very cheap on fuel. \$1,200. **Ph:** 6372 2107 **Mob:** 0419 322 035

1/4th scale remote controlled offroad buggy. New nitro engine, just run in.

Complete, ready to go. \$250.

Ph: 0429 742 339

Hall carpet runner (almost new) – teal with elegant border design: \$250 ono.

Large Persian-style rug (some wear) – red with central design and fringed on 2 sides: \$60.

Garden inspired rug (very good condition) – green with lattice pattern and floral border: \$45.

Ph: 0409 289 997 (Rita & Ian Summers)

COACH HOUSE RESTAURANT

Wishes to inform everyone that they will be closing for **Christmas.**

Closing at 7.30pm
Saturday the 24th, Christmas eve.
Reopening at 8am,
Monday the 26th, Boxing day.

ROSS, TRACY AND FAMILY
WISH ALL THEIR
CUSTOMERS
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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Web Page. Http://dickadams.id.au

Email: D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

PH. (03) 6398 1115 Fax. (03) 6398 1120

Local Call Cost 1300 132 689

Authorised by: P. Kearney 21 Killara Ave, Lanena



Advertisement

RING OUT THE 'BELLS OF ST MARYS'!

(but without Bing Crosby!)

Did you hear the bell last Friday night? At about 7.30pm it was ringing with gusto, and preparing the audience for the start of a great night at the former Uniting Church in Storey Street.

Yes, the bell was being rung for the first time in a very long time! And everyone was really excited to hear it. While it was ringing, 28 children were lined up outside the building, waiting to make their joyful entry into their new home, to sing and perform for their parents and friends.

The reason for all the excitement was the end of year celebration for JAM.

And what a night it was!

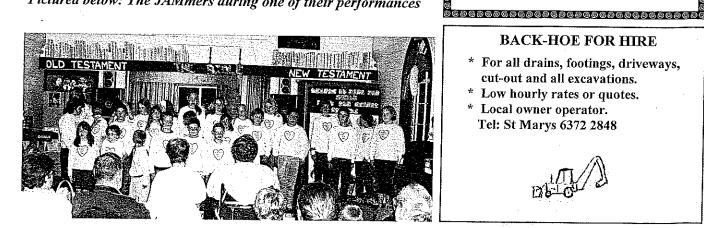
JAM was particularly thrilled to welcome the Tasmanian Divisional Commander of the Salvation Army, Major Allan Daddow and Mrs Daddow, The Divisional Children's Ministry Co-ordinator of the Salvation Army, Lieutenant Keven Cronk, Mayor Stephen Salter, Deputy Mayor, Mrs Margaret Osborne and Mr Osborne, Councillor McGiveron and Mrs McGiveron and Captain Ric Ellis and the Brass Band from the Launceston Salvation Army Corps.

Of course the church was also filled (and overflowing!) with family and friends of all the JAMmers

The children of JAM were a delight to behold as they sang and performed many varied items with obvious enthusiasm and sincerity.

Well done Melanie. The children were a credit to you.

Pictured below: The JAMmers during one of their performances



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- * Incense gift packs.
- * Essential fragrant & perfumed oils, great for gifts.
- * Money clips, 3 for \$10

Merry Xmas to everyone. Thank you very much for your custom throughout the year.

We have heaps of last minute ideas, and will be open all day Saturday.

BACK-HOE FOR HIRE

- * For all drains, footings, driveways, cut-out and all excavations.
- Low hourly rates or quotes.
- * Local owner operator. Tel: St Marys 6372 2848



Letters to the Editor

Dear Judy,

I have enjoyed Jim Haas' series of "A little bit of heritage", and hope he can find time to continue, as there is so much that needs to be recorded and many of us enjoy the recollections, yarns, stories etc.

I would like to know if Jim can locate the museum the Joy Miner eventually ended up being sent to, and if anyone has visited or viewed it.

Keep up the good work Jim!

Regards,

Valley Voice Sir,

The office at the front of the St Marys Hall is to be used as a Councillors Office, for Councillors to be available at particular times on an appointment or drop-in basis, to allow residents to raise ideas, concerns, suggestions, complaints etc., regarding matters within Council's matters which affect responsibility, residents themselves personally or on a wider community level, or simply to ask what is going on.

John Schier, Darwin. The Editor

Starting on January 3rd, I shall be in attendance each week between 2.00pm - 4.00pm on Tuesdays. I am available at other times on 6372 2647, or wherever you happen to bump into me, but a regular time at a particular place may be convenient for residents to discuss issues and ideas which they would like to run past a Councillor with a view to getting them into the system.

The Local Government Act provides a framework that "allows local communities to inform themselves about their Council's decisions and actions, and provides a system of government that is open, seeks and listens to people's views and ideas, and uses them in decision making," more succinctly expressed by Woodrow Wilson, 28th President of the United States (1913-21). "I believe in Democracy because it releases the energies of every human being."

Council needs your views, your ideas, and your energy.

Cllr David Clement Gray Road, St Marys, 7215.

The Historic St Marys Hotel



Merry Christmas to all from Paul, Jen and staff

Sir,

The good work carried out by Australian gastroenterologist Barry Marshall M.D. and pathologist Robin Warren, into the real cause of stomach ulcers being a bacterium - Helicobacter Pylori - and not stress, is to be congratulated, as is their recognition as Nobel Prize winners.

