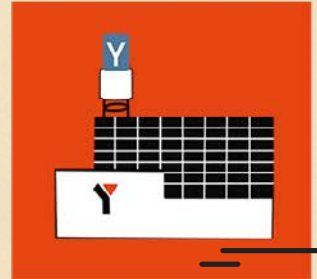
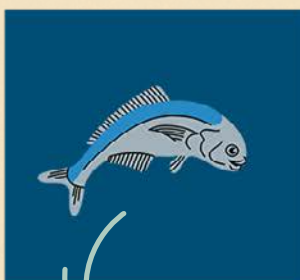


# Kings Meadows



## KINGS MEADOWS ABCDE LEARNING SITE REPORT 2021/2022



Learning Sites enable communities to identify their assets, build connections, and create change in the heart of the community with a focus on 'what's strong, not what's wrong'.



# Mayor's message



I am delighted to deliver the City of Launceston's Kings Meadows ABCDE Learning Site Report. This report is reflective of the City of Launceston's continued commitment to building stronger communities at a grassroots level, leveraging the skills, experience and passion of community members across Launceston.

The City of Launceston has made it a practice to encourage residents to bring forward new perspectives and new ideas in order to help set the future direction of our city, and the Learning Site project – now in its fifth year – embodies all aspects of this mindset.

The Learning Site program works with a new Launceston suburb each year to facilitate community-driven projects utilising each suburb's greatest resource – its people. In recent years the program has been hosted at Rocherlea, Ravenswood, Mowbray, Youngtown and – most recently – Kings Meadows.

The Learning Site program has resulted in some great community projects over the past few years, including new welcome signage at Ravenswood and Franklin Village, the development of the city's first tool library, public art performances, community films, community workshops and much more.

One of the most exciting aspects for me has been that the program has consistently unearthed passionate people in different suburbs of Launceston who care about their communities, who want to make a difference, and who are willing to put in time and effort to collaborate with others.

I'm thrilled with the projects and connections that have arisen from the Kings Meadows Learning Site over the past 12 months, and want to sincerely thank the Kings Meadows community for its participation, enthusiasm and drive.

From July of this year, a Learning Site will commence in Invermay for a special extended 18 month period and I am very much looking forward to what this can bring.

I hope you enjoy reading this report.

**Albert van Zetten**

Mayor, City of Launceston

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## *From Peter Kenyon*

For five years, the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. has been engaged with the City of Launceston in their ABCDE neighbourhood renewal initiatives. What an amazing journey of discovery, connection, celebration and achievement it has been for the residents and organisations within the five communities that have partnered with the City of Launceston during this time. It has been a privilege and incredible learning experience for the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. to see community passion and ownership in action, and the number and diversity of community projects implemented, that have contributed to making each of these communities more caring, connected, inclusive and proud.

It was an amazing opportunity for me to spend three days in Launceston in November 2021 to assist the dynamic Sarah McCormack with the facilitation of a set of meetings to celebrate and share the learnings of the five year project. This included time at the Northern Suburbs Community Centre in Newnham and the Starting Point Neighbourhood House in Ravenswood to touch base with those community

builders who participated in past Council Learning Sites. Then there was a 'Lunchtime Conversation' and afternoon workshop to share the approach with City of Launceston staff and to encourage a whole Council approach to the ABCDE practice.

The highlight, as always with my visits, was participation in the daylong community workshop in Kings Meadows. Wow, what a day to remember – the passion, energy, humour and creativity of 50 local community builders was awesome. In particular, the contribution of students from the local school was very special. One need have no fears for the future of Kings Meadows with their enthusiasm and continuing leadership! During the day, so many simple, but powerful and practical ideas were contributed, discussed and prioritised as this Report outlines. I particularly loved the way the identified community assets were captured in the community crown.

This twelve month journey summarised in this Report illustrates what the asset based community driven approach is all about. Firstly, do not start with the needs of a community- start with identifying, connecting and mobilising community resources and capacities. Start with what works, the half full part of the community glass – not the half empty. Secondly, great communities do not just happen – they are created, nurtured and sustained by caring, connected and involved local residents. Finally, believe that the wisdom of local people always exceeds the knowledge of outside experts.

My thanks again to Sarah McCormack for your exceptional leadership and facilitation of the ABCDE Learning Sites. Finally, congratulations to the community builders of Kings Meadows for taking time to dream, plan, collaborate and activate. Your legacy and efforts makes Kings Meadows a richer community in terms of connection, wellbeing and opportunity.

**Peter Kenyon OAM**

Director, Bank of I.D.E.A.S.



# About the ABCDE Learning Sites

The City of Launceston has collaborated with Bank of I.D.E.A.S. to deliver five Asset Based Community Driven Effort (ABCDE) Learning Sites in the northern suburbs of Rocherlea, Ravenswood and Mowbray then Youngtown and Kings Meadows.

Learning Sites enable a community to identify their assets, build connections, and create change in the heart of the community. The approach is about focusing on 'what's strong, not what's wrong' and empowering local citizens to make change.

## How it works

The core strength of the ABCDE Learning Site approach is that it enables people to change practice, by practising the change. In essence, the approach operates around the following principles:

- Every context is different, the challenge being to learn what works best for each unique location. It is not a defined 'cookie-cutter' model – it is place-based, adaptive, responsive and innovative in a way that closed models cannot be.
- The wisdom of local people always exceeds the knowledge of the experts.
- Relationship building is viewed as the fundamental activity of community building.
- The starting point for community building is 'what's strong, not wrong', focusing on assets, capacities, abilities and possibilities, rather than needs, deficiencies and problems.
- The challenge is for community members to move from being treated as customers, consumers, clients, and patients in others' programs and services, to co-owners, co-producers and citizens in the design and implementation of actions that build their communities as healthy, caring and inclusive places and groups.

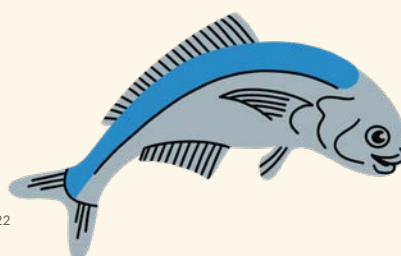
As one of the first local governments to embrace the Learning Sites, the City of Launceston has worked with local leaders within each location to identify, connect and mobilise their assets in order to take action, make positive change and directly shape their own community's future.



The City of Launceston Learning Sites occur over a 12 month period, based on eight touchstones. As part of each Learning Site, Council has engaged a permanent Community Connector to guide the community through the process.

The Eight Touchstones for each Learning Site are;

- Provide a community connector;
- Finding a community builder team;
- Hosting conversations to discover assets and what people care about;
- Engaging local groups and associations;
- Building connections through social interaction activities and shareable community opportunities;
- Visioning and planning by asking 3 key questions:
  1. What can we do?
  2. What do we need outside help with?
  3. What do we need outside agencies to do for us?
- Implementing change (doing and reviewing); and
- Foster celebration.







# Community Connector Reflections

One of the most important factors in connecting with a new Learning Site community is to begin with a fresh outlook, a strong method and solid preparation. The first three months of a Learning Site are spent getting to know the community, asking people what they care about and what motivates them and if they could do anything to build their community, what would that be. I then determine if I've met others who have similar ideas and connect these people. The Community Connector's role is to facilitate, support, mentor and enable the community to bring their ideas to life. This is a very creative and fulfilling process, like building a jigsaw and fitting the pieces together. I was best placed to do this by being hosted at the YMCA in Kings Meadows for a few days a week for the majority of the Learning Site.

The move from Youngtown to adjoining suburb Kings Meadows enabled the work in Youngtown to flourish as connections and projects overlapped. Youngtown Community Builders were eager to introduce me to people in Kings Meadows which assisted in developing wonderful connections. People often reflected that they don't have the time or the means to meet others with similar community building ideas and they find the resource of Council's Community Connector a real asset.

Throughout the engagement process, the Community Workshop with Peter Kenyon and the ongoing networking, the important thread in a Learning Site is communication. Ultimately the success of a Learning Site depends on creating meaningful and trustful relationships in the community. The jigsaw becomes intricate as connections deepen. The capacity to support community led projects and to build skills for sustainability means it's important to lead from behind. Allowing the community to lead their own projects brings me joy as people learn new skills together.

There are many examples of how the community is learning to focus on what's strong, not what's wrong as asset based Community Builders. Council's investment in building capacity by upskilling people in this positive work is evident. In 2022 we formalised the work to keep the practice alive past the duration of a Learning Site which is the new Community Continuity Plan. This will be a guide for Community Builders to remind them of the resources they can access to develop their skills.

It is a basic human right to connect and choose who and how to do this with others. Some people find this challenging and Learning Sites enable connection and helps people overcome loneliness.

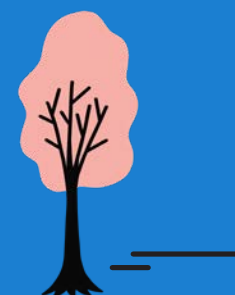


I met a lot of people but there are always more to connect with, especially people who don't find it easy to have a voice. Not only did the community meet others, they were given the confidence to make positive change in their life. I witnessed community members feeling valued and inspired with a renewed sense of purpose.

