



# TASSO NEWS

October 2020

## TASSO PINBOARD

Send Us Your News and Achievements!



### King Island Cleanup

### DOE Featured Art



### Flinders Kids Take Out Business Awards

Tasman District School Farm  
Trash & Treasure Market

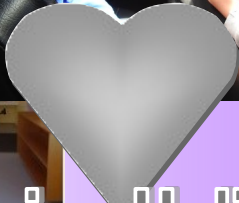
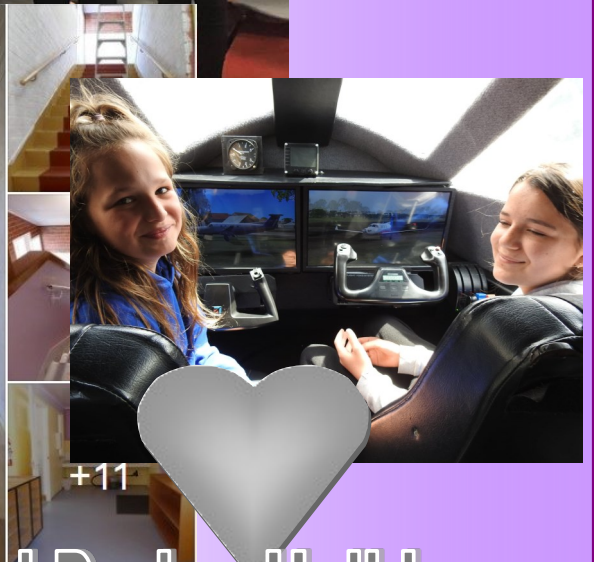
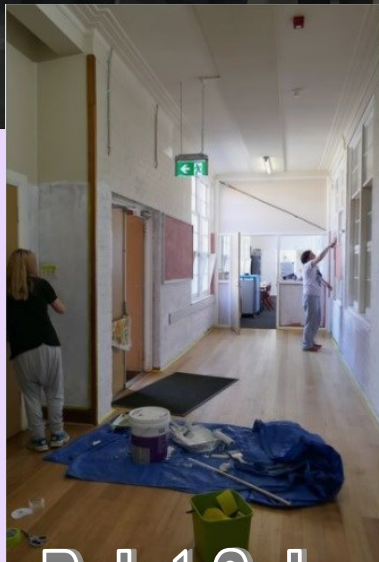
**Saturday 24th October**  
8am—1pm

School Hall indoor sites \$20 table provided  
School Oval outdoor sites \$15 BYO table  
Please call the school office for bookings 6250 2126

**CAR BOOT SALE**  
Plants, books, toys, bric-a-brac, cakes, tools, animals, vegetables, household items, sports equipment, furniture, etc.

Sausage sizzle and soft drinks available.

## TASMAN Event



+11

### Dover Teachers Paint School During Holidays

# President's Yarn

Hello All,

I would like to start by saying "Thank You" to Nigel Jones our newest past President for the tireless work he has done not only over the past 2 years in the role of President but over the past 9 years for TASSO as an organisation. This is by no means Nigel's last hurrah, as he has agreed to continue as a southern representative on our board – providing continued support to myself and others that sit around this table. I look forward to drawing on Nigel's wisdom as we move forward over the coming years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank a couple of past committee members who at our recent AGM left the organisation.

**Lyn Spaulding (Williams)** – Lyn joined the organisation in 2011 and from the time she stepped on to the Committee, was a force to be reckoned with. Serving the organisation for 9 years in many and varying roles within the organisation, providing invaluable support to not only the committee but all those families we represent.

**Petra Parker** – Petra joined the organisation in 2018 and if it were not for her family returning to Queensland, I believe would still be sitting at the TASSO table passionately representing those in regional and rural areas within the Tasmanian public school system.

To both these tremendous ladies, I offer my eternal gratitude on behalf of all the families of children in public education in Tasmania.

Whilst we are saying goodbye to a few, we are also welcoming the return of many to the TASSO board for the 2020-2021 year and even more excitingly the additions of new blood to the table.