However, as this was well known by farmers and vets in America in the treatment of pigs for this complaint as far back as 1953, and was being treated with Bismuth and tetracycline with excellent results, surely the medical profession should be held to account for refusing for so long to admit that they have been using the wrong diagnoses and treatment which has resulted in countless misery and death.

As Barry Marshall and Robin Warren started treating patients successfully as far back as 1983, one wonders how long it takes to carry out this simple procedure and collate the results?

A study by Dr. David Graham, Chief of Digestive Diseases at the Veterans Administration Medical Centre in Houston, confirmed back in the nineteen nineties that treatment of choice for ulcers is ten days to four weeks on Tetracycline and Bismuth Subsalicylate.

The American magazine Life, of Thursday February 10, 1994, quoted the National Institute of Health as saying that the bacterium Helicobacter Pylori was the cause in 90% of stomach ulcers, and went on to say that the bacterium is linked to gastric cancers.

A lot of money is being wasted on medical research, and people are dying or leading wretched lives because known and tested cures are being ignored, especially if they clash with conservative medical dogma.

Charles Trollope St Marys

Tim Morris MHA **Member for Lyons**



CONTACT:

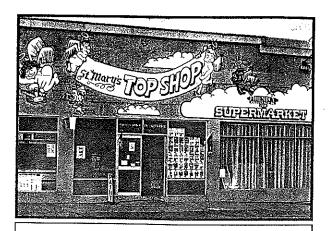
33 Burnett St, New Norfolk 7140 Phone: (03) 6261 8048 Fax: (03) 6261 8047

E-mail:

greens@parliament.tas.gov.au

www.tas.greens.org.au

Authorised by Tim Morris MHA, Parliament House, Hobart 7000.



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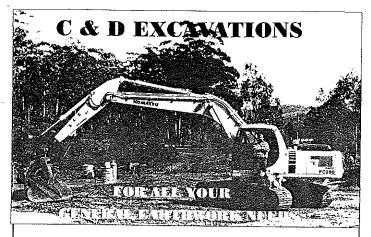
10% off frozen meat
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Christmas hams have arrived.
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Watches Jewellery DVD's

Surfboards:

Milch McTavish
Surftech G Boards Bic



Bay Surf Shop

2 Pendrigh Place St Helens

Ph: 6376 1755

The Cornwall Coalminers' HeritageWall by Jim Haas

The original concept to build a monument to recognise the brave men who, through sheer guts, determination and brute strength, tunneled their way beneath the Mt. Nicholas Range with only a pick, shovel and a stick of dynamite and carved an industry that has been the life blood of the Fingal Valley for one hundred and twenty years, was put forward by our oldest resident, ninety year old, Mrs. Una Camplin of Cornwall.

Mrs. Camplin floated the idea for years because she was concerned that there was virtually nothing in Tasmania that identified the heritage of coalmining, and the industry has played a significant roll in Comwall Community Members getting ready for the "Big Day" Tasmanian history.



However, it was not until 2004 that she was able to get \$1650 funding for the project through the Break O' Day Council Community Funding Grants; and with another \$500 already in the kitty, Mrs. Camplin was rapt. As a result, she approached a couple of people, including me, who had some community development experience, to help her build a memorial wall big enough to hold some six hundred names. Hence Cornwall Community Development Group Inc. was formed.

We were all aware that \$2,000 would barely get us past the planning stage. But it was a start, and through a great deal of letter writing, filling in fund applications, talking to pollies and generally promoting the Wall idea in the community, finally in March this year Cornwall Coal Co. came on board and committed to supply and lay the bricks. We were a step closer. Then it was the Tasmanian Community Fund, followed by the State Government through Michael Polley and David Llewellyn, who is an old Cornwall boy, who came up with funding. Finally a generous grant came in from the Mineworkers Trust. This Trust was originally formed by the old Miners Federation to operate a coal mine in the Hunter Valley of N.S.W and all profits from the mine are channeled back into Coalmining communities.

We were up and running, and to add a number of small donations and fund raising to our major sponsors, we had secured funding of some \$20,000; enough to build the wall, buy plaques that would hold what had now reached 800 names, and also a number of smaller plaques for history, miners who have been killed at the mines sponsors etc. As well, some money will be used to preserve as much Coalmining Heritage as possible.

The Wall is now well on its way to completion. The brick work has been completed, pathways, fencing and landscaping is currently under construction, and the plaques have been made at Retlas Foundry in Hobart and are ready to go up.

The next idea put forward was the opening, and a "Back to Cornwall Day" was proposed, again by Mrs. Camplin. Consequently, a Back to Cornwall Day will be held on the 4th February 2006, commencing at around 11.00am, with the opening of the Wall by the Deputy Premier, David Llewellyn and Beak O' Day Mayor Stephen Salter at 1.00pm.

The day is primarily designed to encourage people to get together, meet old friends and family and have a good old chin wag. However, we will have entertainment for the kids, plenty of food and refreshments, a little local music and a good display of coalmining and Cornwall history for those who care to reminisce.

WORKING BEE

Wildcare will be holding a working bee on Cornwall Coal Mines Heritage track on Tuesday the 31st January 2006 commencing at Cornwall Park at 10.00 am For further details contact

Jim Haas on 63722127

In conjunction with the Wall we also plan a Coalmine Heritage walk that will the take in a couple of old disused mining sites. As well, we believe a stroll around the township of Cornwall has good value in as much as all the houses date back to the "Pick and Shovel" days (pre. 1964) all of which portrays the lives of the miners and their families perfectly.