The City of Launceston Learning Site program has gained respect from the local community over the past five years which helps build trust for future Sites. Thank you Kings Meadows, for embracing the ABCDE Learning Site and allowing me to support your aspirations.

**Sarah McCormack**

*Community Connector  
City of Launceston*





# Consultation and Engagement

People from any background, gender, age, ability and culture are invited to be involved in a City of Launceston place based Learning Site. Building relationships with the community is the biggest and most important part of a Learning Site. The program offers a structure based on the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. eight touchstones and is flexible in how people choose to be involved.

Kings Meadows postcards were distributed to every household in the suburb, inviting people to be involved – TasTafe Community Services students dropped these postcards into businesses. We wanted to reach as many people as possible in the community to welcome them to be involved.



## Big Ideas Campaign

Another type of engagement occurred at the YMCA in Kings Meadows. We asked locals to tell us their BIG IDEA to build a stronger community and how they can contribute to make it happen.

The competition ran for a month and two people were selected to receive gift vouchers for local businesses.

Ayla is in primary school and received a voucher for her BIG IDEA, she wrote:

*My BIG idea for our community is...  
To help give the poor food and don't cut the trees down so animals won't be endangered!  
And I could contribute to making it happen by...  
To work to get a lot of people to help and over time we will be able to do it!*





## Community Workshop

Peter Kenyon of Bank of I.D.E.A.S. visited Launceston from Western Australia to facilitate the Community Workshop at the Kings Meadows Bowls Club in November 2021. Fifty-five people attended the workshop including twenty Grade 7 - 10 student leaders from Kings Meadows High School with key community members. Participants identified their assets, shared what they love and would keep, change and start... and then workshopped projects. By inviting community members to have input sends an important message; that Council values what people want their future to look like. Activity in the community can then be focused on the key trends and guide organisations and business into the future. The community's ideas were collated as a rich source of data. This information was also shared within the City of Launceston organisation as a valuable community engagement to consider for future strategies.

A key part of the Learning Site involves the community dreaming about what they would like to see happen in Kings Meadows and how they can be involved. Throughout the many conversations and workshops over the past year, people shared over 65 big ideas. The common ideas for Kings Meadows are:

- Skate ramp and park
- More parks with outdoor basketball and tennis courts
- Community markets
- Murals
- Arts Centre – events, workshops and gallery
- Recreation and community centre
- Connecting the school with the community
- Fix traffic congestion
- Connecting with neighbours and elderly residents
- Outdoor area for children and young people to hang out

The common ways people indicated they could be involved in projects were:

- Planning
- Lobbying
- Sharing ideas and skills
- Working bee
- Contacting people
- Recruiting volunteers
- Working group
- Advocating
- Organising

*Thank you so much for allowing me to join in with your community workshop. It was a really enjoyable and enlightening day. The students are a real credit to the school and community, their diplomacy and reasoning was outstanding. I would also like to applaud your Council for engaging and investing in your community in this way.*

Workshop Participant

*This workshop gave me some amazing ideas for communities to undertake.*

Klarissa Watson, Jessica Hutton,  
Ella Wiggins: Kings Meadows High  
School Mural Workshop 2021



*Building community keeps me healthy - it all occurs in community.*



Kings Meadows Community  
Workshop 2021



# Engage local groups & associations



**We want your BIG Ideas**  
**Do you have a really cool idea for your community?**  
 What awesome ideas do you have to make the place where you live more fun?  
 What will help make your dreams for the future come true?  
 It can be anything really ... just tell us what you think would make your community a better place for kids to live, play and basically just hang out in.

My BIG idea for our community is ...

And I could contribute to making it happen by ...

Name :  
 Contact phone/email :

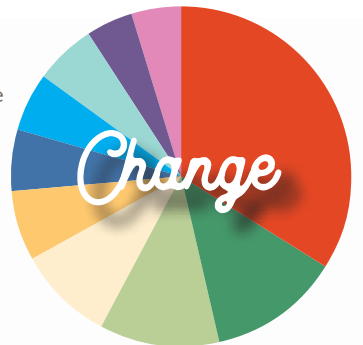
*"The best way to get great ideas is to have lots of them." (Thomas Edison)*

## What we heard from workshop participants



- 38% ● YMCA
- 19% ● Safety
- 8% ● High School
- 8% ● Residential Area
- 8% ● Multi-generational
- 4% ● Coffee Shops
- 4% ● Courtesy on the road
- 4% ● Health Services
- 4% ● Carr Villa Reserve
- 4% ● Major Banks

- 30% ● More Sports Facilities
- 11% ● More bike track lanes/ bike connectivity
- 10% ● More places to hang out
- 8% ● More places for young people
- 6% ● More bench seating
- 6% ● More art/beautification – parklets
- 5% ● Pedestrian friendly car park (Meadow Mews)
- 5% ● Making school facilities more freely available
- 4% ● Improve bus shelter conditions
- 4% ● Improve parking



- 22% ● Sunday Market (Food – Rivulet)
- 14% ● Community Centre
- 12% ● Community Art Gallery/ Art Mart
- 10% ● Community Notice Board/ FB/QR Code
- 9% ● Arcade Games/Real Games/Cinema
- 9% ● Sports Centre
- 6% ● Meet the Community Day
- 6% ● Welcome to Kings Meadows Sign
- 6% ● Off-leash Dog Park and Walking Track
- 6% ● Kings Meadows Mural



Rashmi Soni, Erin Breen and Darren Lloyd: delivering postcards 2021

## *Learning in the Learning Site*

The City of Launceston ABCDE Learning Sites provide many opportunities to learn about shifting ways of thinking and acting from a deficit to a strength based approach. This occurred informally through mentoring and structured educational programs in the Kings Meadows Learning Site.

The Alanvale TasTafe Campus Community Services students continued with on the ground experience contributing to student assessments for their qualification. This TasTafe partnership has been sustained since the first Learning Site in Rocherlea and continues to strengthen each year.

TasTafe students dropped off postcards to over 80 Kings Meadows businesses as part of their course work in developing networking skills. Thank you to the students for their huge effort. Student reflections about the distribution exercise are:

*Great networking opportunities*

*Good conversations*

*They were happy to listen*

*Increased confidence in ourselves*

*The time of the day is important when going into businesses*

*Enthusiastic as her son was involved in the Youngtown ABCDE Learning Site film*

*People were really receptive to the ABCDE Learning Sites*

Throughout the Learning Sites, the Community Connector regularly collaborated with City of Launceston staff to work on community projects to share skills and work from an asset-based approach. The community learnt how to collaborate with the City of Launceston through their connection in the program.

*The Kings Meadows ABCDE Learning Site has been a great initiative of the City of Launceston. Having our school involved in this project has fostered and strengthened relationships with the broader community and has enabled some fantastic authentic learning opportunities for students such as The Hidden Gems of Kings film, the Community Workshop, the Say G'day on Bin Day sticker campaign and the mural. Valuing student voice and agency has been a highlight of the approach and it has been great to be part of an initiative that focuses on the positives rather than what is wrong.*

### **Cary Stocks**

Principal Kings Meadows High School



*Cobi Griffith, Kings Meadows High School student, came up with idea of the Asset Map as a crown to represent Kings Meadows.*



# Kings Meadows

developed by the Kings M

The Kings Meadows community identified many assets throughout conversations and in the Community Workshop. Discovering Kings Meadows' assets is an important part of the process to utilise to make positive change in the suburb, rather than re-create what already exists. The Asset Map was collated by the community as a resource to collaborate and continue to update beyond the Learning Site.



## PEOPLE'S PASSIONS, SKILLS, WISDOM & EXPERIENCE

JCP Beast Program – Will Smith, Small business owners, GP's, SES, St Johns Ambulance, Principal of school, Learn to Swim instructors, Kings Meadows High school students, Brett from Café Next Door, Serena Hayward Chemist, Ted Sands, Hair by Shai, Peter ballroom dancing champion, Robyn Weston – Reiki master, young people, elderly people – wisdom, schools linked to business and sporting clubs, caring KMHS teachers, valued leadership role by young people, coaches and volunteers, Salvation Army, Benevolent Society, Sarah McCormack, Tony McCormack, Just Cuts hairdressers, Mike Richardson – heat pump servicing, Gavin Kelly – menswear, Viv Dolby – newsagents, Mr and Mrs Americanos – Kings Meadows fish shop, Jody Johnson – YMCA, Natasha Funeral Director at Finney's, Michael – horse drawn vehicle expert, "grumpy old men" group, Barber shop



*There are many incredible places in Kings Meadows that I didn't know about.*

Kings Meadows High School student feedback



## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

School bike track, Kings Meadows play park, Parks, art projects, Coffee shops, school oval/playground, Nunamina park, Kings Meadows rivulet, Walkway, Carr Villa Cemetery, reserves, Machens reserve, Guys Street park, McDougall Street park, South Gate Drive park, Kings Meadows High netball courts, Walkability, Public transport, walking tracks, local creek, public toilets, Rivulet reserve, Kate Reed bike track, Hobart Road car park, YMCA, Jinglers Creek reserve, Janet Street reserve, Golf Club, Carr Villa Reserve, hiring of school facilities, Lakeside Park, link walk between Youngtown oval and regional reserve, Crematorium