The returning board members:

Chris Lynch – North West Board Member – newly appointed TASSO Vice President

Rena Henderson – North West Board Member

Wendy Timperon – Northern Board Member – newly appointed TASSO Secretary

Dannielle Murfet – Northern Board Member – newly appointed TASSO Treasurer

Nigel Jones – Southern Board Member

Jared Dickason – Southern Board Member – newly appointed TASSO President

I would also like to welcome to the board Neil Myers, our newest Board Member in the North.

I look forward to working with each and every member of the board over the coming 12 months as we embrace the everchanging landscape of education in the era of COVID.

I know when I speak on behalf of the board, I speak on behalf of a passionate group of individuals with one common goal – to create the best educational outcomes possible for all Tasmanian students and their families.

I wish to make it clear to each and every parent, carer or grand-parent, with children in the fine Tasmanian state school system, whilst our board table is buoyant with an incredible group of volunteers with an array of skill sets and life experience, our board table is far from full and the opportunity to contribute in a true and meaningful way to your child education, through TASSO is always open and available to all.

To truly and effectively advocate for all in the state school system we need to have active participation from as many parents and people as possible. This can be as simple as providing us with your experiences, responding to our survey's, bringing your professional and life experience in a volunteer consultancy role to areas of education that interest you in achieving better outcomes for your children, through to stand for the TASSO board.

If 2020 has taught us nothing, it has taught us that we as parents have an important role to play in the education of our children. Whilst it may not be as the primary educator, all support given and shown, leads to better outcomes for our children.

By merely having your child enrolled in the Tasmanian State School system you are a member of your School Association and thus a member of TASSO. Your TASSO membership is no different to that of your gym, Lions Club, or sporting organisation - it is only through engagement and effort do we see reward and improved outcomes!

I applaud you all at the very least, reach out to those on your School Association Committee and share your in sites and experiences, embrace opportunities to be involved. If you wish to have a discussion with me personally on how you can support TASSO or the communities we represent, my contact no is 0423 053 955

Let's talk soon.....



Jared Dickason  
TASSO President

## Preparing for Exams Year 11 + 12's??

Check out this great source of info. It could make a big difference in a mixed up year!



<https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/years-11-and-12/preparing-for-exams/>

## Looking Ahead...

TASSO President Jared Dickason met recently with the Minister for Education, Jeremy Rockliff along with Tim Bullard, Secretary of the Department of Education.

The meeting was focused around TASSO's direction and our intentions for the coming years. Comment was made at the initiatives TASSO undertakes and what the Education Department view as valuable such as our regional meetings.

One of the most positive things to come out of the meeting was the ability to demonstrate to the government how TASSO is growing. Not long ago our ranks were rather slim and before our online meetings, our reach was not as broad.

Not only has our board grown but we have more individuals who are regularly in contact with us, getting involved and offering their wisdom on a slightly less formal basis. Regional meetings are having an increased attendance also thanks to online access extending our reach across the state.

TASSO sees this meeting as a positive one and appreciates all levels of involvement with the Department of Education in an effort to improve the daily lives of students in the State School System.



Jeremy Rockliff, Jared Dickason and Tim Bullard

# School Lunch Pilot

Exciting developments have flowed from Tasmanian School Canteen Association (TSCA) Executive Director Julie Dunabin's 2019 Churchill Fellowship trip in which she visited various countries around the world to research their school lunch programs. The TSCA has recently been granted funding from Healthy Tasmania (Tasmanian Department of Health) to run a short school lunch program trial here in Tasmania! The project will look at the feasibility of offering nutritious cooked school lunches as a way of supporting a positive food culture, improving behaviour and learning outcomes for a sample of Tasmanian school children. Three schools are currently participating: Triabunna District School, Warrane Primary School and Richmond Primary School.

At each school the canteen manager/school staff/volunteers will cook and serve a nutritious sit-down lunch for up to 60 students for 20 days across early term four, 2020.