Compliments of the season to all. From Jim



St Helens waste water upgrade

Break O' Day Council has finally settled on the firm to construct its wastewater treatment plant.

At the Council meeting on Monday, the firm Aquagenics was awarded the tender after a significant assessment period, taking several months.

Mayor Salter said that Council received nine tenders, and eventually managed to reduce the field to three.

In the final stages Council adopted the Aquagenics proposal due to its inherent design characteristics, which include lower operating costs and simplicity of operation.

"What makes this tender so unique, is the filtration process, which combines two filters - one that is a cloth membrane designed to remove larger particulates, and a series of membranes providing filtration to 0.1 micron."

The tender price was \$5.4 million, and this project will be the largest ever carried out by Council.

We anticipate commencement of construction in approximately February or March 2006, and the project should be completed within 10-12 months.

This project will also be a benefit through reducing the nutrients currently going into Georges Bay, and the high quality of effluent will enable Council to irrigate sports grounds and gardens within the St Helens town.

This latter component will follow as soon as possible, depending on the availability of funds.

When the project is completed, St Helens will have the most advanced treatment process currently available.

T. F. MOWING SERVICES FREE QUOTES



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FOR



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Conveyor belt Solid woven and some rubber. Various widths \$7.50 to \$10 per metre Phone Lion John: 6372 2231

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Visiting: St Marys Community Health Centre

Ph: 63375555

9 am - 10 am Appointments:

St Marys: 6372 2172

Alternate Tuesdays

HARRIS FUNERALS

Lindsay & Diane (D. Bailey & son) A.F.D.A

Ph/Fax: 6376 1153 Mob: 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.

Contacts for Valley Voice.

Fax: 6372 2172

PH: Judy: 6372 2155

Email: j.spilsbury@tassie.net.au

Accounts: Mary: 6372 2328

Please leave written material at the St Marys Health & Beauty Centre. Main St, St Marys, or post: C/- Post Office, St Marys Tas 7215

Advertising:

Classifieds:

25 words or less: free Community notices: free Small ads. Garage sales etc. \$8, 1/4 page \$15. 1/2 page \$25. Full page \$40

1 year posted subscription \$25.

.Deadline for articles: Tuesday before publication.

Please note: For this issue only, Monday Dec 21st.

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- ♦ RUBBISH REMOVAL
- ♦ SHED SITES CUT
- ♦ LANDSCAPING

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER					
Dec/Jan		St Marys	Fingal		
Mon 2	26th	Annette Davey	Karen Lohrey		
Tues 2	27th	Pam Lynch	June Hall		
Wed 2	28th	B & B McAllister	Patsy Death		
Thurs 2	29th	Gail Gamble	Prev Mills		
Fri 3	30th	Pauline Berwick	Shirleen Woods		
Mon	2nd	Tina Floyed	Carole Woods		
Tues	3rd	Ruth Aulich	Alana Johns		
Wed	4th	Geoff Herrmann	Barbara Saunders		
Thurs	5th	Heather Griffiths	H McKenzie		
Fri	6th	N & A Challis	Julie-Ann Claridge		
	1.	/			

MEALS ON WHEELS ROSTER					
Jan	St Marys	Fingal			
Mon 9th	Audrey Wright	Sharon Hall			
Tues 10th	Hannah Rubenach	Robyn Holder			
Wed 11th	Wendy Aulich	Tom Brady			
Thurs 12th	Liz Rice	Rhonda Hoskinson			
Fri 13th	Claire Bean	Christine Woods (S)			
Mon 16th	Trish Pike	Shirley Parker			
Tues 17th	D & K Floyed	Joan Lowe			
Wed 18th	Judy Spilsbury	Susan Woods			
Thurs 19th	Pat O'Donnell	Lynda Bean			
Fri 20th	Geoff Herrmann	Malcolm Saunders			

Church Services

Catholic Parish of St Marys

Priest: Ph: 6372 2252

Fingal

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

10.30am

St Marys

Every Sunday Mass 9am

Every Sunday Mass 5pm

St Helens

Every Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm

Mangana

5th Sunday Mass 11am

Anglican Parish of the Northern Midlands

Services each Sunday

Avoca

8 am

Fingal 10 am

Mathinna 2nd & 4th Sunday monthly at 11.30am

Daily Office Reading

Avoca Tuesdays 10 am Fingal Tuesdays 12 noon

Wednesdays 10 am Ross

Anglican Parish - St Helens

Ph: 6376 1144

St Helens Every Sunday

8 am and 10.30 am

Kanga Sunday School

10.30 am - 12 noon every Sunday for children 5 - 12

St Marys 10 am

(No service 5th Sunday)

Pyengana 7.30 pm

5th Sunday months only

Break O'Day Uniting

Church

The Manse St Helens

Ph: 6376 2405

St Helens 9.00 am

11.15 am Fingal

Seventh Day Adventist

Hodgeman Street Scamander Sabbath School 10 am

Divine Service 11 am

Portable Timber Mill **LUCAS MILL**

Will cut poles, planks, weather boards, slabs, tabletops & benches.

East Coast -St Marys Phone: 03 6372 2147

CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST MARYS



Christmas Mass Times

BICHENO Christmas Vigil Mass Saturday, December 24, 6.30pm

ST HELENS Christmas Vigil Mass Saturday, December 24, 9.30pm

ST MARYS Christmas Day Mass Sunday, December 25, 9.00am

The normal 5.00pm Sunday Mass at Bicheno WILL NOT be celebrated on Christmas Day.



