

# North West Ecofest held at Camp Clayton at Ulverstone



Lachie, 7, and Alice Wade, 5, of Table Cape with the flower crowns they made at a stall at North West Ecofest on April 1. Picture by Rodney Braithwaite.

More than 2000 people flocked to Camp Clayton on April 1 for "Tasmania's biggest sustainability festival".

North West Ecofest, in its seventh year, had educational activities for children and stallholders promoting environmentally friendly practices.

Event committee member Cassie Smith said she was thrilled with the turnout at the event.

"The change to this venue last year has paid dividends for us because everyone is wanting to be a part of it.

"It's a wonderful venue because we've got so many flexible areas that we can all the vendors into.

"Word is obviously out that sustainability is an issue that everyone's talking about and wanting to learn a bit more about it.

"This is where we are showcasing all those wonderful exhibitors, businesses and crafters that they're doing in a more sustainable way."

Ms Smith said organisers were proud of the way the event had grown.

"We saw a bit of growth about three years ago when we got a website and went digital.

"We saw the demographic change, and that demographic of younger people has continued to come and are the ones that have got a lot initiatives.

"They are the future of what we are doing, so it's great to see that it's across all generations now rather than just preaching to the converted."



Raven Youl from the Sea Eagle Spinners Wynyard showcasing her craft in action. Picture by Rodney Braithwaite.

Raven Youl is part of the Sea Eagle Spinners Wynyard, a sub-branch of the Handweavers, Spinners and Dyers Guild Tasmania.

Mrs Youl and her fellow spinners were showcasing the craft at Ecofest.

"We're trying to introduce the community to other ways to create textiles for themselves rather than being involved in fast fashion.

"It's sort of going back to doing things in a slow and conscious way, being connected with the fibres that you're working with.

"I think a lot of people think it's a dying craft.

"But it's not; it's a really vibrant community."

I'm a passionate reporter covering all things North-West. Got a story idea?  
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