

AGFEST IS HERE!

Come along and enjoy the day!

Agfest takes great pride in offering something for everyone to see and do. Whether you are in the market for new machinery, a new vehicle or just interested in seeing what is new on the market, Agfest is the place for you.

Interested in history and where Agriculture has come from? The Heritage Display is where you need to go to. Looking for a gift for Mothers Day? The Craft Pavilions house some of the best handmade craft Tasmania has to offer. And when you need to take a break, head to the Beta Milk Unique Tastes pavilion where you can enjoy some great Tasmanian produce and a glass of wine.

Tickets are still available online at https:// events.ticketbooth.com.au/event/agfest-2018 And through your local Rural Youth clubs.

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Contact Us:

62 York Street, Launceston,

PO Box 322, Launceston, TAS, 7250

(03) 6331 6154

admin@ruralyouth.com.au or admin@agfest.com.au Please submit all collateral for Rural Youth of Tasmania's Newsletter by the third Friday of every month to editor@ruralyouth.com.au

CEO—General Manager

Agfest is here and we are ready to go!

A massive congratulations to Owen, Jake, Dale and the team of volunteers who have worked so tirelessly over the past months to get the site ready – it looks fantastic! Visitors to site will notice quite a few changes: new signage, heating in the Function Centre, new water tanks - courtesy of Dale Cox from Orion Australia Pty Ltd, a new road from the East Car Park and the Dog Arena to name but a few.

This year we have an online induction for volunteers to complete before they come on site, which will speed up the process of finding their feet and knowing what is in store for them during the event. This has been done in collaboration with UTAS and we are looking forward to developing this further in the future.

I want to acknowledge the work of Max Griggs, our Caretaker, has done leading up to the event. He has worked hard and done anything and everything to assist the Committee and get the site ready. Everything from meeting, assisting and talking to endless contractors, painting the kitchen ceiling in the Function Centre, tidying up the garden, cleaning UTaste and painting the entrances to prevent trips to mowing the site to accommodate woodchips, he has done it! Thanks Max – you have made everyone's life easier!

The Rural Youth history book will be launched at the 11am Official Opening of Agfest 2018. To purchase your copy of 'From Calf Clubs to Field Days – A History of Junior Farmer & Rural Youth in Tasmania' call into Rural Youth Feature on Main Street (M88) and pick up your copy for \$35.

I was recently speaking to someone who did not

have a huge knowledge of Agfest, so I explained what the volunteers do leading up the event and the sacrifices they make to be there, everything from using leave, to living on site for several weeks, not seeing their families and friends, generally putting the rest of their lives on hold. This person was genuinely blown away and felt in an age where so many young people are judged as full of self-interest and lazy our volunteers not only bucked the trend, they needed to be universally acknowledged and congratulated.

I hope you all enjoy Agfest this year, please take a moment and acknowledge the work the volunteers do when you see them on site – they don't do it for the thanks, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't say it!!

See you on site!

Karen

CEO

PS Congratulations to Andrea O'Halloran and Ashleigh Reynolds for being the successful applicants for Marcus Oldham Leadership Award this year. Both are very worthy recipients.





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ACFEST

Hello All,

As I sit here writing this report, it is 17 days until gates open. By the time this report is read, Agfest will have come and gone for another year. It is hard to believe how quickly the last seven months have flown by, all the work over those months has now come into action and we are now seeing all the planning and effort unfold.

Over the past few weekends, working bees have been in full swing onsite. Taking on and completing many jobs of various natures across site. It is great to see so many people coming along and helping out and enjoying their time at the working bees.

Site is looking fantastic and is ready for the onslaught it is about to receive, even after some of the inclement weather we have received lately. Wood chips are being spread and marques are being built, the landscape changing daily and the Agfest feeling is starting to get real! I am rather excited for what the next three weeks hold for us all, all the challenges and hurdles that we are going to cross and overcome, making the sense of achievement even more satisfactory.