Holy Trinity Anglican Church, St Marys **Christmas Day Services**

The Service for Christmas Day will be at 9.00am, with normal service times resuming on Sunday 1st January at 10am.

CHRISTINE DEWAR F.A.I.T.T., C.D.

(Fellow of the Australian Institute of Travel & Tourism, Commissioner for Declarations, Regional Tourism Consultant)

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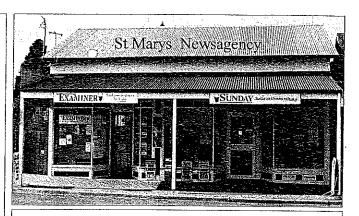
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All the staff at the St Marys Newsagency would like to wish our customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Open Christmas Day–8am – 11am. Then back to normal.



Arts Tasmania grant for local artist

Cornwall artist Elizabeth Turnbull recently received the news that she had been awarded an Arts Tasmania grant, to take part in an international exhibition of self-taught and 'outsider' art planned to take place in March 2006, in Prato, near Florence in Italy.

The grant will assist Elizabeth's participation, by covering the cost of her return air fare, to attend the exhibition, firm dates for which will be announced shortly.

Following her involvement in Raw Art 2005, a similar festival in London in May this year that featured the work of some eighty artists from around the world, Elizabeth was one of only twenty artists invited to exhibit in the Italian event, entitled The Other Face of the Moon – Art Beyond the Limits. Other artists taking part come from Italy, UK, France, Switzerland, Norway, USA and New Zealand, with two Australian representatives, the other being Liz Parkinson of Terrigal, New South Wales.

An exhibition of works from Elizabeth's series *The Ancestors* was seen locally at e.ScApe Gallery in February-March 2005 following an earlier exhibition at the Burnie Regional Art Gallery in December 2004 – January 2005.

Summer residents here for the past three years, Elizabeth and her husband made their move from Queensland to Tasmania permanent, earlier this year.

They really enjoy living in the St Marys area, and will continue spending a significant part of their time year-round in their Cornwall cottage.

A LITTLE BIT OF HERITAGE: by Jim Haas

All towns around our wonderful country have many characters, all of which go to add to the colour and vibrancy of a community, and the Fingal Valley is no exception.

I believe we have produced some of the greatest, and whilst this year in the Valley Voice I have touched on a few of them; next year I hope to do a little character profiling which I'm looking forward to and I'm sure will prove interesting to our readers.

How interesting would the bloke be who said he fired his shot gun at a flock of starling on the fence and afterwards picked up a chaff bag full of starling legs. And what about the bloke who reckoned he had the best gun in the valley because he went outside on a full moon and shot a piece out of the side of it. Or the union official who went to Sydney and reckoned they were all dumb buggars because they didn't know where Cornwall was. And let's not forget old Webber who always carried his pack on his own back when he rode his old horse up the hill so the horse wouldn't have to carry him and the pack too.

What about Paddy, who killed the snake and laid it over his shoulder; the head touched the ground on one side and the tail on the other. It was either one hell of a snake or Paddy was a very short man. Talking about snakes, old Clive stopped for a spell on the Cornwall to Mt. Nicholas track and reckoned he saw a snake's head appear just as he was about to doze off to sleep; ten minutes later he woke up and the snake's tail was just disappearing. Was the snake that big that it took ten minutes to cross the track or did it stop while Clive dozed? We will never know.

As kids at Cornwall, we got great pleasure in killing a snake, tying a piece of strong cotton to its head and dragging it across the road in front of a motorist. We, of cause, would laugh our heads off and hightail it off into the bush as the motorist stopped and tried to kill a dead snake.

And what about the pranks the old hands got up to, like turning the horses around in the sulkies whilst their owners were sinking a few pints in the local pub. Or sneaking up to lover's cars parked in lonely spots, and tying fencing wire from the bumper bar to a tree; you can imagine the shock when they tried to take off.

The initiation prank played on all junior starters at the coal mine was a huge hand full of axle grease plastered on to a place we won't mention. We all put up a fight but there were always half a dozen strong arms to hold you down to make sure you were initiated.

Then there was the funnel trick; you would be asked to place a coin on your forehead, a funnel into the waist band of your trousers and the trick was to slide the coin off your forehead and into the funnel. The only problem was whilst you had your head back, manipulation the coin, someone would pour a gallon of water down the funnel.

But they were the good old days. Rightly or wrongly, people made their own fun, they told stories, stretched the truth a little, played a prank or two on one another, but at the end of the day no harm was done and people accepted it all as good clean fun.

Finally, I would like to thank the Valley Voice for allowing me this column each fortnight and a special thanks to the readers who have put up with my reminiscing over the past year and wish everyone a safe, happy Christmas, and I pray that God's love touches each one of us so we can move forward in 2006 as a peaceful, united community.



Marine protected areas

Break O' Day Mayor Stephen Salter has expressed sincere concerns at the proposals released by the Australian Government to create marine protected areas in Tasmania's

North East, adjacent to the Break O'Day municipality.

From the information we have been able to obtain, it appears that the proposal will decimate the East Coast commercial fishery, and will result in a large number of jobs being lost, particularly in St Helens.