## INSTITUTIONS

ANZ Bank, Kings Meadow High School and College (years 11-12), Special Needs school, Churches, Coles/Woolworths, pharmacy, shopping centre, day-care centre, Kyeema Seafood, Launceston community, Kings Meadows health services, campus, butchers, Seven Monks Café, Benevolent Society, CAN Drive, bus services, ambulance station, aged care facilities, Op shops, Finney's, community halls, residential care, health centre, the Men's Shed, MS Tasmania, City Mission, nursing homes, aged care communities, Department of Education values – growth, respect, aspiration and courage, YMCA, St Johns Ambulance, Kings Meadows High School gym, Kings Meadows Rotary





# Kings Meadows Asset Map

Kings Meadows community 2021

*Host conversations to discover assets within the community and what people care about.*



HOBART R<sup>P</sup>

## SOCIAL NETWORKS

YMCA, Golf club, Bowls club, South Launceston Football Club, mothers and baby's groups, Lions Club, the Men's Shed, scouts, Maders volunteers, Launceston Lanes, Just Swim, Kings Meadows Hotel, Rotary Club of Kings Meadows, SLCD committee, Zaps Gym, F45 gym, Andrew Palmers Dance Studio, Church groups, nursing homes/aged care facilities, The Manor, Aldersgate, the community garden, Women Club, McDonalds, walking groups, the Café Next Door, community health centre



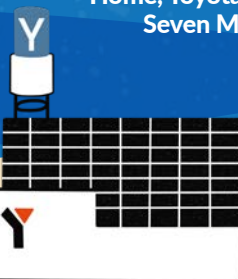
## LOCAL ECONOMIC ASSETS

Meadow Mews, Hobart Road shopping, Bunnings area, Merino Street precinct, McDonalds/KFC/ takeaways, cafes, Kings Meadows Hotel, doctors, pharmacy, Subway, Better Home and Living, Liv-eat, Woolworths, Florist, Kings Meadows Fish and Chips, Donut King, Wendy's, Bottle shops, EB Games, dentist, Noodle Box, Bento, pizza places, Just Swim, Newsagency, mechanics, dialysis, Williams Shoes, Rivers, massage places, dog grooming, Kyeema Seafood, funeral services, op shops, vet, clothing shops, supermarkets x 2, Post Office, bakeries, banks, service station, Connector Park, Crisp Brothers Steel Fabrication, Cripps bakery, dry cleaners, Coles, medical facilities, Techno Park, physiotherapist, gyms, Shiploads, Pure Foods (eggs), healthy food options, cultural food options, Cash Convertors, small businesses, podiatry, Hairdressers/beauty salons, Eyelines, Café Next Door, F45 training, Indian restaurant, eating out variety, youth employment opportunities, 145 Financial Accountants, call centre, Westpac, Centrelink, childcare centres, TasRail, Kings Meadows Storage, Finney's Funeral Home, Toyota car dealership, Seven Monks Café



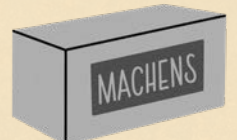
## CULTURAL ASSETS, STORIES, TRADITIONS, ROOTS & HERITAGE

Carr Villa Memorial Park, YMCA, food, cafes, restaurants, Punchbowl Christian Centre/ churches, elderly people/family homes, Mt Pleasant Stories, Kings Meadows citadel, Farmers market, cultural community groups, Christmas activities in shops, arts projects, Finney's Funeral service, Carr Villa Cemetery, Bowls Club history, migrant community social sporting events, school diversity, growing immigrant community



*You don't know what you need, until you know what you've got.*

Peter Kenyon





Ange Hanna, Rachael Dobson, Lance Carroll, Tony McCormack and Joh Breen; Builder Time 2021

Implementing change (doing and reviewing)

## Community Builders

Community Builders are individuals who understand their community, care about it and want to make positive change. These individuals are central to the operation of the ABCDE Learning Site, they help shape and implement community-building initiatives.

Builder Times began in the Mowbray Learning Site and continue to be a regular highlight as a way for the community to meet others, share information, work on projects together and simply to enjoy a great afternoon tea.

It can be challenging for people to meet new people and feel a part of the community. The Learning Site is a great way to bring people together, providing ways to connect. Builder Times occurred at the Launceston Golf Club and at the Bruce Davidson Centre at The Manor.

Find a community builder team then vision and plan by asking 3 key questions.

## Community Projects

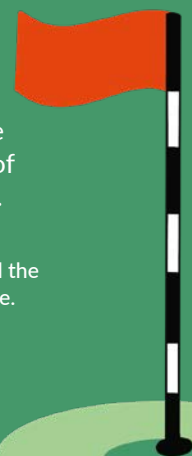
The Community Connector engages with Community Builders to vision and plan their project ideas and asks 3 key questions:

1. What can you do?
2. What do you need outside help with?
3. What do you need outside agencies to do for you?

After many discussions and imagining how to use existing community assets, the Kings Meadows Learning Site projects came to life.

The project ideas are from and led by the Community Builders with various levels of support from the Community Connector.

\* indicates if the projects will be developed beyond the official period of the Kings Meadows Learning Site.







Kings Meadows High School Mural 2022

## Two Murals\*

### South Launceston Community Development

South Launceston Community Development is a small group of local business owners and retired community minded people who work together with community leaders to enhance the Kings Meadows area. The group aims to brighten and beautify the area to increase liveability for visitors and locals. Part of the group's work in the Learning Site are two murals in Kings Meadows, one on a wall at Kings Meadows High School and one to be painted on the Zap Fitness Wall.

Mel McVee, local artist, took a workshop with 20 students at Kings Meadows High School for their involvement in the creation of a mural at the school. The mural features local orchids grown in Carr Villa Flora Reserve and trams which operated in the area. Students from the High School's Grade 8 - 10 art classes painted the mural alongside Mel's painting by numbers system on a chilly Autumn day in May 2022.



Patrick Camino

Born and bred Kings Meadows artist Patrick Camino will paint three photorealistic portraits of easily identifiable local community legends. Harvey Cuthill, local chemist since the 1970s and Steve and Stu Amerikanos, long time operators of the Kings Meadows Fish n Chips. They will be in full view on the side of the Zap Fitness Wall in the Meadow Mews Plaza carpark.

## Launceston Tool Library\*

### The Shed (Veterans and Community Wood Centre Inc.)

The Launceston Tool Library concept began in 2020 and has progressed with the help of many dedicated volunteers from The Shed. The Youngtown and the Kings Meadows Rotary groups, alongside a skilled group of professionals from The Shed have been involved in the creation of the Tool Library.

Launceston and surrounding communities will have an opportunity through utilising the Tool Library to reduce resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, divert waste from landfill, contribute to social equity and build community resilience. The Tool Library aligns with the concept of a circular and sharing economy, keeping products in use and promoting the distribution of underutilised resources.

The Shed and the City of Launceston have been working together over the past few years throughout the Youngtown and Kings Meadows Learning Sites to bring the inaugural Launceston Tool Library to life. Over the past year The Shed secured funding to build an extension, built the infrastructure, collected 641 tools and the operations of the Tool Library. Stay tuned for the launch of the Launceston Tool Library.







## Kings Meadows Community Green Space

### YMCA Launceston

The YMCA of Launceston aimed to create the Kings Meadows Community Green Space outside The Y for public use. The need for more urban green spaces in Kings Meadows was identified by a group of Kings Meadows High School students at the Community Workshop in November 2021. The students requested more outdoor spaces where they could meet socially with friends in a safe and welcoming environment.

The Y's vision was for a community space with a mixture of natural and man-made elements to help meet the recreational, play and social needs of the Kings Meadows community. The space was for everyone in the community to access, particularly aimed at creating safer, social spaces for young people. There are currently no existing community spaces in Kings Meadows where young people are welcome to meet, play, chat and connect outdoors in close proximity to the suburb's business centre. YMCA's proposed plan included benches, a wheelchair accessible picnic table, shade area, and planter boxes growing a variety of plants to enhance the environment of the space.

## Aspects of Kings Meadows History

### Tony McCormack

After the much loved Aspects of Youngtown History, Tony McCormack, Youngtown resident and writer, has once again researched stories and key facts for the Aspects of Kings Meadows History which is included in this Report. Tony collated and wrote the history by meeting The Shed and the Kings Meadows Bowls Club. Sarah introduced Tony to Kathryn Pugh, Manager Infrastructure and Engineering at Council and they walked through the Carr Villa Flora Reserve. Kathryn has a lot of knowledge about the flora and fauna of the area and a passion for the Reserve. Tony met people from The Manor, Kings Meadows High School and other contacts at Builder Time. His two main sources of information about streets and business growth since the 1950s were Tony's good friends Lance Carroll and Peter Boyd. Steve Pearsall from the Library was the main source in finding out how Kings Meadows was originally named. Flip the report over to see Tony's history publication.