At the time of writing we have 706 exhibitors onsite this year, being slightly less than last year but none the less quite an achievement with many still on the waiting list to get a site for 2018. We have changed things up a little this year and most will notice a few additions around site, some being the new road way built up to equine and craft from east ticket box, Quercus Park Kennel Club and arena, Junior livestock handling and showing and the new arena fencing to The TJM Central Arena. It is pleasing and quite exciting to think of all the great attractions that will be at Agfest this year, there are so many attractions to interest and entertain all.

I would like to take the time to thank absolutely everyone who has contributed their time and efforts to help organise and coordinate Agfest for 2018, without you and your efforts this event wouldn't happen. Your efforts combined help to organise one of our states biggest and best public events. A special thanks to those who I have regularly turned to for help, assistance, guidance and support in this role and the reassurance that I am progressing and going ok, Thank you to everyone!

So for now, that is all and I look forward to the next few weeks and everything that unfolds.

Thanks again, Till then!

Cheers,
Owen Woolley
Agfest Chairman 2018.

Positions still vacant on the Agfest Committee

Community Groups Asst Ag Show Council **RY Feature**

RY Feature Asst Assistant Features Central Arena Asst







































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Study Tour—Lucy Bain

I was lucky enough to be the recipient of Rural Youth's 2018 study tour aboard the Young Endeavour, sponsored by Betta Milk. It was an absolutely fantastic experience which I would recommend to you all.

I sailed on Voyage 05/18, which departed Adelaide on the 24th February and arrived in Hobart on the 6th of March. To get to Adelaide, I decided to fly to Melbourne and drive to Adelaide, via the Great Ocean Road and the Coorong, which was

an awesome week, with a lot of spectacular coastline. Highlights included seeing some super cute koalas; the lighthouse from Round the Twist; the Twelve Apostles; the Loch Ard Gorge; gorgeous little towns like Port Fairy, Port Campbell, Penola and Hahndorf; Blue Lake and Umpherstone Sinkhole at



Mount Gambier; the mouth of the Murray; and riding an ostrich (it was fake, you guys). Although, a hot tip for anyone who's keen to do the Great Ocean Road: Chinese New Year is maybe not the best time. The whole Apostle coast was packed with tourists. I also lucked out and got to experience a festival at either end of the drive, with White Night in Melbourne then Adelaide Fringe at the end of my road trip each showcasing some great local talent, art and projections.





After dropping off my home on wheels in the early afternoon, I headed to Port Adelaide to start my sailing adventure. Upon arrival aboard the Young Endeavour, we were each issued with a name tag, shown to our bunks and allotted watches. I was in Red Watch, which comprised a great group of seven people, aged between 16 and 23. After our visitors got a quick tour of the ship and we had all gotten our gear stowed, Captain Mike gave a welcome speech and some of the Youth Crew farewelled their families. Then we had some welcome games and split into our watches to get to know each other a bit better, before having dinner.

Oh my goodness. I went into this expecting a bunch of pasta, some curry, sausages and veg; you know, easy bulk food. Oh no. The first night, we got beautiful salmon with asparagus and hollandaise sauce, or crusted lamb rack. The standard stayed just as high throughout the voyage, with lamb backstrap, seafood pasta, duck, steak, pork belly and more, thanks to Chef Marcus. If you're not already considering going on the Young Endeavour, just do it for the food. I'll never be so well fed again in my life! It seemed almost a crime to be seasick and waste such food, and then there was always the humble Sao to keep your tummy full on the high seas.



Anyway, back to Port Adelaide. After dinner, we cast off and left Adelaide, with the bridge having to open up to let us through. On the way to our anchorage, Captain Mike gave his welcome brief to the Youth Crew, which was followed by a brief from the Sail Master, Guv, and then learning about harnesses and climbing. Once we anchored for the night, all the Youth Crew had to climb to the topmost yard, which was pretty nerve-wracking, especially doing it for the first time in the dark! We finished the climbs at about midnight and had a hot chocolate to calm down before bed.