The menus are bursting with delicious and nutritious food, carefully selected to appeal to children and approved by the project's dietitians. All the schools have started and the childrens' comments from day one (menu : spaghetti bolognese and fruit platter) included: 'I score my lunch 10/10, no 2000/10!' and 'Is it ok if I can please have some more? That was really good'. Day two feedback (menu: pumpkin soup with apple crumble and custard) included: 'I love it' and one student had five helpings of the soup and said: 'I love it, can I please take the rest home?'

The project will be evaluated by a University of Tasmania researcher and the results will assist the TSCA in their future work.

Below are some photo's from Triabunna District School – Spaghetti Bolognese and Salad, the students sitting and enjoying their lunch and Canteen Manager Tamara Butcher serving up Apple Crumble and Custard.



# Tasmanian Schooling History

Following on from our last '150 Years of Education' series we look at Flora Wesley.

The 26-year-old Flora Wesley had been living in the colony for 9 years when she applied for her first teaching position in 1894. At the time Flora had no teaching experience and her most recent employment history was for a Hat-maker. With flattering references from upstanding Individuals, Flora's application was accepted. What is fascinating with these character references is their emphasis on Miss Wesley's character, very little is said about her teaching ability.

Miss Wesley's application was accepted, and she subsequently passed her entrance exam held in January 1895. Flora's first appointment was at Barton School, Campbell Town in 1896.

In 1901 Flora moved to teach at Lady Bay, in Southport, where she spent for 5 years. In that time she had sent multiple requests to the Minister of Education requesting a posting at a 'town school'. It seems these requests to move to more populous areas may be due to the nature of small towns. Miss Wesley was quoted saying, 'By the time several of the leading residents have picked at the teacher, there is very little left of her except her bare bones.'

Two years later, she was still at Lady Bay, and although she was still keen for a transfer, there were some schools that she was hesitant to go to, especially Ouse School.

The last letter in her file is from March 1904 to School Inspector Lovell confirming that she has been appointed teacher in charge of Hythe, later Southport. She was still there in



**WESLEY**—Passed peacefully away on July 11, 1944, at her home, 324 Macquarie St., Flora, dearly loved eldest daughter of the late John and Judith Elizabeth Wesley. Late Education Dept. Sadly missed.

Ms Wesley can be seen on the left in the front row with her flamboyant hat.

# Road Safety Week 2020

An average of 30 people are killed and 270 are seriously injured on Tasmania's roads each year. If that number of people were killed or injured at the same time, there would be an outcry. Our community should not accept that death and injury on the roads is inevitable. The Road Safety Advisory Council's vision is to have no road crash fatalities or serious injuries.

Public education is an important part of working towards that vision. And Road Safety Week is a key part of that education. The Week was postponed this year from the usual time of the first week of May, because of the COVID-19 emergency, to 15 November to 22 November.

The Week is an initiative of the Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) Group that partners with the governments and road safety organisations, including Tasmania's Road Safety Advisory Council. The Week is an opportunity to urge people to 'drive so others survive' and to highlight the impact of road trauma and how to reduce it.

## How you can be involved

### Social media posts

A 30-second video – voiced by Rove McManus that explains what the Week is about – should be used from now. It can be downloaded at [roadsafety-week.com.au/branding](https://roadsafety-week.com.au/branding). Please scroll to:



Each day of the week has a theme for which there's social media content. All the content can be downloaded at [road-safetyweek.com.au/branding](https://roadsafetyweek.com.au/branding)

Please use the hashtags #NRSW20 and #DriveSoS for all Road Safety Week social media posts which will help accurately measure use.

### Other activity ideas

- Add the email block at end of this document to your signature block (see below)
- Encourage people to take the Pledge to Drive So Others Survive on the NRSW website [www.roadsafetyweek.net.au/home/#home/pledge](https://www.roadsafetyweek.net.au/home/#home/pledge)
- Affix 'drive so others survive' sticker to your organisation's vehicles, affix a yellow ribbon to the vehicles and wear a yellow lapel ribbon. These will all available free of charge at Service Tasmania outlets from later in the week starting 19 October.
- Host a yellow walk or bike ride to raise awareness
- Include an article about Road Safety Week in your newsletters
- Ask your social media followers to share a yellow ribbon selfie
- Add the Road Safety Week block to your emails
- Promote Road Safety Week by adding the signature block below to your emails.

