

King Island Courier

A Beacon for the Community

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Dolphin mine silent no more



AFTER 33 years the silent Group 6 Metals historic Dolphin Tungsten Mine at Grassy is coming back to life.

STORY: PAGE 2

The Dolphin tungsten mine at Grassy that is set to begin production and, inset, G6M general manager Chas Murcott.

Rate rise held to five per cent COUNCIL BUCKS STATE TREND

THE King Island Council is proposing a five per cent increase in rates for 2023/24 – less than increases proposed in other Tasmanian council areas and less than the council cost index of 8.11 per cent.

The King Island Council Annual Plan and the budget report were presented to the council this week by general manager Kate Mauric.

“Council increased general rates in 2022/23 by 4.06 per cent and two per cent in 2021/22,” she said.

Continued page 2

Dolphin mine reborn

AFTER 33 years the silent Group 6 Metals historic Dolphin Tungsten Mine at Grassy has been brought back to life.

Within 15 months, an empty mine site has been turned into a fully operational business where the production of tungsten is now in full swing and King Islanders are invited to tour the mine on Sunday, July 2 and barbecue lunch.

"It's come a long way," general manager Chas Murcott said this week.

"January last year we flattened off the top of a sand dune and now less than 15 months later, we've made our first concentrate.

"So, it's been a great journey. It's been hard work, but we can see concentrate at the end of the process."

Keeping with their local tradition of naming the big trucks and key milestones the first bag of tungsten produced is labelled 0001.

"That's our very first bag of concentrate, 58% tungsten trioxide ready for export," Mr Murcott said.

"The first container is expected to be shipped overseas at the end of this month.

"When the plant commissioning is completed, we should get, two containers sent out a week from this plant."

The company is satisfied with how the build has developed over the past 15 months.



The first export container should leave the Dolphin Tungsten Mine for overseas at the end of the month.

Covid, but it's getting better," Mr Murcott said.

"We're very pleased to have received our SDS (security sensitive, dangerous substances) permit for explosives.

"Now we've secured that, we're working with TasPorts in getting them aligned with what we want to do, as well as finishing the magazines that we're building.

"We're looking forward to receiving explosives next month and blasting at the end of next month.

"When we start blasting, we'll be generating overburdened rock, which we can crush to make road base and to sheet around the plant and we'll be able to supply the council. We're only crushing on day shift, to manage the noise in town."

On, Sunday, July 2 the Dolphin Tungsten Mine will be holding an open day. It is an opportunity to tour the process plant and various sections of the mine that work round the clock and protected from view.

The company said, "We are inviting the King Island community to come and have a look at what we've been doing for the last year and tour through the site and plant. We will also have a lunch barbecue at the Grassy Club."

Bookings for tours call 0439846041 or email adminhr@g6m.com.au. Tour times are 10:15am, 11am 12:45pm and 1:30pm. Please note sturdy closed-toe shoes are required to be on site.

"When you start something, I don't think everything goes perfectly to plan. But pretty much the design we had is what we've built. There have been some things we had to fix along the way... and there have been challenging times.

"We had the fallout from Covid with transport and costs. Some costs were higher than we expected.

"Finding labour and also getting all the pieces together on this island in Bass Strait has been a challenge.

"But the team has worked hard, and we found ways, and here we are today at the back of the dressing shed where the concentrate is produced."

G6M chairman Johann Jacobs said when the first sod was turned, the company's focus was on employing local King Island people and this has not changed.

"We've got a lot of local employees,

about 20 out of 100.

"We've employed as many local people as possible who wanted jobs with the mine and given them a go. Not all have been able to make a career out of it. We've certainly got lots of local contractors on site.

"Brett Castle is helping build the main office. Currently, there are the plumbers and Sam Perry doing the main shed.

"It's great to be able to use people on the island and their skills.

"Unfortunately, we have a bigger fly-in fly-out workforce than we would have liked.

"We've had to expand the single-person quarters and rent some extra houses to be able to accommodate these people on the island.

"When the mine closed, it had a huge impact on the town of Grassy. In about 2000 before we started, there were about

80 people living in Grassy. There are now 30 houses in and around town, and at the old Ballarat Clarendon College campus which have people living in them," Mr Murcott said.

"Families and kids have moved to the island. We have typically about 50 people on campus in the single persons quarters and near the old Ballarat Clarendon squash courts.

"They enjoy the Grassy Club facilities and also go into town to buy provisions, as well as using flights and transport. I think the mine reopening has had a positive impact on Grassy. It's great to see more life in the town and certainly more life at the Grassy Club."

Some of the challenges the mine faced were supply chain and freight disruption.

"We still see that the supply chains are not back to the levels they were before



King Island Courier

A Beacon for the Community

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King Island Courier

Rate increase held to five per cent

From page 1

This followed no increase in 2020/21 which was to assist ratepayers manage the financial impacts of Covid-19.

For 2023/24, an increase in the overall rate burden of five per cent is proposed.

The increase is less than the "Council Cost Index" (CCI) which is 8.11%.

This index is calculated by the Local Government Association of Tasmania and is intended to reflect the increase in costs which impacts the local government sector.

"Other than the 2020/21 year, Council has in recent years adopted a rates increase that matches the CCI," Ms Mauric said.

"The proposed increase, being less than the CCI, recognises the significant cost pressures on ratepayers that are currently being experienced.

"The charge to cover the cost of the Landfill levy which was introduced by the State Government on 1 July 2022 increases to \$49.60 per property in order to cover the cost of the levy.