The next morning, we were woken bright and sunshiny early (0600) by some loud AC/DC for a walk around the deck and a ball game. Yawn. Anyone who knows me knows I do not deal well with early starts. This was just the beginning of a week of interrupted sleep and napping in any and all spare time (it doesn't help when your response to seasickness is just to have a nap...suffice to say I was pretty snoozy for the first few days). After breakfast, we weighed anchor and set sail across the Gulf of St Vincent. In the morning, we were introduced to the daily activities of the morning brief (always entertaining, often costumed) and Happy Hour (a bit of a misnomer - cleaning isn't exactly a fun activity, but it always took less than an hour!). after lunch, the watches competed in the first round of Rope Races, which were conducted by Brett the engineer throughout the voyage, to test our knowledge of the ship and sails. In the afternoon, our Watch Leaders taught us the basics of setting and furling sails, before we tacked the ship for the first time as a crew. On Day Two we also had a navigational brief and a man overboard safety demo. In the evening, we settled into watches, with my watch having the first watch of the voyage, with Kangaroo Island passing on our port side and a beautiful sunset to starboard. Some members of our watch also climbed to the topsail yard to undo the square sails, a task which I'll just say I didn't exactly relish in the bumpy weather.



By Day Three we were well and truly at sea. Having left the Gulf of St Vincent, we were now in the Great Australian Bight, heading for Bass Strait. The next few days were a blur of sail training as we made our way across Bass Strait and down the West Coast of Tasmania. Between Kangaroo Island and Port Davey, we saw only one other boat and no coast, so with nothing on the horizon to distract us we all threw ourselves into learning how to sail the ship. Each day was punctuated with a morning brief, (including some excellent pantomime from the Staff Crew), our Happy Hour of cleaning, Rope Races and constant watches, as well as briefs from the Staffies on various aspects of sailing. By about our fourth day at sea, everyone had found their sea legs and the general mood took a turn for the better.

On Day Six we came on deck after breakfast to see land! On a misty morning, the rugged coastline of Port Davey to our port side caused much excitement among the Youth and Staff Crew alike. We had lunch as we made our way in, anchoring in Bramble Cove just after midday. After each Watch had their mid-voyage chat, we all went ashore for a short walk up Mount Milner, which overlooks the Breaksea Islands and the entrance to Port Davey, and provides an excellent view up Bathurst Channel.







If you have been to Port Davey, you will know how what it is like. For anyone who has not had the chance to go there before.

struggle to find words to describe it. Beautiful, breathtaking, rugged...nothing quite seems to do it justice. It's just absolutely magical. My best comparison would be either the South Island of New Zealand (think Lord of the Rings) or the Scottish Highlands, but even more spectacular. I was lucky enough to sail there a few times with my family as a child, so I knew what was in store, yet it still took my breath away. Going there with a bunch of mainlanders and witnessing their awe at this beautiful piece of wilderness really made me proud to be Tasmanian.

Once we came back down from our hike, we settled in on the beach, trying to get used to the feeling of solid ground beneath our feet once more, while a few people went for a swim. My Watch Leader, Jimmy, encouraged everyone to take part in a game of beach soccer, which was great fun. After a few hours ashore, we returned to the ship in time for a barbecue dinner on deck, enjoying a beautiful, misty sunset over the Breakseas and rosy golden light reflecting off Mount Misery behind us. After dinner we settled in with blankets at midships to watch Captain Irving Johnston's film Around

Cape Horn. It really put into perspective how mild the weather we had experienced really was! That night, we settled into anchor watches and caught up on sleep while we weren't being tossed out of our bunks.

The next morning, we rose at 0645 for our mandated 'early morning activity'. This morning, in addition to the usual few laps of the deck, the Staffies had set up a rope swing, so many of the crew gleefully jumped overboard into the freezing, tannin-stained water. I opted to stay warm and dry and laugh at them (come on, it was 7am and about 7 degrees, swimming was absolute folly), but it did look like a lot of fun.