Telstra staff helping Colleen

## OneCare The Manor and Kings Meadows High School\*

OneCare The Manor partnered with Telstra (through Andrew Doyle, previous licensee of the Telstra shop and Chair of South Launceston Community Development) to help residents learn to use their phones, iPads and lap tops. This was a great way to enable older people to connect more easily with others electronically, especially during the somewhat isolating times of Covid.

After this trial, a partnership was developed between The Manor and Kings Meadows High School. Ideas are about students visiting the facility to support older people with what they identify as fun online games and communication and residents may visit the school to watch performances etc. This will be a long term partnership and developed in the future.



## Grief and Loss Reflection Space\*

Dr. Margaret Hughes

Dr. Margaret Hughes specialises in grief and loss and is passionate about finding a way for people to connect through their grief in Northern Tasmania, ideally through the Carr Villa Memorial Park facility. Margaret believes Carr Villa would be the most appropriate place as it brings people there for part of this grief process and she is inspired by interstate models at cemeteries.

Sarah McCormack met with Margaret several times to tease out the possible scope, location, operational model and the activity. These conversations will continue beyond the official Kings Meadows Learning Site. Margaret and Sarah agreed that this is not a process which needs to be rushed, just like the process of grief.

## Crime Stoppers Call It Out Campaign

Meadow Mews Plaza Management, Kings Meadows High School and YMCA were supported by Council to make positive change in social behaviour. The community was concerned about their safety in both indoor and outdoor shared community spaces in Kings Meadows. The most achievable solution was a connection with the Crime Stoppers campaign, Call It Out. Call It Out encourages everyone to play a role in building a stronger community by empowering people to report unsafe behaviour. Meadow Mews Plaza has agreed to display poster signage, distribute an information pack or flyer to retailers in centre and share digitally.



Kings Meadows High Students interviewing Chris and David from The Shed

## The Hidden Gems of Kings

In November 2021, 15 film-making students from Kings Meadows High School were assisted by film-making mentors Action Crew to develop a short film titled The Hidden Gems of Kings. Prior to the intensive film making period the high school students were involved in planning the film alongside teacher Joh Breen and Sarah McCormack. For three days in November, the students established a pop-up film studio and interviewed a range of Kings Meadows community members to find out what makes the suburb special. The students worked on the story boarding and named the film.

The Hidden Gems of Kings was premiered in March 2022 at YMCA to a crowd of over 50. Launceston Mayor Albert van Zetten said he was excited to see what the students had produced.

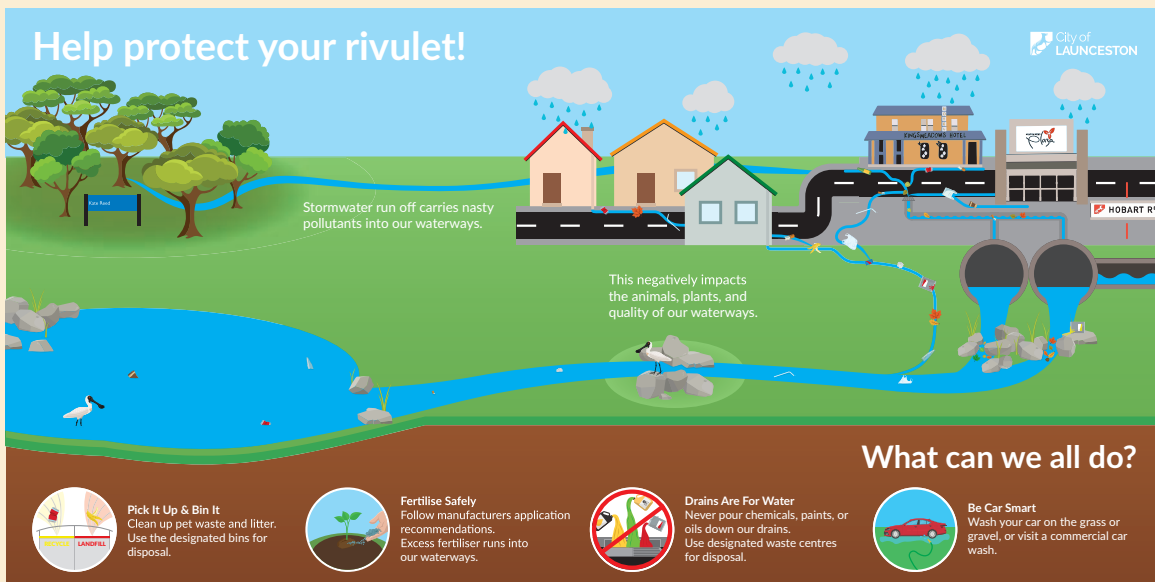
*These kinds of projects are special to me because we get to see our city through someone else's perspective, and see the talents of our young people on show.*

Mayor Albert van Zetten

To view the film visit [Launceston.tas.gov.au/LearningSites](http://Launceston.tas.gov.au/LearningSites)

Student Aaron Styles said the project made him really notice the suburb. "The best part was being able to meet new people I didn't even know. I always thought of Kings Meadows as just one long road full of shops, but I saw it's a bit more stretched out and a bit more deep than that."

The Examiner, 16 March 2022



Help Protect Your Rivulet sign

## Kings Meadows Help Protect Your Rivulet Signs

The Kings Meadows Rivulet is an important urban waterway, providing habitat for a range of plants and animals and is valued by the local community as an area for recreation and green space.

As an urban rivulet, it bears the brunt of what we wash down our drains, and as a result, pollution is a problem in the rivulet. Stormwater runoff carries nasty pollutants into our waterways from urban and industrial areas. These pollutants negatively impact on the water quality, which in turn impacts the animals and plants that call the waterway home. Council's Water Team have teamed up with the ABCDE Learning site to collaborate on a community education project to design educational and informative signs to install in key locations along the rivulet.

These signs will highlight the value of the rivulet as a natural system and show where the pollution in the rivulet comes from. The local community already values the rivulet as a natural asset, and these signs build on that value and provide people with the information they need to help to protect the waterway. The signs include practical tips on how to prevent pollution from entering the rivulet.

## Shower and Laundry Unit for the Homeless and People Sleeping Rough\*

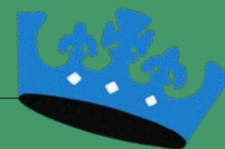
### Launceston Benevolent Society

The Launceston Benevolent Society is located in Kings Meadows and supports vulnerable people in the greater Launceston area. Founded in 1834, the Launceston Benevolent Society is one of the oldest continuously running welfare agencies in Australia. The homeless community, who the Society support at their Kings Meadows premises, often need access to shower and laundry facilities. The organisation was linked with the Rotary Club of Kings Meadows to explore the possibility of support for a nearby unit to provide these services. This will continue to be explored by the Society to see if a permanent solution can be provided in the area. In the meantime, the Launceston Benevolent Society partnered with the YMCA in Kings Meadows to provide shower facilities through the week under a referral basis.

## TSO TO YOU at The Y Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and YMCA

TSO TO YOU was a bite-sized, pop-up, live performance in The Y gym in October 2021. The TSO wanted to give back to the community for all the support during 2020 and 2021 throughout COVID-19 so they toured around regional Tasmania and dropped into The Y. A harpist and flutist entertained an audience with some favourites and invited people to view their instruments close up afterwards.





Gwen Jack and Margaret Kirkup who donated various old Kings Meadows photos

## It's About Time The Manor Gardens Residents Association

Residents from OneCare's The Manor Gardens Retirement Village led a community art project with a difference. The facility's residents association asked for help from the broader Launceston community to create a photographic exhibition exploring the history of Kings Meadows. The exhibition was launched on 10 April 2022 at The Manor's Bruce Davison Centre, the facility's communal hall and regular meeting place.

The Manor Gardens Residents Association President Steve Coull said the residents had chosen It's About Time as the title of the exhibition. "Recently we had the Bruce Davison Centre repainted and the thought among the residents was that we'd put a call out to the Launceston community for old photos of Kings Meadows to put on display," Steve said. "We thought it would be a lovely idea to bring people together through an exhibition of old photographs of the suburb from different points in the past."

"There are lots of older people in the Kings Meadows area and we hope they'll visit and view the photos and remember where they were and what they were doing in years past, and be able to share those memories with family and friends."

The exhibition is open to the public to visit on Saturdays and Sundays till Sunday 31 July 2022 from 2pm - 3.30pm.

*OneCare Limited is a large aged care provider operating across Tasmania in five locations. One of our homes, The Manor, is located in Launceston and has collaborated with The Kings Meadows ABCDE Learning site achieving some wonderful outcomes for our residents.*

*Community connectedness is so incredibly important for all of us, particularly as we age. There are many research papers that highlight isolation and loneliness in our elders making this a key aspect of our care and support services.*

*The Kings Meadows ABCDE Learning site has provided a range of community connected programs that engage our residents with their community making their lives richer and more fulfilled. As an aged care provider, I am so pleased that our residents have been able to tap into this wonderful service. Thank you Kings Meadows ABCDE Learning Site, I cannot recommend you high enough!*

### **Peter Williams**

Chief Executive Officer,  
OneCare Ltd





# Community Continuity Plan

The ABCDE Learning Site approach is about empowering the community as co-creators of their future. Council is being recognised by the community for giving confidence to others to make the change they want to see happen.