While St Helens recreational fishery and deep-sea charter do not appear threatened, this is cold comfort for those businesses who currently process and export East Coast fishes to other markets in South Eastern Australia.

At this stage, sufficient detail is not available to ascertain whether commercial fishing activities will be permitted in the area, from low water mark eastwards to the marine protected areas.

"I am furious at the way that the Commonwealth has dealt with this issue, by releasing information a few days prior to Christmas, and after Federal Parliament has adjourned for the year.

"I formally call on the Federal Minister, Senator Ian Campbell, to enter into urgent discussions with those affected by the proposal, so that members of our community, whose livelihood will be affected, can have an opportunity to be fully briefed on this issue.

"I have therefore written to the Federal Minister requesting a meeting in St Helens as soon as possible."

Grassy Bottom Regional Arts "A CIRCUS IS COMING TO TOWN!"

Circus Risque is coming to St Marys for a return visit, with a brand new show, on Sunday, January 15, appearing at the St Marys Town Hall at 6pm.

This will be followed by a workshop on Monday, January 16, at 10am, also at the St Marys Town Hall.

For more information and bookings please call:

Robyn on 6372 2309.



Thank you to our supporters, and a very Merry Christmas



THE BEST EVER CHRISTMAS by Beverley Rubenach (a true story)

The house was poor and ramshackled, even by remote country standards of the 1960's, with its unpainted slab timber walls and shingle roof covered with wind torn "malthoid". But this outward appearance did not portray the entire scene, for inside there was an air of festivity and celebration.

Oh, the wallpaper was cracked and water-stained in many places, but it was clean and homely. How wonderful that this night was a typical Tasmanian December evening. No rain from the leaking roof would spoil the wallpaper this night. This night, flaws were hidden by bunches of flowers and festoons of home-made paper chains and paper bells, and, wonder of wonders, a few strands of shop-bought tinsel.

The decorations sparkled and swayed as a gentle breeze floated through the door, opening onto the wide verandah. Even on this summer evening a fire burned brightly in the old black wood stove, giving added cheer to the large kitchen. A kerosene lamp cast a mellow glow over the big pine table, leaving the far corners of the room in twilight darkness. The fragrance of roses, Christmas lilies and chamomile, blended with the delicious smell of freshly cooked ham.

The stillness was broken only by the constant plop, plop of pea-pods falling into a bucket, as Dad sat shelling peas for tomorrow's feast. Mum finished slicing strawberries into the golden glass bowl, brimming with fresh fruit salad. I stopped stirring the lemon jelly and placed it on the bench. By morning it would be set solid.

The nearest electricity, along with the neighbours, was many kilometres away. Tomorrow, this isolation would be temporarily broken with the arrival of my sister and four brothers, and my many nieces and nephews. But for now it was just us- Mum, Dad, and me.

"All finished," Mum sighed with relief. "Want to come out on the verandah for a while?" she asked. I nodded. I loved to be outdoors on this special night, but I was reluctant to take my eyes off the newly decorated wild-cherry tree that graced the small table by the window. It had been gathered just this evening after the evening meal, and now it stood fresh and upright, fashioned with decorations lovingly made, stored and collected over many years.

The lure of the evening beckoned. It was so beautiful and warm and calm, and so wonderfully relaxing. It was Christmas Eve. Peaceful and perfect, this my favourite night of the year. With the smell of freshly cut grass, the whisper of wind in the willows, and the distant bleating of sheep, how could it be otherwise?

Praise and thanksgiving to God came naturally, in the form of well-loved, time-honoured Christmas carols – "While Shepherds watched their flocks by night" - "Hark the Herald Angels sing." On and on we sang. Twilight was quickly receding, giving way to the tranquility of night. This Christmas Eve was fast drawing to its closing, but before that happened, there was time to recall past Christmases. They had all been good.

"My very best Christmas was when I was ten years old," Mum reflected. "It had been a hard year for my family. Father had been off work for many weeks, left almost blind by a coal mining accident. Even food and clothing were scarce, so surely there would be no luxuries like Christmas presents. However, childhood hopes are not easily quelled. My two brothers and five sisters hoped we would awaken on Christmas morning to find an orange or a peppermint stick at the foot of our beds. I know I shouldn't have prayed for presents when we needed essentials so, but on that Christmas Eve I asked God for a doll—no two dolls. One for my favourite sister and one for me...Just little dolls, mind you." Mum paused, and indicated the size with her thumb and finger. Yes, I saw that they were indeed little dolls. They measured less than five centimetres high.

"Like children everywhere," she continued, "we awoke at daybreak. There at the end of each bed was an orange. What a treat. But the initial joy was short-lived. A twinge of disappointment swept over me. God hadn't heard me. There was no doll. Trying to appear casual, I carefully searched the blankets at the end of my bed, just in case I had missed seeing that doll. But no."

Mum's face clouded slightly with re-lived disappointment. Then it brightened. "I remember hearing Tom shouting. 'I've got a top'. Frank echoed his delight at his own discovery. Elsie, my oldest sister shrieked with joy. A brush and comb was hers. Likewise for my three older sisters. What of me, and Gwen? Then I saw them—two cups and saucers sitting on the table by our bed. Gently I lifted the cup and there..." A tear of joyful recollection crept over Mum's face,... "and there sat the little doll. Gwen lifted her cup and there was her own little doll. Never had two children felt so blessed."