The morning dip was followed up by a barbecue breakfast on deck, with freshly baked bread rolls. After breakfast we had a ceremony of colours, during which we raised the flags and sang the national anthem, and had the morning brief. While the Youthies were having Happy Hour, the Staffies piloted the ship back out into open water for the Watches to undertake our sail setting and furling competency tests. Over the next couple of hours, we cruised up Bathurst Channel, soaking in the views and some yummy lunch on the way. It was a lovely sunny day and a great chance to catch some rays, do some washing, or have a read on the upper deck as we took in the beautiful scenery. Once we had anchored at Joan Point, the two ship's boats were launched to ferry us the remainder of the way up the channel and through Bath-



urst Harbour to Claytons Corner, where we poked about in the old house and climbed up a knoll to Clyde's Lookout, which provided a spectacular panoramic view of Bathurst Harbour and Melaleuca. We then made our way, somewhat reluctantly, back to the ship for dinner.



After dinner, Captain Mike gave us the Command Day Brief, explaining that we would have to elect our own Youth Crew leadership team for the next day, and outlining what our duties would be. We then held our Command Day elections. I was lucky enough to be elected as Navigator, holding responsibility for getting us safely to our destination. With elections over and done with, the newly elected Youth Crew each had a one-on-one chat with their Staff counterpart, before we went to bed for a good night's sleep ahead of our biggest day yet.

Our day began as usual, with an early wakeup; breakfast; morning brief; and Happy Hour while we sailed out along Bathurst Channel. On our way out past the Breaksea Islands, Watch officer Harry gave us a nautical 'Rules of the Road' Brief, where we learned things like how to pass another ship and what to do in a crossing situation.

As we rounded South West Cape at 1300, the Staff Crew met us at midships with an astounding rendition of *Summer Holiday*, before Captain Mike handed over command of the ship to Youth Captain Ash, along with an envelope containing instructions for all the activities we were to carry out over the next 24 hours. Meanwhile, Navigator Evan gave me a similar document entailing all of our navigational requirements for Command Day. Watch Officer Tom and I headed to the bridge to get a crash course in nautical navigation from Evan and to figure out our course. Meanwhile, Captain Ash and Sail Master Maia planned the crew's activities for the day. With very little wind afternoon, and the during 'mysteriously incapacitated' we made our way to our first waypoints guite slowly. Evan taught Tom and I how to plot our location not only using GPS coordinates, but also by taking our bearings off landmarks, which was very interesting and quite a useful skill. The navigational brief dictated that we must pass within a couple of nautical miles of Maatsuyker Island, Mewstone Rock and Pedra Branca, which we finally did after little wind and much planning. Dinner was Italian-themed and prepared by our three talented Youth Chefs, with spaghetti Bolognese (much as we were all enjoying Marcus' amazing food, many of the Youthies were hungry for a good bowl of spag bol!), ravioli carbonara and delicious chocolate brownies for dessert.



I spent much of the evening in the bridge, plotting our course and stressing about navigational stuff (#justnavthings), while the crew settled into watches. The wind picked up significantly in the evening, as did boat speed. However, the weather had caught us a bit by surprise, with the radio warning that the SES was preparing for flash flooding (this



was election night, for those of you following along at home. Remember that storm?) prompting us to clew in the square sails and alter our course to head around the outside of Bruny Island, rather than up the D'Entrecasteaux Channel as previously planned.



It got a little out of hand later in the evening, with 40 knots of wind forcing us first to let out the mainsail, and then to brail it entirely, in order to keep the ship steering a straight course. This was quite the feat; with 4 Youthies on the foremast and our helmsman holding full starboard rudder, we had to wake the Staffies to help haul in the mainsail; all while being lashed with rain and wind, and the 'ooh-ahh-meter' (inclinometer) showing up to 40 degrees of tilt. Forget navigating; my job at that point was just to watch and make sure no one went over the side!

With all the sails furled and no engines, the ship continued to make way at a zippy 6 knots! With our second big storm of the voyage under our belt, zooming along under bare poles at 6 knots, and with the deck relatively flat again, we all felt pretty exhilarated. We also saw a moonbow, which was really something. Once confident that evrything was under control, I plotted a course for the overnight watches and went to bed.