The City of Launceston has cultivated significant relationships throughout the Learning Sites by fostering the approach of learning and collaboration. One of the most important aspects of the project is to empower people to feel like they can take action and build stronger communities. Although the Learning Site program officially ends after a period in a place, the relationships and project development in these places continues.

The sustainability of the strengths-based community development work is a key factor in delivering the Learning Sites. This occurs in various ways centred on enabling and supporting local communities.

The community's involvement in an ABCDE Learning Site is determined by the community itself so the sustainability of the practice needs to be developed with the community. It's not a one size fits all approach but we do know what works for communities to keep the strengths based work going.

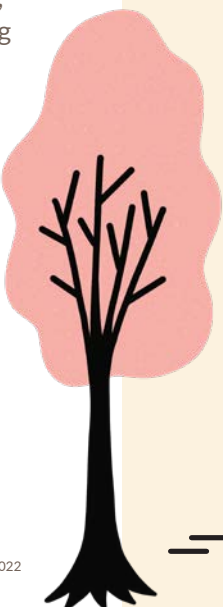
*Sustaining the asset based community driven approach beyond the formal Learning Site program is focused on the community being able to easily continue the work. Community Builders will have multiple options to participate in strengthening their work, with the City of Launceston's ongoing commitment to providing tangible support in the community. This is a planned partnership and will be ongoing with past Learning Site communities.*

## Say G'Day on Bin Day Community Workshop participants with support from Australian Red Cross and Australia Post

Say G'day on Bin Day is a bin sticker campaign that took place across suburbs as part of the City of Launceston's My Place My Future Plan and the ABCDE Learning Sites, distributed to the Northern Suburbs, Kings Meadows and Youngtown in partnership with the Red Cross. Many people don't know their neighbour so this campaign is to encourage a greater level of connectivity in the community. COVID-19 has been a tough time for many people so this is an opportunity to reach out and just say "G'day".

The campaign was conceived in the Kings Meadows Community Workshop facilitated by Peter Kenyon, in November 2021. As a result, this community-led project had a focus on "get to know your neighbour" with a simple, but effective bin sticker campaign reminding us to connect with our neighbours.

Say G'day on Bin Day is supported by the Australian Red Cross '50 ways to do more good' campaign, Relationships Australia and Australia Post - who kindly donated their services to assist in delivering the Say G'day on Bin Day wheelee bin stickers.





# Kings Meadows

## Acknowledgements

Action Crew  
Australia Post  
Australian Red Cross  
Bank of I.D.E.A.S  
Café Next Door  
Jane Chapman  
Kings Meadows Bowls Club  
Kings Meadows High School  
Launceston Golf Club  
Mel McVee  
One Care The Manor  
South Launceston Community Development  
TasTafe  
Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra  
The Manor Gardens Residents Association  
The Shed  
Tony McCormack  
YMCA Launceston

Thank you to the community members who met with Sarah McCormack and to the City of Launceston staff who assisted with the community projects.

City of Launceston ABCDE Learning Site Project Team: John Davis (March 2022), Claudia Taylor, Sarah McCormack, and Racheal Wheatley.

YMCA Launceston closed its doors on 4 June 2022 after 142 years of building stronger communities. Thank you to The Y for hosting Sarah during this significant period.

This report was prepared by Sarah McCormack, Community Connector, City of Launceston

For more information and to participate in the Invermay Learning Site contact:  
Sarah McCormack  
M 0428 109 948  
E Sarah.McCormack@launceston.tas.gov.au  
P 6323 3000

W [launceston.tas.gov.au/Community/ABCDE-Learning-Sites](http://launceston.tas.gov.au/Community/ABCDE-Learning-Sites)

During a Peter Kenyon facilitated workshop with the northern suburbs community to reconnect with asset based community driven effort work, someone asked, "How do you sustain the energy of the ABCDE work?" and Peter's response was "Feed it. Have fun."

Community is about social connection and getting to know people, finding out what people care about and their motivation to act. It starts with getting to know people and not just putting volunteers to work.

The values which underpin the City of Launceston ABCDE Learning Sites are:

*Accessible / Inclusive / Flexible / Fun / Creative / Collaborative / Achievable*

These values guide our work and inform all decisions with the community.

*The Community Continuity Plan will be finalised in 2022 and given to communities to choose how they would like to participate.*

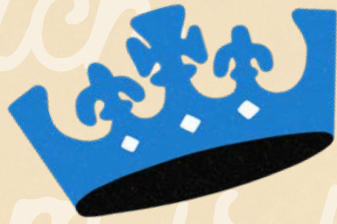
The next ABCDE Learning Site will begin on 1 July 2022 and run until 31 December 2023 for an extended period of 18 months in line with the significant developments happening in the suburb.

*Having been involved in ABCDE in previous years - I'm so pleased in Council's commitment to work with this program and methodology.*

Workshop participant







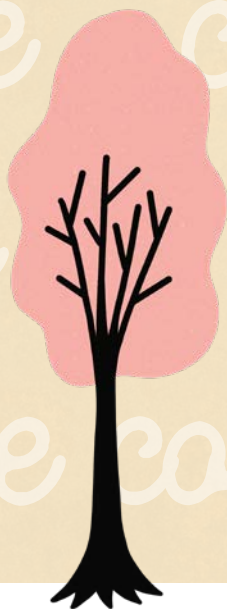
# Kings Meadow



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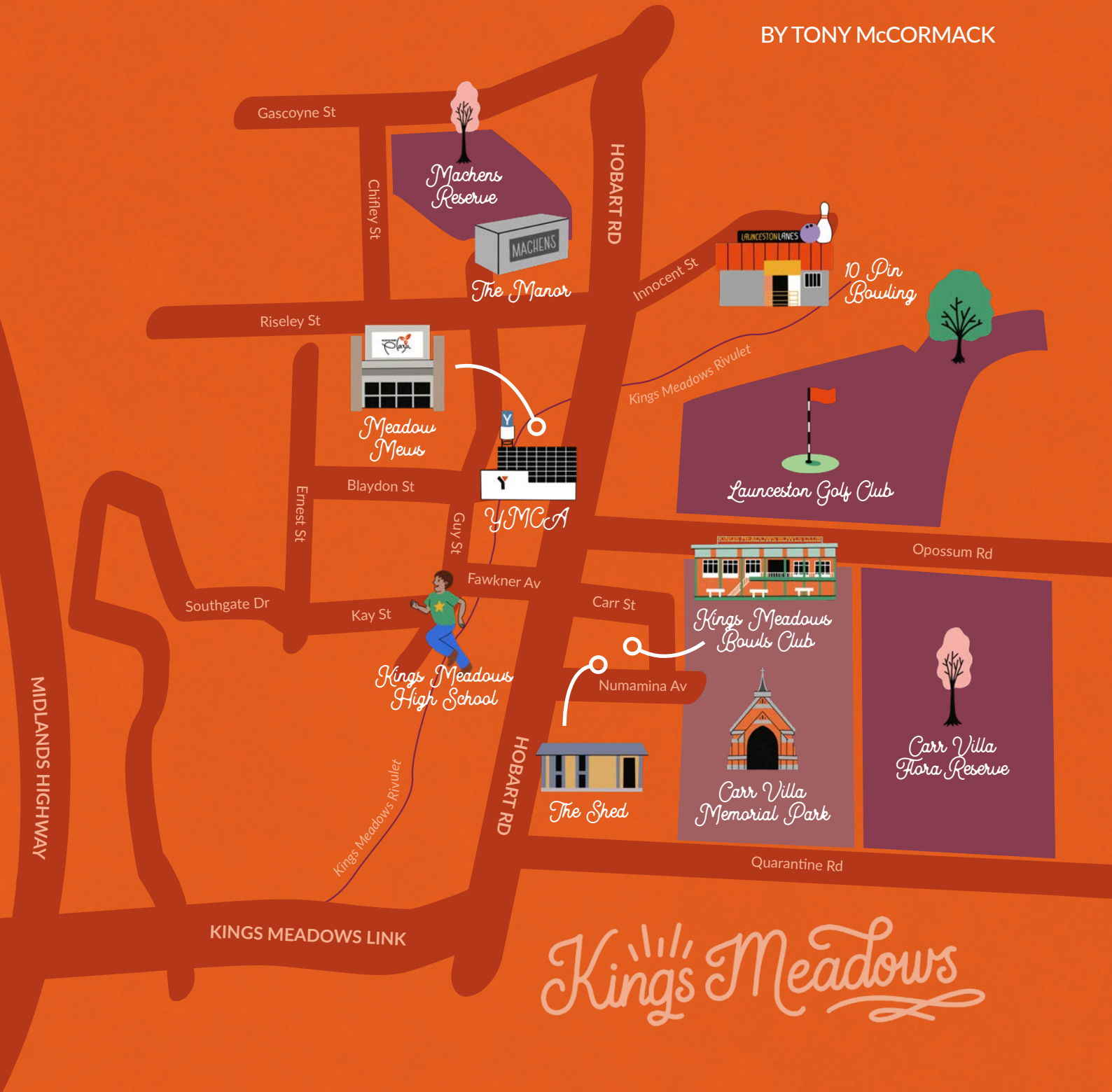
# Kings Meadows





# ASPECTS OF KINGS MEADOWS HISTORY

BY TONY McCORMACK



*Kings Meadows*





## About the Author

Tony McCormack grew up on his Dad's farm at Evandale. His father Eddie and Eddie's father Ned grew up on farms in the foothills of Ben Lomond at Blessington. Like his father Tony had a childhood ambition to be a farmer but he accepted a student - teacher scholarship and completed a B.Sc. degree (1965) at the Tasmanian University in Hobart. Later he obtained an M. Ed. (1984) followed by a Ph.D. (1990). Tony taught Years 11 and 12 students Physics and Mathematics for 32 of his 47 years in education.