# Road Safety Week 2020

If you have a default signature:

Copy the Road Safety Week block below

Create a new email

Click on signature

The drop-down menu will show your default email signature

Click on the one you want



A window will open displaying the signature block. Paste the Road Safety Week block between your address details and the department's values.

Click okay.

Go to the Road Safety Week website, scroll a little and take the pledge.

If you don't have a default signature

Copy the Road Safety Week block below

Create a new email

Click on signature

The drop-down menu will show your default email signature

Click on 'Signatures'

Click on the 'New'

Enter the name you'd like to call the signature block (eg Road Safety Week)

A window will open displaying the signature block. Paste the Road Safety Week block between your address details and the department's values.

Click okay

Go to the Road Safety Week website, scroll a little and take the pledge.

For more information, contact the Road Safety Advisory Council Marketing Manager, Neil Spark, 6166 3279 / 0417 352 210 / [neil.spark@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:neil.spark@stategrowth.tas.gov.au)



ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL  
**TOWARDS ZERO**

## TASSO AGM and Induction

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of September TASSO held its annual general meeting at various locations around the state. We had an exceptional turnout and for the first, in recent times the meeting met a quorum and the event did not have to be postponed.

It was a successful night with two of the three motions presented passing. The major one for us was a brand new constitution to replace the heavily aged document we have been using for years.

This was a major project that Debra, (the Manager here at TASSO) practically took on alone. We were lucky enough to secure the help of a generous law firm whom for no cost ensured that all the work was legally sound.

The new constitution will allow TASSO to operate more efficiently and conform with all modern standards.

Our other highlight was a few extra faces that have shown significant interest in TASSO and I'm glad to say they have continued to be in touch. We also have a brand new board member in Neil Myers, which we are thrilled about.

A few weeks later we held our induction day to formalise the Board Members' positions and outline TASSO's expectations. Once the formalities were over with the planning for the year ahead began.

## NAPLAN

Last the external review into NAPLAN.

The report, which has been compiled over the last 12 months, explores the worthiness of NAPLAN, where it shines and what needs to change.

It also includes a lot of statistics which may be of interest to parents, bearing in mind of course, its not a perfect model.

The authors stated,

'We have concluded that standardised assessment is important in Australian education and that it serves a variety of purposes. We have recommended the retention of some important features of NAPLAN but recommended, as well, some important changes to content, psychometric properties, timing of the assessments within the year and over the Years of schooling.

We commend our final report to you and trust that it will provide a useful platform for a revitalised Australian National Standardised Assessment.'

The report can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/NAPLAN-Review>



From left: Debra (staff), Wendy, Chris, Regina (Staff), Jared, Dannielle, Neil, Tom (staff), Rena

### AGM's & Committee Meetings:

Your Constitution allows for meetings to be held by using technology if it is agreed to by all members of the Committee (clause 14.3). Some Committees are holding meetings via Microsoft Teams and Zoom.

TASSO is developing a process to enable school associations to use our platform to hold AGM's and School Association Committee meetings. If you would be interested in using our platform please email [manager@tasso.org.au](mailto:manager@tasso.org.au)



## October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	A	D	D		T	O
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			O	U	R	
22	23	24	25	26	17	28
E	V	E	N	T	S	
29	30					

## December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Last day of Term 4	18	19

Dates for colleges vary so it's best to check with your individual school

# Induction



## Teach, Learn, Live

By Department of Education

The Teach, Learn, Live podcast is a series of conversations with teachers and leaders about how public education is delivering quality learning for all Tasmanians.

Listen on  Spotify

 Message

<https://www.education.tas.gov.au/about-us/teach-tasmania/teach-learn-live-podcast/>

