



# Smoke Signals

## Dilston Windermere Swan Bay Newsletter



Issue 161  
December 2009

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## A Bumper Harvest?

It has been a bumper year with Spring growth forecasting an abundant harvest after Summer.

We are fortunate to live in a beautiful and most productive part of the world.

Home gardens in our district often grow more produce than they can use themselves or can give to neighbours.

With many in our wider community unable to afford fresh fruit and vegetables, we will trial this summer a programme in which local volunteers will collect good quality excess to take to the City Mission and other organisations that support the needy. If you would like to participate in this programme, please call 63281163 to discuss further.



## Retirement earned!

Jim Cox MP has earned his retirement from

Tasmania's House of Assembly. Jim retired this month after a 25 year political career matched by a former public career in radio and television.

Jim has earned the respect of all

Tasmanians through his proven integrity and commitment to principle over many tests in his time in the public life.

Jim has been an active supporter of our community through his consistent support in the publication of this newsletter over many years.

Smokesignals wishes Jim and his family a long and happy retirement.

Thank you Jim from all at Dilston

Windermere and Swan Bay.



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## Windermere Corner Store

6328 1335

*Hearty breakfasts, great lunches, a selection of cakes and slices, prepared take-home meals. Takeaway pizzas, gourmet food lines, catering, wrapping and cards, groceries, gas, bait*

### TRADING HOURS

Mon-Fri 7am – 6pm

Sat 8am-6pm

Sun 8am-5pm

Kerrie & Marie wish all

**Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year**

## Windermere Rainfall for October- November

October 31mm

November 81.5mm

Year to date: 774mm



## Garden Club News by Ros Ryan

With Summer comes the snakes which are already out and about. We all need to be vigilant in our yards.

The Winter/Spring rains have certainly made everything grow and look lush as we all experience the extra mowing. Such are the joys of gardening!

Catherine Bertram kindly invited us to her home for our November get together. The day was overcast with a cold wind. The sun came out just as we were packing up. Approximately 18 members enjoyed a lovely lunch and good conversation over a glass of wine. Lunch was in the front garden overlooking the River across to Gravelly Beach. A beautiful Sea-eagle was seen gliding over the River throughout the day.

Catherine spends many hours in her large, well-maintained garden. The front has been divided into 'rooms'

surrounded by neatly trimmed Box hedge. A large Magnolia is the center-

piece of one room. It is a colorful garden with lots of trees. An attractive display of Dutch Iris was seen. A large Hawthorn tree and a Cacti garden replaced the old 'chook shed'. The large pond is filled with goldfish including a surprise Rainbow Trout that happened to grow up there after a fishing trip.

Around every corner is another surprise in Catherine's garden.

Catherine also showed photos that outlined the evolution of her garden over the years - a lovely day, thank you Catherine.

Our Christmas luncheon is at the home of Anna & Jonathan Waterhouse on Friday December 11th at 12pm.

New and old members are most welcome. Please call Anna or Ros as to

what you will bring. (Sweet or salad)

Our January meeting will be at Jacki and Brian Ralph's home in Swan Bay Drive.

There are several free spaces in our 2010 calendar, if you would like us to come and share your garden please call Ros Ryan on 63281566

Another year has almost gone!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

**Next Meeting:**

**January 8th**—Jackie & Brian Ralph  
Swan Bay Drive.



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**Copy For NEXT ISSUE**  
**Due**  
**Friday January 29th**

For publication first week in February

Email address:  
smokesignals@bigpond.com

Or mail to:  
454 Windermere Rd. Windermere 7252

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN SMOKE SIGNALS?**

1/6 Page	\$17.00
1/12 Page	\$9.00

book an ad in four issues and save:

1/6 Page	\$51.00
1/12 Page	\$27.00

Small Classifieds, Wanted to sell, etc \$5 (one insertion)

Community Notices and Fund Raising Notices are Free !!

Advertisements must be accompanied by full name, address and should state the number of editions that it is to appear in.

Leave advertising copy at the Windermere Store or email to:  
smokesignals@bigpond.com