"Budgeted expenditures for 2023/24 are based on actual expenditures for 2022/23 to



Council GM Kate Mauric

continue its core maintenance, service delivery, operations and regulatory compliance functions.

"This includes an allocation of \$60,000 to finalise preparation of a Local Provisions Schedule to implement the State Government's Tasmanian Planning Scheme and other planning projects.

"The budget again proposes a very significant works program using government grant funding to continue to maintain and, where necessary, improve the standard of local roads, footpaths, sport and recreation facilities and community buildings, while continuing its core

asset maintenance, service delivery, operations and regulatory compliance functions.

"In the current and immediate prior year, there were significant amounts of "on-demand" grant funding programmes deployed by the Commonwealth Government in order to respond economically to Covid-19.

"The timeframes to spend the grant funding under these programs has been extended. Further rounds of funding have also been announced.

"There are also several specific purposes grants. These funding sources are being utilised in the budget year to deliver the capital projects in conjunction with Council funds.

"The budgeted end-of-year result is for a Net Underlying 'Cash' Deficit of \$2.999m and a Net Statutory Surplus of \$4.469m.

"The budget also proposes increases in service and user fees and charges of 5.0 per cent.

"Once adopted, rates notices will be formally notified and issued. Fees and charges will apply from 1 July 2023."

Ms Mauric reported that a priority for council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan and

budget will be the commencement of the physical delivery of some major projects, being the "HUB" project and the Community Gym.

"These are major projects for council, [and] have been in development for some time and, delivery will be advanced significantly in the budget period," she said.

"Council will also be prioritising infrastructure projects which are important to maintaining the service level that the community expects.

"A number of tranches of funding made available by government assistance measures designed to stimulate the economy in the wake of Covid-19 disruptions still remain to be fully used.

"There is additional funding from these measures available in the budget year and into subsequent years. There are projects to be delivered under these programs and council will actively participate in the government assistance programs as they continue to evolve."

The full Annual Plan FY2023/24 and budget can be viewed on the council website kingisland.tas.gov.au or from the council office 10 George Street, Currie.

King Island a holiday natural

RESIDUAL travel voucher funds of \$150,000 will be split between King Island Council and King Island Tourism Inc.

The incentivised King Island travel voucher scheme was implemented by the State Government to remedy the Public Health travel advice to avoid travelling to King Island following an island Covid outbreak

There were 700 \$300-vouchers redeemable for island experiences and encouraged people from Victoria and Tasmania to visit King Island between May to July 2022 and were distributed via a ballot system.

“A Grant Deed has been signed between King Island Council and Tourism Tas to allocate the remaining funds to be divided between Council and King Island Tourism Inc,” King Island Council growth and strategy manager, Helen Thomas said.

The allocations are:

- \$50,000 Development and resource contribution to King Island Tourism Strategy
- \$40,000 Tourism visitor data collection 2023- 2024
- \$40,000 Visitor focussed signage (\$30K Roads \$10 Print)
- \$20,000 Development of an Aviation prospectus, with increased informed data aimed at the Charter sector.

“In 2022, 28000 passengers arrived on the island using Regular Passenger Transport flights, additionally, there were 900-plus charter flights.

“More data-driven information and resources will inform the final King Island Tourism strategy,” Ms Thomas



Sarah, left, and Corey Brazendale of King Island Brewhouse and King Island Council growth and strategy manager Helen Thomas at the tourism strategy forum event at the Boomerang by the Sea restaurant.

King Island’s remoteness appealed to around half of the survey respondents. The post-survey analysis showed prospective visitors were interested in:

- Nature-based experiences (walks, beaches, etc.) 74%
- Food / Beverage experiences 60%
- Remoteness 47%
- Culture 24%
- Luxury accommodation 21%
- Golf 12%
- Other 14%

Of those who selected “Other”, over a third reported a personal connection as a reason to visit, for example, a historical family connection, a friend or family member who lives on the Island now, or their own experience on the Island. A similar number quoted curiosity about the Island as a place they hadn’t visited and knew little about, with around a quarter naming specific island events as a drawcard.

Voucher recipients were asked why they had not used their voucher and 26% indicated that the cost of flights was a factor in not redeeming, and 16% indicated the time provided to redeem the vouchers was insufficient for their circumstances.

Share the island experience, page 4&5

said.“The key is bringing all the data together. We need to know why and how people are choosing King Island as a destination and to not only collect data from visitors when they have been to the island and they are leaving.”

The survey conducted after the voucher program gave pre-travel insights.

She said 53 per cent of registrants were seeking nature-based and self-guided activities.

“There are now new opportunities coming that build on non-golf visitation,” Ms Thomas said at the recent Tourism Strategy forum.

The online voucher scheme applicants contributed to building a tourism-focused database.

A survey following the voucher program was sent to 13,000 registrants in the original ballot and asked ballot entrants to provide an indication of what attracted them to King Island as a holiday destination.

The survey results indicated that nature-based and foodie experiences were five to six times more attractive than golf.



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WHERE THE *locals* MATTER

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Co-supervisor Dr Gemma Skaczkowski, left, with PhD student Indika Koralegedera. Picture: UniSA

Getting to the bottom of pain

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A NEW study to help Aussie farmers curb chronic pain is being conducted at UniSA and the research team is looking to connect with rural farmers who have experienced chronic pain.