From 1981 Tony has been equally passionate in researching the history of his forebears in Tasmania. Having compiled the Blessington McCormack Family Tree in early 1982, Tony was part of a small committee that organised McCormack family re-unions in the 1980s. Tony published "The Blessington McCormacks" about his father and grandfather farming in 2013.

Along with other retirees, Tony has been passionate about visiting farms and meeting farmers in recent years. Tony published three volumes sub-headed: "Stories of Farmers and Their Farms"

- Volume 1 - "Reaching Out from Trafalgar" (2015);
- Volume 2 "Reaching Out from Evandale" (2017); and
- Volume 3 - "Reaching Out from Ben Lomond" (2019).

A member of the Franklin Village Heritage Committee for over a decade and currently Chair of the Glenara Lakes Archives Committee, Tony has developed a passion for writing about key historical developments.

In 2021, Tony produced the Appendage "Aspects of Youngtown History" for the City of Launceston publication: "Youngtown ABCDE Learning Site Report 2020 / 2021". Tony Said: "It has been a privilege to help my daughter Sarah and the City of Launceston whilst Sarah's Community Connector role has been in my area.

Thank you for inviting me to write the history section for each of Youngtown and Kings Meadows."

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Tony McCormack, 2 Cleary Avenue, Youngtown, 7249  
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# 1 Robert Hay Marr named Kings Meadows

Robert Hay Marr was granted 500 acres in the heart of Kings Meadows and purchased two lots, each of 50 acres. Philip Oakden later owned these three lots, totaling 600 acres. In 1833, Marr had a notice of sale where he called his farm “**Kings Meadows**”. Looking through local historian John Dent’s file on Kings Meadows, the sale notice was again listed in the Launceston Advertiser on 2 January 1834 and purchased by Philip Oakden, who listed it for rent on 17 April 1834.

When in the Launceston Library about 11am on Thursday 12 August 2021, I viewed what Steve Pearsall searched on Trove to verify the above. Later that day, I received an email from Steve who stated:

*Hi Tony, Exciting stuff – we have found that Robert Hay Marr was born in Peebles, Scotland and his residence was given as Kings Meadows. Regards, Steve Pearsall, Library Services Officer, Discovery floor.*

*I confirmed on Google maps that just south of Peebles in Scotland there is also a Kings Meadows Road. Kings Meadows farm is 1.5 kilometres south of Peebles.*

## **Folklore has it that:**

*British troops (The Kings Own Regiment) arrived with the settlement in 1806 and remained until withdrawn in 1870. The area became known as the King’s Own Meadow. In time it became Kings Meadows.*

What Steve Pearsall discovered has proven this to be a myth.



# 2 History of Street Development

As can be seen from the Map of Kings Meadows:

## Boundaries of Kings Meadows

- As well as Gascoyne Street, streets on the south of Punchbowl Road plus the 11th to the 13th holes of the Launceston Golf Club (LGC) form the northern boundary.
- The eastern boundary commences with the eastern part of the LGC, then Carr Villa plus Techno Park.
- The main street boundaries bordering Kings Meadows to the south are Quarantine Road and the Kings Meadows Link road.
- The Midlands Highway and lines through Mount Pleasant Estate are western boundaries and lead us back to Gascoyne Street.

Three special pieces of information follow:

**6-Ways became 4-Ways** The northern boundary street of Kings Meadows, Gascoyne Street, was blocked off from Hobart Road in circa 1975; as well, Pyenna Avenue was blocked off from Hobart Road.

The Kings Meadows Connector was first used in early 1991. It was renamed **Kings Meadows Link** in 2005.

Most of the streets on the West of Hobart Road in the map in Part 2 were originally part of the Kings Meadows Farm (600a).



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## Riseley Street is Well-Known

Driving south from Gascoyne Street down Chifley Street the **MACHENS information "POST"** appears quickly on the left. Machens Reserve is a lovely walk down to The Manor, the beautiful retirement centre in Kings Meadows at 1 Guy Street.

Driving to the end of Chifley Street is the well-known Riseley Street. When I am asked for directions in this suburb I always start with the question "Do you know Riseley Street?" and the answer is invariably "Yes".

## Information Gained by Talking to my Good Friend Lance Carroll

Lance Carroll moved in as an 11 year-old to Riseley Street 1946 and lived in Bond Street prior to moving to Albert Street and now Dundas Street in Youngtown. Lance told me that in the 1940s most houses in Kings Meadows were along Hobart Road. Most streets in Kings Meadows south of Riseley Street have been developed since the 1950s.

I shall now typify how family names often occur in surrounding streets.

## Streets up Riseley Street Named After the Nichols and Gibson Families

Lance gifted me a 1949 Abstract of Title for land bounded by Hobart Road, Riseley Street and Machens brick works bought by W G Nichols and R V Gibson. Having turned to my main resource "History in Our Streets" (1988) by Dr John Morris and his son Donald, I noted the following:

## Nichols Street and Gibson Street and Nearby streets

William G. Nichol's daughter married James Rueben Gibson, and W G Nichols and R V Gibson in partnership (i.e. father and daughter) bought the Kings Meadows property and worked in partnership subdividing the area. Hence we have the names Reuben Court, plus Jillian Street; Jillian was a great granddaughter of William Nichols and his wife Rosa. Likewise Shirley Place is named after Shirley Rose Gibson, the daughter of Ruby and James Gibson and the granddaughter of William and Rosa Nichols.

## Fawkner Avenue, Ernest Street and Nearby streets

In "History in Our Streets" (1988) Dr John and Donald Morris wrote:

**Ernest Street:** Mr Ernest P. Fawkner was the subdivider, and owned a large area of land (including Fawkner Park) in this Kings Meadows area.

**Fawkner Avenue:** This was named after Ernest P. Fawkner, who subdivided a large area of Kings Meadows.

Ernest Street bounds many streets on the west and now links into Mount Pleasant estate via Southgate Drive.

Fawkner named McDougall Street after his long-term employee and foreman.

Fawkner Park, once behind the well known fish shop "Kyeema", is mentioned in the history of "The Tasmanian Gun Club" (see Part 3).

For naming of **Machen Street and Diprose Street** see Part 9: Machens Reserve



---

# Machens Bricks, Wunderlich Tiles, Tasmanian Gun Club, Trams

Lance Carroll told me:

1. **Machen bricks** were manufactured at the rear of Diprose Street. Access was via Machen Street. The site is now occupied by OneCare The Manor. It is also where the northern part of Toyota Motors used car yard and Machens Street are today. Lance and others used to swim in the clay quarry when it filled with water.

2. **Wunderlich tiles** were manufactured at the end of Innocent Street close to where the Woolworths supermarket is today. I recall that a well-known member of the Launceston Golf Club (LGC) Charlie Behan was the manager at Wunderlich and that he arranged for the old belts from the factory to be used as walk ways across the gravel at the 13th hole, "Spion Cop". (refer to the history of the LGC by Jack Fotheringham and John Wilson).

Almost all houses throughout the **Fawkner Park area** - in streets between Guy Street and Ernest Street - have chimneys which you don't see today, plus most have a single garage. The bricks if checked would be from Machen and the tiles from Wunderlich.

## Tasmanian Gun Club at Fawkners Park then Machens Paddock

Lance Carroll also prompted my memory of what **David Perry** had previously told me about the **Tasmanian Gun Club**, now located along Nile Road, Evandale. After a recess of over 10 years, the Tasmanian Gun Club held a shoot in 1936 in Fawkners Park, Kings Meadows before moving to Machens Paddock on a 12 months lease. At the time the membership was 80.

The Club operated spasmodically during the War until the early 1940s when it moved to St Leonards.

David Perry also told me that he grew up in Kings Meadows next to the recently opened Kyeema-owned "Fryed" fish and chip shop and later owned the Butchers Shop where "Kyeema" fish shop is today.

Lance Carroll continued:

A **Chinese vegetable garden** was located approximately 50m further along Hobart Road where the Woolworths Service Station is today and thus before we reach the Kings Meadows Hotel, a landmark in the suburb.