How times have changed I thought silently to myself. Fancy feeling so blessed from receiving such a little doll. I dared not break this special moment of memories. After a pause, Mum continued. "Years later we learned that all our friends and relatives had helped our parents pay the four shillings needed to buy all our Christmas treasures."

Times haven't-changed I reflected. "At Christmas time people let God touch their hearts." Mum nodded in agreement. There was no need for more talk. We both sat, letting the silence wash over us. Silence. – Why even the plop, plopping of the pea pods had ceased. Glancing inside I saw Dad fast asleep on the kitchen chair.

Overhead, the first stars appeared. Simplicity and silence. The singing of "Silent Night" had to be a fitting end to this special day. "Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth." The last note had just faded. Then it came. A wave of peace engulfed us. It was so powerful, so consuming, so indescribable. Mum and I simply joined hands. We lost track of time.

"The peace of God which passes all understanding." we whispered reverently .

"That far surpasses 'the little doll Christmas." Mum smiled

"Emmanuel -God is with us." I spoke in awe. In one accord we spoke. "This is our best ever Christmas."

ST MARYS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE



GP ROSTER- ON CALL:

Please phone the after hours number for the doctor on call.

Dr Mohan Singh- 6372 2111

Medical Emergencies phone: 000

The Ambulance on: 1800 008 008 GP Assist on: 1300 780011

The St Marys Community Health Centre Christmas GP Surgery Hours:

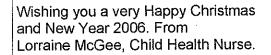
Friday 23/12/05 last day Open again on Tuesday 3/1/06

Dr Mark Loeffler will also be available for consultations during January 2006.

For appointment please phone the Community Health Centre on 6372 2111.

Reception Hours: 8:30am-12:30pm 12:30pm-1:30pm LUNCH 1:30pm-5:00pm

From Dr Singh, Dr Loeffler and all the staff (and extended staff) at the Staff Marys Community Health Centre Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your ongoing support this year during the renovations.





'WHAT'S ON AT THE CENTRE'

23rd December 2005

Alcoholics Anon (AA) Holy Trinity Church St Marys at 8:00pm. Please phone 6372 2725 for further details.

28th Dec 2005

Alcoholics Anon (AA).

Anglican Church St Helens at 8pm every Wednesday evening. Phone 6372 5026 for further details.

3rd January 2006

Normal Surgery Hours Resume

21st/22nd January 2006

<u>Grassy Bottoms Singers</u> Day Room. 9am-5pm

24th January 2006

Child Health Clinic with Lorraine McGee 9am-12noon. Afternoon appointments available by phoning 0428 136 381

30th December 2005

Alcoholics Anon (AA) Holy Trinity Church St Marys at 8:00pm. Please phone 6372 2725 for further details.

1st February 2006

Day Centre Resumes.

For further details or to arrange transport phone Hayley on 6372 2111

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

JANUARY ROSTER

For Community Transport Bookings (HACC Bus) over January please call the Coordinator Mr David Mallett on 0409 802 536

Why does Santa like gardening? He likes to Ho, Ho, Ho

Information on this page was submitted by:
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The Say by Cagerattler

Some years ago we were considered by many as a dying town. Property values were down, and St Marys was out on its feet. Or so it seemed.

Nothing could be further from the truth now. Okay, we haven't got big business here, or major retail outlets on the scope of some shopping complexes, or Chickenfeed and so on like St Helens has.

What we do have is heaps of people who are community minded. In the past couple of weeks I've heard of ideas to refloat the Streetscape concept, and there is a keen band of locals who would love to investigate some worthwhile ideas to develop the resources we currently have around us.

There is an incredible bunch of people working like crazy to again put on a bigger and better race meeting, this time on New year's Eve, with a few new innovations as part of the day.

There has been a very successful Indoor Volleyball roster, just completed, that got many locals out there enjoying this sport. And judging by the amount of cars at the school netball courts last week, the social and mixed netball competition scheduled by some very dedicated newcomers, and long time locals, looks like being a great way to enjoy summer.

On top of this, there is regular cricket going on through the auspices of local community members. Likewise, the community and school pool has never seen so much keen usage in years, and the Fitness Squad Training is reaping benefits all round. Then we have a resourceful local tennis Club, A Sports Centre (golf and bowls) with a great many ideas for active involvement, and for function/meeting access, and a couple of ideas that will bring 'a few bob' as they say, to the community. S.M.A.C.D. is there to add whatever they can and to help facilitate any good project.

The e.ScApe Café, Coach House, Pancake Barn, the Historic Pub, are also providing outlets and avenues for community access. (and a good feed too)

In regards to the Arts, we have a growing number of iconic events being organised and aided by Grassy Bottom Regional Arts, including the Winter Solstice, the St Patricks Head events and the recent Faulkner's Green production, including the Maypole Dance and music.

Along the same lines, the School productions including the now famous Arts on Tour and the Rock Challenge are just getting better all the time.

Has anyone noticed how many of our students are gaining traineeships, apprenticeships, or are going on to further education? There is a real positiveness out there for them at the moment. Quite a few of this year's school leavers have secured positions already.

What is really helping students of all ages is the Online Centre and NEET Centre. This allows all sorts of opportunities for these people.

Touching on health, and we are extremely fortunate to have a terrific doctor who likes the area, but just as importantly a great little hospital (sorry, Health Centre) to rely on.

Then you add on the fantastic Tasmanian Lymphoedema Centre, with patients coming from all over the place to have their treatments, and St Marys is truly unique.