Whether it's a lack of appropriate services, time or simply a 'she'll be right' approach, farmers often face many barriers when it comes to seeking health care, say researchers at the University of South Australia.

One condition that farmers experience a lot, but rarely seek professional help for, is the management of chronic pain.

Untreated, chronic pain can cause serious distress and diminished productivity.

Now, a team of UniSA experts are exploring what chronic pain means to Australian farmers in a move to improve the way chronic pain management strategies are delivered in rural communities.

They are currently seeking farmers who have experienced chronic pain to participate in this groundbreaking study.

Rural health expert, UniSA's Associate Professor Kate Gunn, says the study will address a serious gap in pain management among farmers.

"Agriculture is a great industry to work in, but one of the downsides is the physical injuries that can result, which can have long-term consequences on farmers' ability to work, and their wellbeing," Assoc Prof Gunn says.

"Musculoskeletal disorders are very common in this group and due to the unrelenting

nature of farm work, farmers often return to work without accessing best-practice treatments, and without being aware of what this means for their long-term health and wellbeing.

"We also know that farmers face multiple barriers to accessing mainstream health care services, including health professionals' lack of understanding of their way of life.

"This new study is all about giving farmers a voice so that we can gain insight into how they perceive chronic pain, how it impacts upon their work and life, and importantly, how they would like to be assisted to manage it, in a way that fits with their preferences and lifestyles.

"This is important because there are practical things people can do for themselves and with health professional input, that research has shown really do help."

"Rural communities are already struggling with health services. By working with farmers, we are hoping to develop realistic, appropriate and end-user-informed ways to improve the care and management of chronic pain in rural communities."

The research team, which includes PhD student Indika Koralegedera and Dr Gemma Skaczkowski, is now looking to connect with farmers who have experienced chronic pain.

For further information, please email Assoc Prof Kate Gunn at kate.gunn@unisa.edu.au or PhD student Indika Koralegedera at indika.koralegedera@mymail.unisa.edu.au.



KITA president Adam Hely, left, and John Smith from the King Island Hotel discuss tourism.

THERE was a big turnout for Tourism Tasmania, Regional Tourism WxNW, King Island Tourism and the Tasmanian Hospitality Association recent forum at the Boomerang By the Sea restaurant.

The THA 2030 Vision for the Future of Tasmania's Hospitality Industry and the draft King Island Tourism strategy, created in collaboration with the King Island Council, King Island Tourism Inc and West by North West Regional Tourism were shared.

"The visitor economy contributes six per cent share of the Gross State Product – the highest in the country – and provides 13 per cent share of

total Tasmanian jobs, more than agriculture, fishing, forestry and paper production sectors combined," Tourism Tasmania said.

The T21 partnership between industry and government is unique in Australia.

Tourism Tasmania sets the tourism strategy at the state level and WxNW facilitates the strategy at a regional level, and King Island's strategy is aligned for locally desired outcomes.

The draft King Island strategy intends to develop a more robust, longer-term strategy for King Island tourism.

Tourism Tasmania's T30 strategy is under development

and will be reflected in the next King Island strategy iteration. The state's strategy has eight essential directions to provide a positive impact on the community, industry, economy, visitor, environment and destination.

Tourism Tasmania CEO Sarah Clark recapped Tourism Tasmania King Island on-island activities which included the Opening the Gate program to accelerate agritourism; golf marketing campaigns that included on-island SEN and Fox golf broadcasts; and the promotion of State Government-funded free digital-ready coaching and topic-based business presentations with five hours of business coaching

through Braddon Business; the appointment of Australian-based public relations agency Red Havas as its new global PR agency focusing on international visitation.

Discover Tasmania's website is not restricted to tourism operators. King Island businesses or activities can register and create a profile. Tourism Tasmania has partnerships with airline and travel trade distributors and expects these to grow.

The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse drives all links and information around businesses and activities and the destination King Island.

User-provided data inform websites and databases

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future growth strategies

island experience



The King Island visitor experience is not limited to tourism or hospitality operators but extends to all visitor experiences

Amalgamation nitty gritty

"Communication via our website provides up-to-date information and links to relevant documentation regarding the Review," she said.

FOODWORKS

KING ISLAND

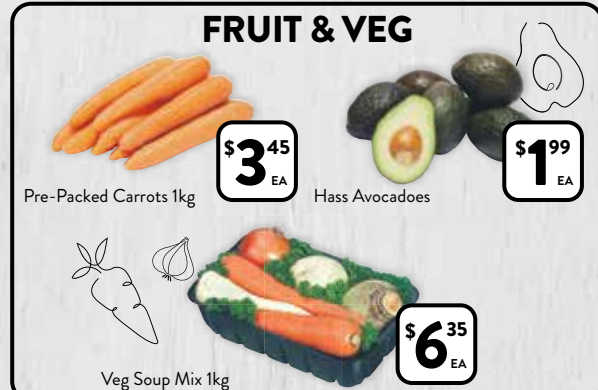
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Wild winds play role in i

KING ISLAND FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A STRONG northerly and light drizzle set the scene for last week's post-bye round with a decent crowd turning out considering the weather.

Grassy and North both sported fairly optimal teams, making for an interesting, albeit breezy game.

Grassy went forward first, with wind-affected kicks and cold bodies making for a scrappy start to the game. Jackson Taylor broke from the backline, but the kick forward scuffed the ground. Jack Noseda intercepted a mark on North's push forward, and the kick went 40m accurately into Tyler Rhodes, who lined up from 30m out. It was a low penetrating kick that got the opening goal.