The second half of command day started with chocolate pancakes for brekky, followed by a few

tacks and jibes off Betsey Island. We then made our way into the Derwent River at 1000, as the Command Team held a morning brief, which included some pantomime (of course) and questionable nautical tales. After anchoring off Kingston Beach, the Youth Crew scrambled to complete our last few Command Day tasks, which included drawing a mural on the deck, making a hammock to hold all of us, and getting a photo of all of us in the rigging, before we handed the ship back to Captain Mike - miraculously intact! We then went ashore at Kingston Beach, to our first taste of civilisation in over a week! Many of the Youth Crew went for some fish and chips, or a look at the newspaper to see what was going on in the world. After a BBQ dinner, we had a brainstorm and thought about what was good and bad about Command Day, before bed.

On our second last day, we started with a game, before heading up to Sullivans Cove to board our guests for the day, students from the Southern Support School and some members of the Navy Reserves, along with some members of the local media. We took them for a leisurely day sail on the Derwent, with light winds and some mock warfare with the Windeward Bound. After our guests disembarked, we headed to Salamanca for our end of voyage chats with our Watches, before returning for the final round of Rope Races. My watch won, to the dubious prize of entering harbour the next day atop the topgallant yard. The Youthies then climbed the mast to put harbour furls in the square sails.

We anchored off Sandy Bay for our last night aboard, enjoying pizza on deck surrounded by city lights. After dinner, we watched a slideshow of our voyage, and one Youth Crew member presented a poem about our trip, which was very thoughtful.



The last morning started quite early for me, with the last anchor watch at 0530. I watched the sunrise and the rowers training on the river, before everyone else was roused at 0645. After breakfast, our last brief and once all our bags were packed, we all climbed the rigging for the last leg into Princes Wharf, where we arrived amongst cannon fire to a crowd of family and friends. Captain Mike gave a final speech, presented all the Youthies and some of the Staffies with certificates of achievement and various accolades, we took some photos, and just like that, it was all over.

My voyage aboard the Young Endeavour was absolutely fantastic. I learnt so much, not just about sailing but also about myself, and met so many wonderful people. Thank you all so much for letting me have this experience. I hope many of you will follow, and enjoy it just as much as I did. It really is the trip of a lifetime.

















Club Reports

Western Tiers

Things of late have been quite busy for Western Tiers, with a massive Easter give away being very successful, as well as our BBQ at the Meander Dam being a great evening out for everyone involved. With our Easter give away, Western Tiers Club gained over 100 new face book followers, and getting our name out in to the community. It was great to see so much support from the community for the club, and it is something that we will endeavour to do again next year for certain.

With the onset of April, Western Tiers kicked things off with a great start, with being apart of the weekly Friday night meat tray raffle at The British Hotel, Deloraine. Western Tiers donated two adult Agfest tickets to the raffle, and it was great to see such community support with 100 tickets sold! It was also a great excuse to hang out at the favourite drinking hole in town and spend some time with our great community.

Western Tiers have taken on the role as being the nominated club for donations for every raffle done at The British Hotel on the second Friday of each month.

Once again, Western Tiers will be running the dog high jump and a BBQ at the Campbell Town Show on the 26th of May 2018. This will be the 3rd year that we will be at the show, and we see it as a great opportunity to support the community and the surrounding clubs alike.

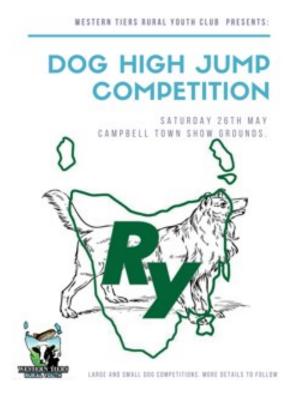
Once again, we will be seeking donations for the dog high jump, and BBQ. Thanks goes to the Whatley family from Golden Valley, for yet again their kind offer for us to use their dog high jump.

Western Tiers has lots of other things on the go at the moment, and we are looking forward to the next few months.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 1st May 2018, at The British Hotel, Deloraine. 7pm.

Western Tiers holds their meetings on the first Tuesday of each month.

Thanks, **Kat Cresswell.**





Hillwood Berry Farm Tour

Sunday 20th May 2018 10am start, 105 Hillwood Road, Hillwood. RSVP attendace by May 14th To Head Office



Coastal Weed Spraying

Reclaim you Land, Protect our Environment
Kevin and Isabelle Brown 0418979668

Club Reports Cont.