**Trams:** Single and double tram lines ran as far as Quarantine Road. There was a brick structure there provided for those to shelter while waiting in inclement weather.

There was also a spur tramline running up Nunamina Avenue. This was only used on special occasions, including Mother's Day.

Over the past year another good friend **Peter Boyd** of Riseley Street has briefed me on changes in the past 44 years in Riseley Street, Reuben Court and Hobart Road. This information has been beneficial in understanding the growth of Kings Meadows since the 1970s, including the opening of the Manor in 1991 (+Hospice until 2007) and the development of Machens Reserve and Brampton on the Park. Peter recently alerted me to the re-siting of MAZDA Car Sales headquarters from Invermay to Machen Street, alongside TOYOTA.

Peter also took valuable time to draw a map of special features in Kings Meadows and I made use of his map when drafting the SKETCH MAP for the COVER.



Kings Meadows High School Opened in 1960

# 4 Kings Meadows High School 1960 - 2022

As the current Principal of the school Cary Stocks wrote:

Kings Meadows High School commenced in 1960 and celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. There is no doubt the last 60 years has seen changes in many areas **but also many strong traditions and connections to the past still remain.** Like many others, I look forward with interest to the next stage in the evolution of this great school, King Meadows High School.

## Commencement of My Teaching Career in Mathematics and Physics

When doing my first Teaching Practical in 1963 I learned of the wonderful buildings and playgrounds of Kings Meadows High School: this well-positioned comprehensive secondary school. More to the point, I began learning that preparation is a fundamental key to good teaching and realised that my teaching career would enable me to pursue my passion in inspiring students to engage and love my favourite subjects, namely Mathematics and Physics.

## Meeting Cary Stocks, Principal of Kings Meadows High School

It was only in March 2022 that I made contact with the Kings Meadows High School Librarian Mrs Mandy Ritchie and subsequently met the Principal Mr. Cary Stocks, son of Grant and nephew of Ian, who was my main teaching method mentor.



---

## Input by the Current Principal, Mr. Cary Stocks

Having grown up in Poplar Parade in Youngtown and attended both Youngtown Primary School and Kings Meadows High School, it does seem somewhat sentimental and nostalgic to be returning to Kings Meadows High School as Principal after about thirty-five years since leaving. In some ways it seems like it was just the other day that I was a student here and then, on the other hand, it seems like an eternity ago. Nevertheless, it is interesting to observe what has stayed the same and what has changed.

**Having attended King Meadows High School from 1984 to 1987** along with my two brothers and three cousins, I remember a school that provided an excellent academic program but was also extremely strong in sports such as cricket, tennis, football, soccer, hockey, softball and the list could go on. The positive culture was actively promoted and established by the principal of the day, Mr E.N. **'Ted' Richardson**, a life member of the Northern High Schools Sports Association. Many students of that time and before and after, have gone on to achieve great things in their chosen field of endeavour. I still have friends from my time at Kings Meadows and who I could easily name, as I am sure others could too, many of whom have achieved great success beyond high school.

**Many of the early buildings remain today** with the Gymnasium (L.A. **'Len' Bonser Hall** 1975), double storey B-Block, C-Block, D-Block (Woodwork and Metalwork) and E Block (which was previously the library), all still intact. The school has undergone a major capital works projects in the last decade and those that remember the long central corridors down the centre of each block with classrooms branching off on either side would now view a very different and more contemporary school environment. In terms of the outdoor environment, many of the sports fields remain. However, the soccer field in the north-eastern corner was reclaimed as part of some major flood mitigation works on school grounds to prevent and reduce flooding in Kings Meadows. As Hockey is now played on synthetic surfaces at St Leonards, the lower hockey field is now the soccer ground and the top hockey ground is now a vineyard. Many people will also remember the old wooden change - rooms on the Eastern side of the oval. I still recall the smell of liniment from those rooms! That building was removed many years ago. In fact, where I sat in my office to write this article I recall as being the book sales room!

**I recall many strong House competitions between Nevis, Lomond, Tamar and Esk.** Similarly, we had great NHSSA competitions with the other local high schools such as Queechy, Riverside, Prospect and Brooks in the local sports competitions for both summer and winter sport. The annual sporting exchange with Parklands High School from Burnie was a highlight and created an additional rivalry outside of the regular NHSSA competitions and the opportunity to socialise with students from another school.

**The current enrolment is approximately six hundred students** and this figure has been between five and six hundred for the last twenty years or so. Students still wear a uniform that is made up of grey and hues of blue.



# 5 YMCA: Serving Launceston for more than 140 years

The YMCA commenced in Launceston in 1880, historically moving to the present site at **Kings Meadows in 1965**.

See the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication: **“YMCA OF LAUNCESTON” HISTORY (1880 – 2005)**

In the September Issue of the Glenara Lakes Newsletter, I wrote:

**Ray Willis worked as CEO of YMCA for over 30 years.**

Debbie Styles told me that her father Ray Willis “died on the job” at the ripe old age of 88 in 2013. Born in Melbourne in 1925, Ray spent his childhood in orphanages until age 14 when Debbie said “he was turfed out of St Johns to work on farms.”

## **Mentoring by Canon Neil Malloy**

With encouragement and mentoring from Canon Neil Malloy, Ray returned to St Johns Boys Home in circa 1942 to train as a Social Worker. He stayed in employment until he was appointed as Superintendent of “Glenara Boys Home” in 1967. His wife Muriel, always the strong woman behind the successful man,

was appointed Matron. They served there until 1979. The same outstanding support continued at the “Y”.

**Both Ray Willis and wife Muriel Willis are listed on the YMCA Honour Board** as Life Members of the “Y” above the door to the “Ray Willis Room”.

## **Lasting Legacy at Glenara Lakes – the Ray Willis Bus, Donated in late 2013**

Ray Willis retained a love for Glenara Boys Home and Glenara Lakes. As an act of love and appreciation, he instigated the raising of funds for the purchase of the current Glenara Lakes bus, with number plate “RAY 27”; the 27 being the number Barry Breen wore on his back when he raced out of the centre to kick the winning point in 1966, St Kilda’s only Premiership. Just like the author, Ray Willis was an avid supporter of the Saints.

The previous Southern Cross Care CEO, Richard Sadek, recently told me that most of the funds for the bus were raised by the “Y” (YMCA).



---

# 6 THE SHED: Veterans and Community Wood Centre



Original founder of "THE SHED" David Brooks told me that he had written an 8-page summary of the history of THE SHED which includes:

---

1999	Purchase of a kiosk container for personal use in Belgrave Pde, Youngtown
2008	Moving to the Salvation Army Printing Office in Woolston Avenue, Trevallyn
2010	Moving to Peace Haven, Norwood
2016	Moving to Nunamina avenue, Kings Meadows
2022	Adding the Tool Library

---

David Brooks added that THE SHED had now been operating for over 13 years and membership has grown to 51. From 2016 the ownership of THE SHED has been the joint responsibility of the Rotary Club of Youngtown and the Rotary Club of Kings Meadows.



David Brooks

## Tool Library Added in 2022

On Friday 21 August 2021 Nikita McGuire wrote in The Examiner:

*The Rotary Club of Youngtown (and the Rotary Club of Kings Meadows) have collaborated with the City of Launceston and the federal government to assist in the installation of a new shed to house the (tool) library. The federal government has contributed \$10,000 with another \$35,000 provided through the Tasmanian Community Fund to help get the project up and running. For **Chris Westlake**... project committee chairman – it was an exciting enterprise that he hoped would benefit the local community.*

*"The Tool Library will work by people becoming members, like a normal library, pay an annual fee and then they are able to borrow tools / equipment." Mr Westlake said*

David Brooks explained that the "new" shed was in fact an extension of the existing shed. David added: It will be known as the "Launceston Tool Library", trading under the "Veterans and Community Wood centre Inc".

## Kings Meadows Bowls Club

Audrey and Gordon Bellenger, who resided at Glenara Lakes Retirement and Lifestyle Village, Youngtown from 2008, wrote the history of the Kings Meadows Bowls Club, which included:

- The Carr Street **Open Day** was held on 30 September 1967
- The **Official Opening** of the Club premises was held on 31 August 1968
- The **Indoor Bowls Complex** was opened in September 1990
- During the winter the complex is in full use with coaching clinics and games

---

# Launceston Golf Club

## The Launceston Golf Club is an Asset to Kings Meadows

Clearly the Launceston Golf Club is an asset to all of its members, both ladies and gentlemen, whether they are from Kings Meadows or elsewhere.

It is also a valuable social asset for the Kings Meadows community.

## The Launceston Golf Club celebrated its Centenary in 1999

Two of my fellow golfers Jack Fotheringham and John Wilson wrote the 1999 publication "The History of the Launceston Golf Club 1899 – 1999: Tasmania's Oldest 18 Hole Golf Course" that included:

- The Launceston Golf Club moved to Kings Meadows in circa 1901
- The Name Launceston Golf Club was first adopted in 1908

The above publication is highly recommended!