North went forward as the rain increased, only to come across Noseda once again. Rory Taylor for Grassy had an imposing game, creating a strong contest with Justin Summers. Sam Reeves got a free kick and drove into the Grassy forward line but was intercepted by Taylor Cook, who misfired the kick and quickly returned it to Grassy's way.

Fredy Tatawaqua had a shot on goal but overcompensated for the wind and kicked it out on the full. Conditions were absolutely feral out there on Saturday - do you remember last year when the first term was suspended due to being absolutely smashed by a rainstorm?

It was a notch down from that, and challenging. The Netherby Road end saw a lot of play, but goals were hard to come by. Not a soul was in the North forward line, with most of the action taking place in close quarters.

Players squinted through the horizontal rain, fumbled with a slippery ball, and slid around on the greasy turf (not the turf's fault, though, as it still looked in pristine condition midway through

the season - going from a good track to a heavy 8 in just half a quarter). Grassy managed to sneak another goal via Freddy from the pocket. North got it into their forward line, but the slushy conditions made it hard for them to score.

There was some heat between these teams, warming up an otherwise chilly game. Tyler Rhodes scored from an intercept mark moments before the quarter-time siren, putting Grassy 21 points up at quarter-time.

The drizzling rain turned into a torrent, accompanied by gusty bursts of wind. The ground and the football were no dryer.

It was a hard-running, hard-fought game, with players taking meters on foot instead of by foot.

There seemed to be two schools of thought. Some players moved around, trying to keep their bodies warm, while others were almost statue-like, with hands on knees, wiping water from their eyes. Dave Vellekoop marked on the lead and got the first look at goal for the second quarter, but North was left wanting.

You know the weather's bad when Noseda misfires a kick from a kick-in, and the ball remained in North's forward line, but they were unable to capitalize. When Grassy went forward, they didn't miss the opportunity and quickly scored two goals.

Reeves elegantly collected the ball near the boundary line on the North wing and ran it a short way up the side before meeting a slippery pack. North went forward again through Jeremy Summers, but Jackson Taylor got just enough to tackle on to affect the kick out of bounds.

North quickly regained possession and executed their opening goal through their young junior, Mathew Button.

The Taylor brothers did a lot of running work. The match-up between Vellekoop and Monson in North's forward line was worth watching, as both were good readers of the ball, providing a

nice contest.

Holding onto marks and tackles was a challenge, but there was still an impressive sprinkle of those skills throughout the game, alongside a lot of errant bounces, balls slipping through fingers, and players in piles miles from the ball on the slippery surface. The crowd dwindled in numbers, as people scurried home to clean out their gutters and light their fires.

Matthew Button slid in to take a mark in front of the goal and scored his second. Craig Constable must have been the sub because he had just entered the game with a lovely mark in Grassy's forward line. The halftime siren went, the rain continued, and Grassy was now 16 points up.

There was good news. The rain had all but stopped over the halftime break, and temperatures were slightly above freezing. I regretted wearing bare feet and slides, swearing I wouldn't need to get out of the car. After some midfield battles, Tyler Rhodes lined up at the Netherby end but missed slightly to the right.

The clearer conditions made for more open, free-running play, but with a lovely side of contention and grit. North went forward but never looked like getting a goal before Grassy turned it over into their forward line.

Alex Goldsmith in North's last line of defence saved the goal, and it was back to the contested ball in the middle, with Jeremy Summers able to get it forward for a goal. Grassy got close a few times but couldn't convert, with the ball returning to the centre.

Luke Graham still looked like fresh legs in the middle of the ground. Reeves slid in and marked a big Rainbow kick-in, but the play remained back and forth, contested in the centre of the ground before the siren sounded.

There were only two goals in it to start the final quarter, but it was a low-scoring affair. Both

teams started with a behind each before Grassy found a goal to go three goals up.

Reeves took it out of Grassy's defence to find Beau Mullins in North's defence.

Luke Graham, from a free kick, passed it to Jez Summers, who took a shot on goal that was good, returning it to a two-kick game. Brandon Forrest, out of the centre for Grassy, passed it to Rhodes, and then to Rory Taylor, who was involved before Freddy kicked on the run for a goal.

Grassy went forward again immediately, and a good scrap for the ball continued. North found a way out of the Grassy forward line but went straight into Noseda, twice. Both team defences looked strong throughout the game, with plenty of opportunities for intercept marks due to the unpredictable trajectory of many inside kicks.

Riley Badenoch and Ryan Frosi in the ruck provided a nice, contested competition. The backline team of Reeves and Noseda proved formidable throughout the game, showcasing clean, delicate hands in difficult circumstances. Grassy scored another goal to extend their lead to four goals in the dying minutes. As the tale of June 17th goes, the siren sounded to a darkening grey sky, the promise of more precipitation imminent, an icy chill on the breeze, and a convincing 19-point win to Grassy Town.

Next week Grassy meets Currie for the season's 8th round.



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CRICOS 00586B

nteresting game



LEFT:
Bailey Rainbow
with firm hands
goes for a big
kick, with Alex
Goldsmith,
Rory Taylor,
Ned Hunter,
and Brandon
Bloomfield.



LEFT: Loose slippery ball
Matthew Button. Luke
Graham, Ryan Frosi Jeramy
Summers, Jack Noseda

BELOW: It's straight through
Marty Monson. David
Vellekoop and Jack Noseda.