Smokesignals on the web  
<http://www.winderdoon.com/commUNITY/smokesignals.htm>

**Signal Station Tavern**  
**Bar, Lounge & Bottle-O**  
**Bottleshop** competitive prices

\$8meals Thursday evenings  
6PM TO 8PM

Friday & Saturday nights – full counter meals 6pm to 8pm

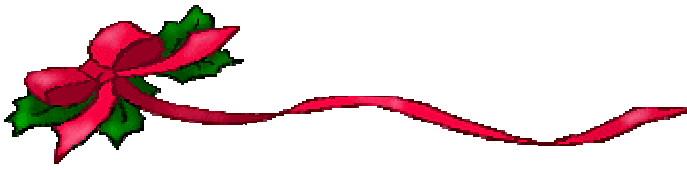
Sundays- 5pm to 8pm

Pizzas & jacket potatoes eat in or take away

**PHONE 6394 8228**

CLEAN UP ??  
**ALL TYPES OF GARDENING WORK**

CALL JEFF  
63281390  
0437117396



## FIRE BRIGADE NEWS by

Rob Montague



The Dilston Fire Brigade wishes all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and reminds all residents that this years annual CHRISTMAS LOLLY RUN will be held on Sunday 20th December commencing from the Fire Station at 5.00pm travelling through Dilston, Rostella, to Swan Bay via East Tamar Hwy, Los Angelos Rd and Windermere Rd and returning to station at about 7.00pm. Santa will be looking forward to seeing lots of children so we hope you can be at your

gate and give us a wave.

A lot of media focus on preparedness for the upcoming Fire Season via ABC radio and TV advertising from the Tasmania Fire Service should leave no one in doubt as to what can happen if unprepared properties are subjected to rapid fire as was experienced at Dolphin Sands last week: three homes and several outbuildings lost. Land owners, councils and government all have a responsibility to keep hazards to a minimum, there is still time now to clear rather than leaving it until January or February.

## Good Health and You... Dr Don Hempton

### WILL YOU SURVIVE ?

Summer brings lots of joy, but also many dangers, bites and stings need to be cleaned promptly and a disinfectant applied localised redness needs to be watched, redness and swelling spreading and symptoms like tingling of the lips and shortness of breath need medical attention.

#### Snake bites :

- immobilise the limb, apply a tight bandage and call the ambulance as hospital care is required.

Sunburn needs to be avoided, hats, block out, cover your self if out for long periods.

If you get burnt, apply plenty of non perfumed moisturiser and drink lots of water.

Dehydration—the hidden problem.

You need to be drinking enough water to be passing urine at least every two hours.

The urine needs to clear. Your need for water increases with exertion, food, alcohol and coffee.

Remember:

Do not drive, play sports or engage in activities in or on the water for at least two hours after drinking alcohol and eating big meals.

Have a Merry and safe festive season.

Dr Don



### Brigade Contacts:

**Rob Montague**  
6394 8377 (w)

6328 1336 (h)

**Jason Hingston**

Mob 0407392457

**Neville Jolly**

6326 5860 (h)

Mob 0417 540230

**David Lake**

Mob 0438 075 534

**Dr Don Hempton**  
The Windermere GP  
Is available for consults,  
Strictly by appointment  
Ring 6328 1560





Sharon Fahey  
0409 188 249



Wayne Roetholt  
0418 504 742



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## Celery a Spring planting for a winter sensation

Celery can be quite a difficult crop to grow if you try to grow it from seed. It does not germinate well in cool weather. The best idea to grow celery successfully in cool climates is to start with strong seedlings purchased from a nursery and transplant them into prepared ground above a band of fertiliser about mid October once the weather has warmed up. If you do this they should bear well for you over autumn and winter.

Space your seedlings at 30cm x 30cm centres. This way they will help each other to grow strong and tall through competition.

Most celery varieties these days do not need blanching, but if you like your celery stalks white, cover the plants with a milk carton or a 30 cm

length of polypipe sawn in half so that the stalks are excluded from the light. Use rubber bands to hold the 2 sections of pipe together. Sprinkle snail bait around the plants as you do not want slugs to make a home within the covers you have established. Side dress the plants regularly with fertiliser or water with a foliar fertilizer. Celery plants love water and **must** be given liberal and regular amounts to grow well, especially in the heat of summer. It is hard to over water celery.

You can start to use the outer stalks about February in salads. They are fully mature by late Autumn which is when I use them for juices and in soups. You do not need to cut the entire plant as market gardeners do. Celery tolerates continuous light pickings through the Winter months lasting until it bolts to seed in the Spring.

*Is your land in need of attention?*



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Blanching celery plants using milk cartons or polypipe.

**DO YOU HAVE A SEPTIC OR AN ON-SITE WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM?**

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**Community Contacts -  
FIRE: 000**

*Dilston Hall:* 6328 1348  
*St. Matthias Church:* 6328 1209

Playgroup: 6328 1196

Garden Club: 63281566  
CWA: 6328 1257  
Book Discussion Group: 6328 1231

Bird Watching: 6328 1163

**FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS**

Rob Montague 6394 8377 (w)  
6328 1336 (h)

Jason Hingston Mob 0407392457

Neville Jolly 6326 5860 (h)  
Mob 0417 540230

David Lake Mob 0438 075 534

## Nature Notes by Jon Hosford



### White-breasted Sea-eagle

(*Halmeetus leucogaster*)

Those of you who have river views would well be aware of this magnificent predator, through its daily flights past your frontage. As one who is interested in birds, I often hear the presence before I see it, not because of any noise the bird makes but the alarm calls of those

that are below it on the food chain. My family of Lapwings is usually the first to let us know that something threatening is in the area. The Magpies are not far behind, along with the Ravens that harass this huge bird to let it know that it is unwelcome in their territory.