On the grapevine is a couple of exciting new business ventures in the next couple of months or so, one in particular which

will be great for the town, so things are looking up on this front too. Let's not forget the terrific work being done in the Creative Arts area, including the woodworking concept, and of course Gone Rustic, with another potential group also a possibility.

Then there is aerobics, J.A.M, the Catholic community and the Anglican Church, all doing good things.

Not to mention the hard working Lions Club of St Marys, who are always doing something somewhere locally.

New houses have also been built in recent times and most if not all properties sell much more quickly that they used to.

We also have the terrific Valley Voice. How good is that? This is a real community in the truest sense of the word. We get behind things worth fighting for, and will not suffer fools, and we look out for each other.

Perhaps that's why we love being here, and definitely not is this town on its last legs! A long way from it, in fact.

What do you think?

From Cagerattler to all the Valley Voice helpers: thanks so much for indulging me again this year, and we'll see you again, God willing, in 2006. Have a great holiday.



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Just a reminder that Booklists are due in to the Office before the end of the school year - late return of forms will result in a delay at book sales while your order is made up.

Surnames A-K Tuesday 7 February

9.30 am to 2.30 pm

Surnames L-Z Wednesday 8 February

9.30 am to 2.30 pm

Any that cannot attend on Feb 7 or 8 Thursday 9 February

9.30 am to 2.30 pm

*** Uniforms ordered in October of last year should be available for payment and collection at book sales. Limited items are available to purchase on the day***

Any outstanding STAS forms are also due - please bring them to office as soon as possible, spare forms can be collected at the office if yours has been misplaced.

School Magazine

Due to technological problems the 2005 School Magazine will not be ready for collection by the end of the school year.

Those of you who have ordered and paid for the Magazine will be able to collect it at Book Sales time. Any others will be posted

We apologise for this inconvenience.



2006 School Year commences

Thursday, February 16th.

Thank you

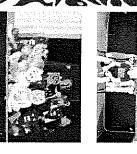
The classes of 1979 and 80 held a successful reunion in October. A small group enjoyed a tour of the school, and were amazed at the number of changes to the school facilities.

The school would like to thank them for their generous donation which will be put to good use.





SUBJECT PRIZES



Music HEALTH/PE DESIGN GRAPHICS

MATHEMATICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MATHEMATICS METHOD NEGRATED ENGLISH

Matthew Tildesley

Sam Genders Vera Nickson

Alicia Rosskell)

Nick Panton Carmen Cole Daniel Cooke

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY FOOD STUDIES

> James Lodge Billy Singline Billy Singline Jenna Goss Γyler Franklir Renee Kinnersley

SPEECH & DRAMA

SCHACK SCHOOL

SPECIAL AWARDS MERIT CERTIFICATES

DICK ADAMS AWARD FOR SPORTSMANSHIP CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Alicia Rosskelly

Todd Spilsbury Rebecca Holmes Jacqui McCullagh Jadis Peacock

Joe Carter

PERSEVERANCE

CALTEX ALL ROUNDER AWARD AWARD FOR FLEXIBLE PROGRAMS SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD BUSINESS ENTERPRISE VET AWARD SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL FOOD'S HALL DRAMA AWARD

DAVID LIEWELLYN AWARD FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

RICCH AWARD FOR ALL ROUND UNIVERSITY AWARD ACHIEVEMENT

Billy Singline

Vera Nickson Renee Kinnersley Joe Carter Alicia Rosskelly Harry Young Renee Kinnersley Adrian Parsons Patrick Tennick Adrian Parsons

Vera Nickson Renee Kinnersley

DUX OF THE SCHOOL



PRIMARY AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARD om Kelly,

GRADE 5 GRADE 4 Imogen Prebble Grace Ennis Joshua McDiarmid Joel Bennett

MERIT CERTIFICATES

GRADE 3 MACKENZIE Jack Greenwood

Tamieka Davern

GRADE 3 SMITH Bonnie Panoff Kara Nankervis

GRADE 4/5 WARDLAW Elka McColl Emily Miles

GRADE 4/5 MACGREGOR Bradley Mitchell Christin Heron

Karly Graham

Shantelle Arratta

GRADE 6 HUNT Kodie Donald Selina Panoff

Jemma Davern

CITIZENSHIP AWARD SPORTSPERSONS AWARD Sophie Bourke Elise Wright

SECONDARY AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARD Rebecca McDonald Damian Bean

GRADE 8

ACADEMIC AWARD Hazel Buchhorn

MERIT CERTIFICATES

GRADE 7/8 WHITE Bryn Norton Rebecca King

GRADE 7/8 BLACK Mackenzie Seddon Chloe Singline Kylie Peardon

GRADE 7/8 GREEN Ruby Wallace Damian Graham Emma Howe

778 SPORTS PERSON AWARD Ella Cooke Rhys Pitstock

10 Me

GRADE 9

ACADEMIC AWARD Lana Stephens

PRESENTATION DAY

GRADE 9A MERIT CERTIFICATES

Lucy King Jessica Downing Isaac Kriesch

Kirsten Vine) Nicole Evelyn Allyson Bowling

GRADE 9B

Alice Cornelius Bianca Floyed Tegan Speers

GRADE 9C

GRADE 9 SPORTS PERSON AWARD Matthew Bourke

RICOH AWARD FOR ALL ROUND ACHIEVENCENT SCHOOL FARM AWARD (FOR STUDENTS GR. 7-10) Troy Howe

NEET CENTRE INC. AWARDS

Leah Nash

GRADE 11/12

ACADEMIC AWARD Katrina Death

MERIT CERTIFICATES Sheridan Spriggs Alex Veldums

Tameika Harding

VET PRIZE RICOH AWARD FOR ALL ROUND ACHIEVEMENT Jeanette Rickman Alex Veldums





Dux of the School Billy Singline 2005

Twilight Netball Competition

An enthusiastic group of about 30 people turned up for the first night of Twilight Netball. The guys in particular were a little surprised at just how strenuous netball can be

A scratch match made up of four teams was played in great spirit and everyone that attended had a great time.