George Freeman has a long reach, with Les Bonner on his tail in the juniors.

FINAL SCORES

King Island Football Association Scores 17-06-2023

JUNIORS	
Grassy	North
1-1-7	0-2-2
4-3-27	0-3-3
5-4-34	3-5-23
7-4-46	3-7-25

Grassy
Goals: Cruz Osborne 3, R. Es-
querra 2, I. Daniel, T. Berkin
Best: R. Esquerra, T. Berkin,
Chase Osborne, Cruz Osborne,
E. McGarth, I. Daniel, X. Berkin,
T. Payne

North
Goals: H. Lincoln, M. Poulson,
L. Reeman
Best: L. Martin, O. Martin, H.
Lincoln, L. Reeman, T. Button,
S. Bowling, T. Hyde

SENIORS	
Grassy	North
3-4-22	0-1-1
5-4-34	2-6-18
5-7-37	3-7-25
7-10-52	4-9-33

Grassy
Goals: T. Rhodes 3, F. Ta-
tawaqua 2, J. Taylor, Cruz
Osborne
Best: S. Reeve, J. Noseda, J.
Taylor, R. Taylor, R. Frosi, B.
Blomfield
North
Goals: Jeramy Summers 2, M.
Button 2
Best: A. Goldsmith, Justin
Summers, M. Button, Jeramy
Summers, D. Ellis, T. Cook



TGS OTWAY BASIN MARINE SEISMIC SURVEY COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

TGS welcomes you to attend a community information session regarding their proposed marine seismic survey within the Otway Basin.

TGS will provide information about marine seismic surveying and an overview of their proposed project followed by an opportunity for the community to discuss any queries or concerns.

Please join us on **26th June** between **6:00 – 7:00 pm** at the King Island Club.

Cost of living relief a priority for Federal Labor

I'M proud to be part of a Federal Labor Government that is supporting Tasmanians with cost-of-living relief while also planning for the future and laying the right foundations for our economy and country.

Federal Labor is cutting the cost of health care and medicines, helping with power bills, making childcare cheaper and increasing income support payments.

It is unacceptable that the cost of seeing a doctor is out of reach for too many people, which is why the Government has delivered the largest ever increase to Medicare bulk-billing incentives.

This will help GPs provide free consultations to around 11.6 million eligible Australians –including kids under 16, pensioners and other concession card holders – as well as self-funded retirees who qualify for the Seniors Health Care Card.

In Braddon, around 60 000 people will have better access to a doctor, with no out-of-pocket costs.

Medicare Urgent Care Clinics are another way the Federal Labor Government is providing better, more affordable services.

The Clinics will see walk-in patients at short notice and provide bulk-billed services over extended opening hours, 7 days



LEFT: Senator Anne Urquhart with Sally Haneveer at Phoenix Community House (April 2023)

And eligible small businesses, many of which are family owned, will have their bills reduced by up to \$650. This power bill relief is jointly funded by the Tasmanian Government – because Federal Labor is determined to work well with other levels of government if it means delivering better outcomes.

Labor's Cheaper Child Care will help ease pressures on families and make it easier for parents to return to paid work, or work more paid hours, if they want to.

96% of families with kids in childcare will be better off from 1 July this year.

And income support safety nets are being extended so that help is there for all Australians when they need it.

The base rate of JobSeeker, Austudy, Youth Allowance and other working-age income support payments will be increased by \$40 per fortnight, helping around 6000 people in Braddon.

We are also spending responsibly. After years of growing debt and deficits the Budget is projected to record a \$4bn surplus

this financial year, which would be the first surplus in 15 years. It's clear that inflation remains the primary economic challenge because it drives interest rate rises, increases prices, and erodes real wages.

That's why the Budget is laying the foundations for growth by investing in industry, skills, technology, and people.

Australia's biggest opportunity for growth and prosperity is the global shift to clean energy. The Budget allocates \$4 billion to deliver Australia's future as a renewable energy superpower, bringing the Federal Government's total investment to more than \$40 billion.

This is a great opportunity for Tasmania. Our state is a leader in renewable energy innovation and generation. More Federal investment means good, well-paid jobs for Tasmanians and a long-term boost to our economy.

To support these jobs and opportunities, \$3.7 billion is being invested in skills agreements with the states and territories. And 300,000 fee free TAFE places have been created to train Australians in critical and emerging sectors.

Anthony Albanese promised to roll up his sleeves and get things done. You have his commitment, and mine – we will work hard every day to Build a Better Braddon.

a week. Instead of spending hours in an emergency department, patients will be able to visit the Clinic, and be seen by highly trained doctors and nurses, get X-rays or blood tests.

The Clinic that will open in Devonport later this year will take pressure off the Mersey Hospital Emergency Department so that it can focus on

critical care.

And from September this year, patients will be able to get more of the medicine they need for less money and less hassle.

Instead of going to the chemist every month, many people with common, chronic illnesses will be able to get 2 months' worth of treatment for over 300 different medicines.

This change will save people up to \$180 a year.

I know the stress that many households face when their quarterly power bill arrives.

The Albanese Government's Energy Price Relief Plan means thousands of households in Braddon will have up to \$500 deducted from their power bills in the next financial year.

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Keep in touch
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Authorised by Anne Urquhart, ALP, 1-3 Rooke St, Devonport TAS 7310

Trivial pursuits on a winter night

SINCE the settlement of King Island residents have embraced competitive sport in one form or another and this is part of the fabric of the island.