I won't attempt to summarise what is in this excellent hardback book of 114 pages, which is full of interesting stories and beautiful photos.

## Bill Husband LGC Professional for 38 Years

At retirement in 2010, Bill Husband had been Club Professional for 38 years, just more than one-third the lifetime of the Club.

In the booklet produced in 1974 "1899 – 1974 Launceston Golf Club 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" the Club Professional Bill Husband is pictured in his early 20s as:

*... the only professional in Tasmania with a videotape machine which enables him to show the pupil a picture of his or her swing on "instant replay" – a big help in correcting faults.*

In a rare event for a Tasmanian, Bill Husband was made a Life member of the PGA Australia for his services to golf in 2017.



*Bill Husband  
in front of  
clubhouse at  
Pinehurst, where  
Payne Stewart  
won his second  
U S Open*





Photo of Carr Villa supplied by Steve Pearsall, Launceston Library

# Carr Villa: Elite Boarding School for Girls; Memorial Park and C.V. Flora Reserve

In "History In Our Streets" John and Donald Morris state:

*John Knight was granted (in circa 1820) 350 acres... (where) he built a fine two-story house (and his wife Susannah Dark Knight)... conducted what was probably the best-appointed school for ladies in the North at that time.*

A protégé of **Hannah Carr - Clarke of Ellenthorpe Hall near Ross**, Susannah Knight named her Elite Boarding School for Girls "Carr Villa" (1844 - 1866) after George Carr - Clarke, Hannah's husband and notable Midlands community worker.

## Carr Villa Memorial Park

Carr Villa Memorial Park opened on 1 August 1905. As already mentioned, the land in Kings Meadows on which it was developed was previously home to a ladies school run by the Knight family who had acquired the site in the 1820s.

- The Tasmanian Government purchased Carr Villa around 1880.
- John Doran was the first man to be interned on 1 August 1905.
- Later that year on 2 December 1905, Annie Scanlon was the first woman to be buried.
- Carr Villa Memorial Park slowly grew, five acres every five years and denominational boundaries were rearranged in 1922.
- By 1937, the Launceston City Council had invested just over £10,000.

- Only when cremations overtook burials in 1968 did Carr Villa register a small profit.
- The Tasmanian Government permanently transferred ownership to the City of Launceston Council in 1996.
- Carr Villa remains a unique place, offering modern facilities, sensitivity, openness and ample choice to family and friends, on a secure and richly developed site.
- Carr Villa's dedicated, specialised workforce has a sense of mission and an understanding of their role in the community.



Tony McCormack and Kathryn Pugh

## C.V. Flora Reserve: The Sanctuary

In late 2021 I was invited by Sarah McCormack to tour the 7 Ha, fenced "C.V. Flora Reserve: The Sanctuary" with Kathryn Pugh, Council's Manager Infrastructure and Engineering. Kathryn Pugh is a qualified Environmental Scientist. Kathryn told us that the C.V. Flora Reserve is managed by the CoL. **The Sanctuary originally comprised the Punchbowl Reserve, the Launceston Golf Club and Carr Villa.**

# Machens Reserve: Brickyard from 1883 – 1970

Under the heading 1855, the following was written on the City of Launceston above explanation “Board” at the **Chifley Street entrance to Machens Reserve:**

*John Machen arrived with his family on the Whirlwind from Norfolk in 1855. He found work immediately burning bricks on site in Lithgow Street for Ainslie House. Many Tasmanian men including bricklayers had left Launceston to try their luck in the mainland gold fields resulting in a shortage of workers.*

**Machen Street** leads down to the site where Machen Brickworks existed ... (1883 – 1970). **Elle Machen** contacted me in late February and told me that **Machen Street was named after** John Machen’s son **Alfred John Machen**. Elle referred me to K R Von Stieglitz booklet “A Short History of St Leonards” (1948) and from p28 I quote:

*A. J. Machen was a member of the original Council formed in 1908, and remained with the Council until his death in 1938, during which time he was warden for many years.*

## Naming of Diprose Street

In the highly recommended text “History in Our Streets” (1988) by Dr John Morris and his son Donald, they explain:

**Diprose Street:** When Machens Brickworks developed the area, this street was named after Mr. Harold Diprose Schramm, a gentleman closely associated with Machens Brickworks for many years. Diprose was a family name, his grandmother being a Diprose.



## John Machens Began his Brickyard in 1883

From the Information Board I read that John Machens began his Brickyard on this site in 1883.

## Brickyard Closed in 1970

As it says on the Information Board, John Machen’s brickyard operated from this site until 1950 when it was sold to other bricklayers who operated the brickyard until it closed in 1970.

## City of Launceston Ownership

The City of Launceston purchased the Machens Reserve in 1991 after it had been unused for 20 years. The re-development of the brickyard commenced in 1992.

## The Manor Residents Walk Through the Reserve

On every occasion that I have visited the Reserve during the past year I observed people walking up and down the well-established walking track. For example many residents from the Manor walk through the reserve.

## Friends of Machens Reserve

The Friends of Machens Reserve was formed in 1980 and its members work one day a week to weed and keep the Reserve clean.

Early in 2022 my daughter Sarah McCormack, in her role of City of Launceston “Community Connector-Kings Meadows”, met with the four members of Friends of Machens Reserve in the above photo.



# 10

## The Manor and Philip Oakden Hospice

The following was kindly written by lawyer and anthropologist Dr. Angela Ryan, author of the recently published book: "The OneCare Story – A Tasmanian Aged Care Family" (2021). Chapter 2 is on the Manor, including the Philip Oakden Hospice.

### The Manor – Kings Meadows 1992-

In 1986, St Luke's Association, Launceston, having separated from St Luke's Hospital, was considering the options for its future direction. The project was initially intended to include a thirty-bed nursing home and a hostel for another thirty residents, as well as a ten-bed hospice for the terminally ill. By June 1991 building began on a new complex of buildings in Guy Street. St Luke's contemplated a name for the new complex and it was decided to throw open the choice of name to Kings Meadows High School as a competition. Unfortunately, St Luke's didn't like any of the contenders. The name "Halcyon Manor" was then proposed, **and the treasurer, Bruce Davidson, shortened it to "The Manor" and so it has remained to this day.**

By July 1992 the nursing home was completed and the residents from Bethshalom Nursing Home in East Launceston were transferred along with four residents from Evandale and three new residents. The Manor House for the Aged, comprising a new thirty-bed nursing home and thirty-place hostel, was officially opened on 25 October 1992 by Senator Michael Tate.

### Philip Oakden House (1993 – 2005)

In April 1992 St Luke's Association made plans for the establishment of a Hospice as part of its development in the Kings Meadows area. A public meeting was held in 1988 and the Northern Hospice Care Association was formed. There was an urgent need for a facility in the North dedicated to the care of the terminally ill.

In August 1992 the inaugural meeting of the Hospice for the North Association was held at The Manor. Dr Lachlan Hardy Wilson elected convenor and Sir Geoffrey Foot as Chairman. At the time there were no free standing privately managed hospices left in Australia. By July work had started on palliative care facility at the Kings Meadows site.

Initially the facility was to be named "The Manor Hospice". However, the name of "Philip Oakden" was put forward by Sir Geoffrey Foot. Oakden was well known for his charitable work in Launceston in the early 1800s, and was one of the early European settlers on the land on which the facility was built.

The Philip Oakden Foundation was officially launched in September 1995 at The Manor. The official opening of Philip Oakden House took place on 25 November 1993 by Health Services Minister, Roger Groom, with the blessing by Archdeacon Letchford.



Max and Barb Baker

## Tony McCormack wrote in May 2022 [STOP PRESS]

### **Dedicated Palliative Care Hospice in Northern Tasmania (Refer to “The Examiner” page 11 on 4 May and page 5 on 5 May 2022).**

Both major political parties have pledged \$20 million dollars to establish a Dedicated Palliative Care Hospice in Northern Tasmania. Tasmanian Premier Jeremy Rockliffe has also welcomed the facility to be run by the State Government.

### **“Friends of Northern Hospice” spokesperson Mrs Barbara Baker**

In the report on Thursday May 5 Examiner article “Friends of Northern Hospice” spokesperson Mrs Barbara Baker, said:

*I woke up this morning and asked my husband (Max) “did I dream that, or did it really happen.” It was such a surreal feeling, she said. We were even thrilled to receive the initial \$5 million commitment on Friday, but we’ve just been blown away by both \$20 million pledges.*

I contacted Barb on 5 May 2022 and she said that she and Max were still “pinching themselves”. After such a long battle (over 15 years) I can understand their shock, relief and delight. Well done to the “Friends of Northern Hospice” which commenced soon after the announcement that the Hospice would not take any new “end of life” patients by OneCare at The manor in December 2006.

The Philip Oakden Hospice at The Manor closed in August, 2007.

Barb Baker emailed me in May 2022 stating:

*Such a shame it closed. Sir Geoffrey Foot, Dr Hardy Wilson, Jim Anderson, Bruce Davidson and Dr. John Morris would surely have turned in their graves I’m sure they have been getting together ‘upstairs’ these past couple of weeks (to celebrate).*