Kingborough- Huon

We had a fun, but tiring, time at Relay for Life helping to raise money and awareness for the Cancer Council. It's not too late to donate! Head to our team page if you'd like to help fight cancer. It'd be greatly appreciated. http://ccau.convio.net/site/TR?team_id=58520&fr_id=5162&pg=team

Some of our members headed up to Quercus for the working bee the other day. We're planning to sell Agfest tickets at Channel Court shopping centre on Friday 27th April, and hopefully this Sunday 22nd as well – come and visit us when you go to get your groceries! We're getting very keen for Agfest. It's going to be awesome!

Our next meeting is this Wednesday 18th April; we're going bowling at AMF in Moonah from 6:30pm.

Lucy Bain.

Brighton

Brighton hasn't done much in April as Agfest is approaching but the club has been planning on making our little club be more recognizable. We recently have been busy getting our new club T-shirt on the way which sounds exciting.

As to raise some money for our club, we are currently selling healthy freeze dried cherries snack, which we have sold more than 60 bags. We also have been discussing some details about selling Agfest tickets and the the BBQ on Sunday the 17th of June at the Bunnings store in Glenorchy. If any one is interested in any of these and helping up our little club, please contact our president Tameika on 0438 060 016 for more details.

On Tuesday the 15th of May at 7pm, we are going to hold our next meeting at Jordon River School Farm. Feel free to contact our secretary Sam on 0428 414 439 if anyone is interested in joining us.

Cheers Mei.

Hagley

Been a quiet month over at Hagley but everyone is getting excited for Agfest which is nearly here again and in the lead up to the field days our members have been busy selling the early bird tickets. Along with several of our members are on the committee and have been working hard in the previous few months and at working bees. Mitch Beer is security assist, Karley Beer and Liv Lawson in Equine, Jacqui Hodgkinson is safety and compliance and accommodation assist., Ethan How is U\taste assist, Ethan McCarthy is in Heritage, Rhys Mills is assist. Exhibitor manager, Ashleigh Reynolds is Youth development and Matthew Wadley is Car parks coordinator and loading and lifting assist. Several of our other members are also volunteering over the few days.

Our next meeting is at the Westbury Fire Station on the 10th of May at 7.00pm we'd love to see you there, a few exciting things in the pipelines for our club coming up.

Cheers. Liv Lawson



2018—2019 Entertainment Membership



2018-2019 Entertainment Books

Still fantastic value at only \$65 for Launceston and North West Coast and \$70 for Hobart, with thousands of dollars of savings to be had, at a huge variety of restaurants, accommodation, theme parks, and other attractions, not to mention shopping discounts, and special car hire rates. Great idea for Mothers Day!

Digital memberships are already available for download and use today! Follow this link direct to our online order page http://www.entbook.com.au/240b569

If you would prefer the book version, book memberships will be collected at the launch on 1st May 2018. If you would like to order prior to then, either order direct through the online link above, or telephone us at Head Office and organise payment, and you have the option of us taking your book to Agfest to be collected at the Site Office. Otherwise, books will be available at Head Office the following week, commencing Monday 7th May. Postage is also an option that can be arranged.

Hobart and Launceston books are available for sale, and also books for all other states, plus Bali. Follow the online link above, and browse all the available books.



MAY 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Western Tiers Meeting		AGFEST	AGFEST	AGFEST	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Hagley Meetir	ng		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Brighton Meet- ing					Berry Tour
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Club Contacts

Northern Region						
Hagley	Matthew Wadley	0447 171 284				
Tamar	Andrea O'Halloran	0477 377 311				
Western Tiers	Kat Cresswell	0488 666 365				
Westmorland	Jono Iles	0488 303 517				
North West Region						
Devonport	Chelsea Rayner	0447 426629				
North Motton	Korey Stratton	0427 050 404				
Southern Region						
Brighton	Tameika Holland	0438 060 016				
Central Highlands	Oliver Haigh	0487 928 844				
Kingborough—Huon	Kaysie Wood	0408 297 021				
Oatlands	Phil McConnon	0400 561 540				
Sorell	Sarah Birch	0437 500 420				