Another cultural tenet is the creation of entertainment, for all ages, and dispositions. The King Island Trivia nights have both these hallmarks.

The King Island Hotel has stepped in as the current venue and the teams recently packed out the Bistro.

Each team competed for the honour of being named Champion and holding the trophy. The winning team was "We knew jack" with Jarred Perryman, Lee Jefferies, Marilyn and Ken Chapman, Maria Zarb and Erika Buhck.

The pub runs it tight, has upgraded from handwritten lists of questions of years gone by and has invested in trivia professionalism.

Trivia Night is serious business and competition. As with all sports, some teams are more competitive than others, the results count, and scores are scrutinized as closely as electoral votes.

Jarred Perryman said, "It was a packed night again. The new format is awesome. It's fairly interactive with audio and visual and the random question that maybe you can deduce but from left field. It really is



“

The new format is awesome. It's fairly interactive with audio and visual and the random question that maybe you can deduce but from left field

a great fun night. There is so much community mixing it up with people joining different teams.

"We really thank John Smith, Hayley and the pub team for what they have

done. A great winter sport (and a laugh)."

Players suggest that a table is booked as soon as the pub announces another event.

The next trivia night will be announced on Facebook and

will be held [possibly] in three weeks.

A perfect winter's night activity with fun, laughter, and serious and (not so serious) competition.

Trivia night at the King Island Hotel winners "We knew jack" with Jarred Perryman, Lee Jefferies, Marilyn and Ken Chapman, Maria Zarb and Erika Buhck. Picture: KING ISLAND HOTEL

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Letters post history of support

KING ISLAND RSL SUBBRANCH

WHEN it comes to our island supporting the nation during times of crisis, we have battled way above the average but also knew the value of independence.

Not only did many islanders enlist, but others at home joined the Volunteer Defence Corps and supported a Comfort Fund. This fund would have been forgotten if it was not for the generosity of the Marshall family and a team of four women who have preserved the memory of 130 service personnel who wrote 500 thank you letters.

Throughout times of war, families knew the importance of sending letters and parcels to the front, in the days before digital transmissions. Les Stansfield, a post-World War 2 Soldier Settler, when writing to a friend prior to enlisting, noted, 'Please don't forget that a letter is worth its weight in gold, so make it as long as you can. Being so far from anywhere we all rush for the post, once a day, to see if one of us has a letter.'

The Federal Government set overall control of funds through the National Security (Patriotic Funds) Regulations, while Tasmania set up the Patriotic Funds Board in Hobart. King Island sought independence from Hobart, tried once, and was knocked back, so tried again.

The slightly edited letter written by Mr John (Jack) Marshall on 24 August 1940 provides an excellent insight into the island during the early years of the war and how the fund was organised, noting that the first parcels were sent in November 1939.

Dear Sir,
Re: King Island War Service Fund

I asked Mr Michie, treasurer of the above Fund, to write to you on the 9th re the Registration of our Fund with the National Security Regulations. Mr Michie has received your reply, dated the 20th. I note your desire that we should consider the advisability of becoming a branch of The Australian Comforts Fund. My Committee have considered this matter very fully, and after full discussion desire to maintain a "personal touch" with the men who enlist from this Island, but at the same time to assist The Australian Comforts Fund from time to time as Funds will permit, by sending to The North-Western Sub-Division, Donations in Cash, we have already sent £25 last April, and have forwarded seven cases of Books to the Headquarters of the Branch at Hobart; it is our intentions at our next Meeting to allot a further amount to The Australian Comforts Fund.

We had some correspondence with Mr A.H. Marshall, Hon Secretary of The North-Western Sub-Division on the matter last June, he mentioned that he was pleased to find that a such alive organisation was doing such good



The Comfort Fund collection was donated to the RSL Sub-branch by the late Sylvia Ransley and the Comfort thank you letters have been transcribed by a team led by Ann Ghazarian, supported by Ann Honess, Sophie Thorn, and Trish Clemons and the nationally significant and rare letters will be exhibited at 7.30 pm 11 July in the Town Hall Currie.

work on the Island. I might point out as President of the local Sub-Branch of the R.S.L. I started the War Service Fund before any "Australian Comforts Fund" was started in Tasmania. The Committee of the Sub-Branch, with the addition of six Ladies are the Executive Committee of our War Service Fund, we have a separate Bank Account, and Receipts are given for all moneys collected. The Island is divided into six Districts, with a small Committee of Ladies in each District, a member for each District sitting on the Executive Committee with the Committee of the Sub-Branch of R.S.L. We pack parcels each month for the men in Camp, and also for those Abroad, we have received many letters of appreciation from the men for parcels received.

Many ladies are working hard to keep the supply of socks, scarves etc. up, I am quite convinced that the same support would not be forthcoming if all the work had to be forwarded to the main branch of The Australian Comforts Fund, it is the "personal touch" with the local men from the Island in the Forces that appeals.

Our position here is rather different from the Districts on the Mainland, the fact that we are an Island and that as I have pointed out it is our intention to assist The Australian Comforts Fund with donations of Cash & Books as Funds permit.

I appeal to you on account of the work already done by our War Service Fund, and the fact that we are well organised,

that we should be eligible to be registered under the National Security (Patriotic Funds) Regulations.