At the time of writing we are not sure what will happen on Tuesday the 20th but hopefully proper teams will be established and we can start a competition. We agreed to put in \$2 each per game and have a family picnic to coincide with a grand final or when the season finishes.

There is a lot happening before Christmas but we will try and get the competition going again on Tuesday the 3rd of January.

So get your team organised and join in the fun.

St Marys Pacing Club

Just a reminder that we race on New Year's Eve, instead of New Year's Day this year.

Besides the races, we will be conducting a Race Lady and Junior Race Lady competition, plus lucky program, unplaced tote ticket: prizes of \$100.

For the children we will have the bouncing castle and face painting, and there will be plenty of food and refreshments.

Ray Singline and his band will be playing until 9pm, so come along and enjoy the music.

Four bookmakers and the tote will be operating for punters' convenience. Join in a great day and help us have a successful day once again.

St Marys Tennis Club

Mid week Ladies roster has had another great year, with new members and old players returning to enjoy their sport. Congratulations to the two winning teams over this period.

Tennis has certainly become an all weather game here in St Marys. For the first time that the long time players can remember, we had to melt the ice and sweet dry the court before play could start on the day.

New roster will start when school resumes. Please make sure you are a financial member prior to teams being drawn.

All members are asked to please return their raffle books to Kaye Nailer, or they can be left at the St Marys Newsagency where raffle is on display.

Thank you. Kaye and Annette.

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St Marys Sports Centre news by Kackhander

To bowls first, and the team is going okay with a not disgraceful performance against the top St Helens team in pennant recently, on a lightning fast green, but we were just out of our depth overall. Well done to Mel Austin's rink who scored 2 points for us. Last week on a slightly slower green against St Helens Blue team, we managed a solid win on two rinks, with John McDonald and Peewee Singline getting up and the other teams just going down, after some bad luck in one case.

That said, with a month's spell now occurring, it looks like the final 6 roster matches will allow us to play stronger teams, with more bowlers generally available, and hopefully better weather. Currently the team is in a close battle for second spot with Scamander, to secure the double chance in the finals.

Don't forget the singles is still a long way from being finished. This must be completed before January 11th, as that is the East Coast final series for singles. Let's get our skates on there.

The big one is the Clive Berwick Memorial Triples on Friday, December 30th. So far we have good entries from most local clubs, plus teams from the North West coast, Launceston, Longford, and a team from the Midlands club. There's still time to enter for this fantastic event, so let's make it a big one for the club that weekend.

To golf, and a very special thanks to Macca's Golf on Sunday event last weekend, to kick off the summer roster of events. We had around 30 golfers enjoying a fantastic event, run by Macca, Mark Birch and Trevor, and shows how successful these days can be. The 'tucker' courtesy of Mary Viney, Janice and crew was also brilliant. The next one will be a special Boxing Day test-match breakfast and golf, followed by watching the cricket on the big telly. Sounds like heaps of fun. It you can make it, please put your name up on the board, to aid with catering purposes.

Another pleasing aspect of the Sunday Summer of Golf, as it is becoming known, is the new faces it's bringing to the club, to enjoy what we have to offer.

To club news, and early on in the new year the club hopes to embark on some social functions, special sports events and maybe a couple of special nights of food, if it all comes together. Also, with the aid of a couple of our business members, we hope to push a revamped program into the new year and make it easier to run the club.

The committee would love to hear from anyone who would like to hold an anyone is 2003, or to help out making our already improving club into a sporting hub of the town. All offers will be greatly appreciated in this area.

Last Sunday's golf day also provided us with an opportunity to pay tribute to John and Roseanne Cox, who sadly are leaving us to try their luck in Queensland. John and Roseanne (and the kids) have been fantastic fellow members and friends of all of us at the Sports Centre, and have never let us down. John in particular, has been a valued committee person, great golf sub-committee treasurer, and not a bad bowler for us, by the way, and we will all miss him.

On the brighter side though, he said he is going to do his absolute best to come back at least once a year, to be part of the Awesome Foursome team, of which he is an integral part. Rumour has it though, that the real reason he wants

to come back, is to show off his brown-as-a-berry Queensland tan. We'll see about that John old boy! To the Cox family, best wishes from all of us at the Sports Centre. To our greenkeeper Craig. Get well soon mate. We need you.

Finally to our friends at the Valley Voice, who indulge us with a column every two weeks. I really don't know how we'd be able to get the news around about the club as we do, without your invaluable help in this regard. To Judy and the crew at the Valley Voice, thank you, and well done in deciphering my scribble every fortnight. The Sports Centre wishes the staff of the Voice a happy and festive Christmas and New year, and we'll see you again in February.

Until next time, good hitting and rolling.



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