This bird goes to a great deal of trouble to survive and yet close observation by dedicated bird watchers would suggest that the chicks are highly competitive in the nest, resulting in the survival of only 1 chick from any successful hatch of usually two eggs. The eggs are incubated over 6-8 weeks mainly by the female with the male supporting directly by sitting occasionally and providing food for the brooding female.

The surviving young take 5 years to reach adult plumage and subsequent breeding maturity.

Human impact on these birds results in large variations in local populations although the species is not under threat as it is wide spread from Asia south to Australia.

Despite being called an eagle, the species is more closely related to the Kite family and feeds on fish and marine creatures within its coastal habitat. I have never witnessed a sea-eagle gather food but I managed this photo on a clear morning. The meal looks very much like an eel in the eagle's talons. The soles of the eagle's feet are actually spiked to aid the gripping of slimy creatures.

Look up when you next hear the birds in your garden making a fuss. There is always a good reason for this. You may be rewarded with the awe inspiring sight of one of these magnificent creatures.



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**Debbie Sarich**  
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## Valé Dudley Williams 1917-2009

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Dudley Williams, aged 92 on November 19th. Dudley passed away peacefully surrounded by his wife, Edie and his family, Helen and Bruce.

Dudley will be well remembered by those who were children in the district in the 1950s when he ran the bus service to schools in Launceston from this area. Dudley has been a church leader at St Matthias Anglican Church

Windermere since the 1960s where he was Secretary and Treasurer.

Dudley was instrumental in establishing the Columbarium at Windermere when the church cemetery was officially closed.

There was no official plan for the cemetery and it became apparent that to continue burials there was to almost certainly invade the resting place of those who had been buried before. The plan for the Columbarium allowed extensions as necessary and will continue to be an option for interment in the foreseeable future.

This has remained a legacy that affords the opportunity for spiritual support for those who regard Windermere as their home.

Dudley remained active in the Fire Brigade and the church at Windermere until his failing health in recent years prevented him from regular attendance. Edie is still the Church organist and has continued Dudley's role in managing arrangements for the Columbarium.

A Service in remembrance of Dudley Williams will be held at St Matthias on Sunday December 13th at 2:00pm.

All those who would like to attend are warmly welcomed by Edie and the family along with the congregation of St. Matthias, Windermere.

**ST MATTHIAS  
WINDERMERE**



**HOLY TRINITY  
LAUNCESTON**



**Friends—keeping in touch**

*Friends of Holy Trinity and St Matthias* is being launched to keep people in touch with our Parish. Those who have had past contact with the Parish through events in their life such as Marriage, Baptism or the funeral of a relative or friend will be contacted and offered a link to what we are doing through a regular emailed newsletter. We aim to establish a network for wider community support and also establish a means to be able to invite people to special events. The cost of joining would be an initial contribution of \$45.00. E-mail contact will be free or if preferred an a post-age subscription can be arranged for \$15pa. Upon joining, a memento of membership will be forwarded; a nail cross constructed from original materials recovered from the renovated roof of St Matthias.

There will be a section in the Parish Web site to subscribe to "Friends". Records of past involvement with the Parish will be established and these people will be contacted and offered subscription. They will be informed through a bi-monthly posting of a short letter featuring significant news items of Parish life. Publications such as the Parish Newsletter "Grape Vine" and the Windermere Community Newsletter Smoke Signals will be attached.

Membership of "Friends" will provide an invaluable base from which to communicate on events of the Community.

Look forward to receiving your invitation soon.

Further information from Jon Hosford 63281163 or Grahame Foster 6331 8551

**December Services**

**St Matthias Windermere**

Sunday, December 13th 2.00 pm—Eucharist Memorial service for the Late Dudley Williams.

All those who remember Dudley's contribution to this community are most welcome to attend.

**Christmas Services**

**Windermere**

Thursday December 24th 7:00pm Christmas Eve Carols Service

Friday December 25th 9:00am Christmas Day Eucharist.

**Holy Trinity**

Thursday December 24th

5:30pm Crib Service

11:30pm Midnight Mass

Friday December 25th 9:00am Christmas Day Eucharist



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