John (Jack) Marshall
24 August 1940

Jack was a fighter for his island, said what he believed in, and most importantly won his case - the King Island Comfort Fund remained independent from Hobart. Marshall was a World War 1 veteran and served in the artillery in the Middle East and Western front. He was also active in municipal matters as well as the RSL but was not immune from tragedy. On 2 August 1942, he received the 'dreaded' Telegram from the Minister of the Army informing him that his son Private J. E. Marshall had died on 23 July in the Middle East.

Jack and his wife Alice, supported by their island team, did a superb job and sent out parcels far afield. The hampers could include a wide variety of items such as razor blades, soap, boot polish, balaclava, tobacco, cigarettes, mittens, socks, stockings, coffee, tinned fruit, condensed milk, chocolates, nuts and raisins, toothpaste, handkerchiefs, cake, Christmas pudding, books, magazines, talcum powder and monetary orders. It was not only islanders who received parcels. Trooper John Arkley-Smith, serving in the 2/4th Tank Regiment, found time to write a note of thanks on 6 January 1945:

Dear Mesdames,

This is just a short note to express my appreciation and thanks for the Xmas hamper you sent, and which arrived yesterday. Although the parcels arrived a little late, it did not distract in any way from the pleasure of receiving them.

I wish you all the happiness in the coming year, and once again, thanks a million.

Yours Sincerely
John Arkley-Smith

The great thing about the parcels was that the receiver would share them with mates which spread the word about the wonderful King Island Comfort Fund. Sadly, John died six months later on Bougainville, just before Japan surrendered. His letter is now also of immense value to his family, as are all the documents. The person could not disclose their location when writing but now that more Service records are available online, we can find out where the person was and there is often a photograph of the person.

Some of the letters are very brief while others are full of information, particularly by those who wrote regularly. A selection of writers with some still having an island connection include Barnes, Bertram, Birch, Bowling, Burkett, Cheese, Curbishley, Enniss, Fisher, French, Graham, Lancaster, Milsom, Misson, Percy, Thow, Wilshire and Yeomans.

Through the generosity of the late Sylvia Ransley, the Comfort Fund collection was donated to the RSL Sub-branch. The collection has now been transcribed by a team led by Ann Ghazarian, supported by Ann Honess, Sophie Thorn, and Trish Clemons. The Sub-branch is truly appreciative of their work over the last ten years, as should the community.

Not only have all the documents survived but also Mr Marshall's personal case and records.

The events on 11 July, commemorate the 80 years since the Beaufort Bomber A9-352 and the four Pilots Officers crew crashed on approach to the King Island aerodrome and commences with the ceremony at the Cemetery at 11 am. Additionally, there will be a community presentation on the King Island World War 2 Comfort Fund commencing in the Town Hall at 7.30 pm. This will include a visual presentation and all the letters in archived covers will be on display. Please note that due to the fragility of the letters, it will not be possible to handle them, but private viewings can be arranged at a later date. Visitors are also most welcome to attend both events.

The evening will conclude with light refreshments and a gold coin donation. This is an opportunity to remember and view rare King Island historical artifacts and letters of national significance. If you would like further information, please contact the Sub-branch Secretary, Margaret Bennett on 0429 646 211.

Keen golfers brave wind

BUGGY

THE Cape Wickham single stableford on Saturday was held in very rugged conditions. A strong northwest wind, the sea roaring and very overcast. The good thing was players avoided the rain.

The field of 11 players enjoyed the day and only two didn't finish.

This week Adam Hely was the clear winner all on his own with 33 points. His first nine was a freewheeling, big hitting one, scoring 22 points. The back nine was a struggle but he hung on for a win.

Runners-up Jim Cooper on a countback from John Mauric on 28 points.

Nearest the Pin 3/12th Jim Cooper – again.

18th No-one

Money Hole Jim Cooper Saturday was really the Hely Cooper Show. There is no doubt that when Adam Hely's ball is wayward, his recovery shots are fantastic. Jim Cooper's magic blue club solves most of his problems.

There were many player's shots that caused much laughter and frustration.

John Mauric and Adam Hely managed to just get past the ladies tee on the 5/14th. John's ball was at least easy to see in flight.

Adam's ball went out over the bay very very high, and the wind blew it back into play just in front of the ladies tee.

Many players didn't score on holes with Roger Clemons failing to score on 4 holes but managed 27 points. His drive off the 4th was rather funny – the wind blew him off his feet, the ball going two metres into the bushes.

Pud Watts, driving up the par 5 motel hole saw his first attempt over the road, into the long grass and the next one into the dam.

The best thing though nine players finished - all old blokes, tough, hardy and who just love playing golf.

NEXT WEEK

Bob Barry Memorial single stableford.



Winner Adam Hely looking confused with more than one thing to think about with Captain Chris Richards.



Jim Cooper in the clubrooms out of the cold.

ON THE COURT

KING ISLAND NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Netball Results - June 17, 2023

Under 12s

Emeralds (16) def Rubies (5)
Best Players
Emeralds - M Taylor & C Poulson
Rubies - L Reed & V Viaen
Best on Court - Mia Taylor

Under 16s

Netherby (16) def Shannon (14)
Best Players
Netherby - M Flood & C Harding
Shannon - A Poulson & M Ferrier

13th June 2023**Seniors**

North (50) def Grassy (41)
Best Players Grassy - R Haneveer & K Rhodes
North - E Nicols & E Curtain

Robins (42) def Salty's (27)
Best Players Robins - N Vasta & M Potter
Salty's- Murphy Summers & N Gregory.


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IN MEMORY

LYNETTE JEAN BREWSTER

August 13, 1947 - May 20, 2023



Wife of John Hatton Brewster

Mother to

John Edmund Brewster

Brie Anne Brewster

Byron James Brewster

A BEAUTIFUL SOUL

The family would like to thank all those that offered testaments and support at this difficult time. It was much appreciated.

Footy becoming a luxury

BY 1941 many King Islanders had enlisted in the war effort and many benefits and smoke socials were held in their honour as they left for active duty. Against this backdrop, football was still taking place albeit in an understandably subdued fashion.

The KIFA held a meeting where they intended to reform the association for the year, and it was suggested that they conduct matches with "boys up to 16 years of age". The KIFA AGM was held and North and Grassy stated they were keen to start but Currie was clearly struggling with only 8 players confirmed and 4 players possible.

The CFC president said he would rather play with 10 men than not at all, so their desire was obvious. The meeting was adjourned and at a later meeting, it was unanimously decided to reform KIFA.

Mr L C Ross was named president and Mr J V Dolin as secretary. "The number of players was fixed at 16 per side and if found necessary later an alteration be made to suit the circumstance". This has been KIFA's approach in recent years as well. C Lott was appointed as the main central umpire.

Surprisingly there was a 6 round roster announced instead of 5 rounds and some North home games were played again at Yambacoon. The new recreation ground was announced as ready for play, but the old dressing rooms were considered an eyesore, and it was decided that it should be moved. Eventually, it was decided not to move them but to erect a smaller suitable building with all the necessary conveniences for players and administrators. The idea of youth playing was again discussed at length but talk of a junior competition on its own was put on the back burner.

The season opened with Grassy beating North by 3 points on the new recreation ground which was deemed much larger than the old ground. Frank Elliot and Simmonds being the pick for Grassy and Cyril Williams and Watty Scott for North. A feature of this game was Frank Elliot (GFC) and G Summers (NFC) kicking 6 goals each. Grassy then defeated Currie by 4 points with the 2 Moles (A & B) getting a mention for the GFC and G Whitty and Rawlings for the CFC, whilst in the next game Currie got a win on the board by 4 goals over old rivals North. Palmer, Whitty, Graham, Keys, Scott and Hayes were mentioned for Currie, while Graves, Russell, Quinn, Scott, McHugh were the North-erner's best.

As seems the way, North then reversed the trend booting 16-17-113 d GFC 8-13-61, The Williams brothers & Quinn Summers being North's best while Alf & Bernard Moles and McCulloch serving Grassy best. The GFC then defeated the CFC and there were no newspaper results for the next 2 games, and the next report was that Grassy had again



The seven Williams brothers volunteered for the war and all survived. Alan, David, Lindsay, Cyril and Ernest enlisted in early 1940 and are pictured at Royal Park and with Malcolm (inset) who had enlisted in the Darwin Mobile Force in 1938. Later, a younger brother Ivan volunteered. Lindsay Splinter Williams is reputed to have played over 500 games of King Island football over a stellar 30-year career with the North Football Club. He is likely the KIFA games record holder. Brother Dave was a highly decorated footballer winning the Dolin trophy for KIFA best and fairest in 1948 being one of the all-time great backmen of the game on King Island. At one stage in the 1940s, there were five Williams playing in the North FC side and most of the brothers played at some time.

beaten Currie in a low-scoring game 4-8-56 to 1-4-10. Currie had a win on the board beating North by 26 points with North only able to field 13 men, Palmer and Whitty & Keys played well for the CFC, and Grave and Russell for the NFC. More match results are missing but we find that Currie beat Grassy by kicking 10-22-82 points to 11-7-73. Grassy beat North by 2 points in early August. The following week Currie triumphed by 27 points over Grassy, North then beat Currie and the last roster result was missing. The Semi-Final was played between Currie and Grassy in a game where Grassy were the favourites, but Currie was able to take command and run out easy victors CFC 14-13-97 d GFC 7-11-53. Gerald Whitty kicked 5 goals, Les Birch 3, Morrison 1, Bowling 1, Scott 1 & Lynch 1. For Grassy Owen (Joker) Horton booted 5, Frank Elliot 2, & Thomas B Smith 1. No best players were named.

North and Currie played off for the premiership with a strong wind blowing in some direction, but I guess we can be fairly certain it was westerly. At half time the NFC were up by 35 points and Currie bridged the gap to be within a small

2-point margin at lemons. North then stormed home with the breeze winning 14-12-96 d Currie 10-11-71. It is a shame that the Grand Final writeup was so small with no match description, goal scorers or best players getting mentioned.

The single men played the married men again beating them and raising £8.4/-3d for patriotic purposes. Another

scratch match was played between 'the Cut' and 'the Mill' mine teams. The Cut won by 34 points with the proceeds going to the Grassy Red Cross. The "Younger Set" was a youth organisation that joined with the football association to organise dances on Saturday nights in honour of serving men. These dances were well attended by men who had been trained

but were yet to be deployed. The men were presented with fund parcels and sometimes inscribed fountain pens. This joint effort also organised fundraisers for the Cottage Hospital and for the new recreation ground.

With the war raging on it was really only a matter of time before the game would have to go into recess. King Island men volunteered to join

up on a higher per capita basis than anywhere else in Australia. Labour was in short supply and football would eventually be seen as a luxury that the Island could no longer afford. King Island had already lost Charles Youl (who was the son of King Island football legend George Youl). Charles had sadly died in a training accident while awaiting deployment in England.



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