

## Message from the General Manager- John Brown

Council's Community Drop-In sessions have continued with Council staff visiting Fingal and Mathinna over the last couple of weeks.

This has been a follow on from the community conversations which were held in these towns as part of Council's Strategic Plan process last year. It has given us an opportunity to explore in greater detail with community members the specific projects and issues which had been raised previously by the community. The Fingal community are currently developing a great project relating to the historic nature of the township which should not only be of interest to visitors but also residents of the broader Break O'Day area. Seeing this commitment by community members is really heartening and we need to do what we can to support them and their willingness to take responsibility for developing strategies and actions for their area.

The common threads brought up in both these communities were based around infrastructure development including footpaths, roads etc as well as infrastructure that supported a growing visitor economy. This included interpretive signage and recreational facilities.

From here, community feedback will be developed into an action plan for each township which will outline processes, actions and responsibilities. Our expectation is that this document will be utilised by both Council and the community.

It is Council's position that we can achieve so much more by working collaboratively with community groups.



State League Netball Game at the Bendigo Community Stadium in 2016 saw the Cavaliers take on Karana.

## State League Netball Match returns to the Bendigo Community Stadium

The St Helens Netball Association will again proudly host an RACT Insurance State League Netball Game at the Bendigo Community Stadium.

Taking place on April 28, the Hobart Arrows will take on the Launceston Cavaliers at the Stadium with an Under 19 game at 1.30pm followed by the Opens game at 3.05pm.

Both matches are guaranteed to be a great show of skill, athleticism and be real nail biters.

The St Helens Netball Association will be kitting out the new kitchen with lots of yummy food for the day including a selection of curries as well as a limited bar.

This is a great opportunity to see elite sportswomen right in our own backyard and it is a privilege to have both teams come to St Helens.

On behalf of Council we would like to thank the St Helens Netball Association for ensuring our stadium hosts one of these games annually and for all their hard work in making sure the teams feel welcome and have everything they need.

We hope that we will again get a large local following at the matches to rival the games played in Launceston, Burnie, Devonport, Kingston and Hobart. See you there!

## Waste and Recycling calendars Have you received yours?

We have recently had feedback from residents reporting that they had not received their waste and recycling calendars which should have turned up in your letterbox by now.

To try and get a better understanding of why and where people were missed, we ran a poll on our Facebook page.

Of the 140 people who participated in the poll approximately 25% did

not receive their calendars. We have contacted each of these people individually to find out which areas they are in and whether there is a pattern. We will be following this up.

For those who do not have calendars and would like one, please drop into the office in St Helens or give us a call on 6376 7900.

**RATES REMINDER**  
**Your final rates installment**  
**is due on May 1, 2018.**

## Jetty works - Talbot Street Jetty Update

The Talbot Street jetty is now open for use but is waiting for the treated timber decking to complete the project. Unfortunately this delay was beyond our control.

Once this jetty is complete, we will be reviewing the infrastructure program to make sure we are meeting the varied needs of our community before starting work on the other jetties.

The new jetties are made from treated pine piles covered in a thermoplastic sleeve which is heat shrunk onto the timber. We believe that this is the first time in the world that this process has been used to construct jetties



Left: Capped and sleeved pylon. Right Tored worm damage to a timber pylon.

and will give the jetty a life of more than 40 years.

Once wrapped in the sleeves, the piles are then driven into the sand bed until they reach a solid base and are then capped at the top (see image).

The sleeves contain nothing that will pollute the environment and ensure that the piles will be protected from the Tored worm. Because the sleeves do not allow air or water to make contact with the timber, they also reduce the rotting process significantly.

Without the State Government funding announced for these projects, this work would not be possible.



## St Marys Streetscape underway and on track

The Streetscape works in St Marys are well and truly underway with an anticipated completion date in mid May.

The works are being undertaken by contractor, Streetwise Developments who have been installing stormwater infrastructure, new kerb and channel, new footpaths and resealing existing parking bays.

This work is part of Council's Strategic Plan which was developed in consultation with the community;

Community: Foster a range of community facilities and programs which strengthen the capacity, wellbeing and cultural identity of our community.

Infrastructure: Be proactive infrastructure managers by anticipating and responding to the growing and changing needs of the community and the area.



Contractors at work on the St Marys Streetscape which is anticipated to be completed in mid May.

## Mayor Tucker headed for the lock-up

Mayor Mick Tucker will be taking part in Whitelion's annual fundraiser, Bail Out on May 18. Mayor Tucker will be locked up in the Richmond Gaol with other inmates for the night.

Mayor Tucker must raise \$1000 to be 'bailed out'.

If you would like to make a donation, the St Helens Newsagency is collecting bail money but also donations to keep him there! (So far the keep him in gaol collection is winning!) You can also donate online through [www.bailout.org.au](http://www.bailout.org.au).

## IN BRIEF

### Positive Feedback

It is always nice for Council to receive some positive feedback whether it be about our area, services or facilities.

We were thrilled to receive this message via our Facebook page a couple of weeks ago;

"...I would like to say regarding your free camp spot in Fingal how impressed we are with the area, toilets very clean as was the shower, grass area very well kept, and the bonus of power, we thank you and who ever looks after this little camp site. The only complaint I have my husband who was born there and lived for 19 years forgot to tell me how cold it gets at night, next time we will bring more blankets. Thanks again Kerrie and Gerry Parsons."

### 2018 Local Government Election General Managers Roll

As most people would be aware, Local Government Elections will take place this October. This means that Council is now doing a review of the General Managers Roll.

As part of the review, people currently enrolled on the Break O'Day Council General Managers Roll will be receiving a letter in coming days requesting that they update their information to enable them to remain on the Roll.

This review does not exclude new ratepayers applying to be included on the Roll.

#### What is the General Managers Roll?

If you live in another municipality but own property or a business in our municipality, or are ineligible to enrol with the House of Assembly because you are not an Australian Citizen, but you would like to have a say in the Break O'Day Local Government Elections, you can apply to be on the General Managers Roll. Any queries relating to the review or applying to be included on the General Managers Roll can be directed to Angela Matthews, Executive Assistant on 6376 7900 or via email [angela.matthews@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:angela.matthews@bodc.tas.gov.au).



## 'My Culture, My Story' Local Aboriginal history

The latest exhibition at the St Helens History Room promotes the Australian Heritage Festival's theme 'My Culture, My Story'. The display will tell of the Tasmanian Aboriginal history of the North East of Tasmania, particularly Eddystone Point/Iarapuna down to The Gardens within the Bay of Fires.

The exhibition will also promote the first Aboriginal tourism venture located in NE Tasmania, the wukalina walk. A bark canoe built for NAIDOC celebrations in St Helens for 2017 by the St Helens District High School,

will be on show, representing the Coastal Plains people and their culture which was based on this area of coastline. Other items of culture to be displayed includes; woven baskets, shell necklaces, homemade string, the importance that ochre played and other craftwork representative of the vitality of a local community that is testimony to a living culture. The descendants from this NE Tasmanian community are key to our cultural history and this is their story.

Normal admission charges to the History Room apply.



The bark canoe made by St Helens District High School students for NAIDOC celebrations last year will be on display at the St Helens History Room as part of the "My Culture, My Story" Exhibition.

## Get in 2 Gear program - Kicking goals

Our Learner Driver Program, Get in 2 Gear, continues to go from strength to strength with more than 10 participants achieving their L2s and P plates since the beginning of the year.

We especially love this program at Council as we get to work with some amazing people and even share some of their stories on our Facebook page. These stories are always some of our most read and commented on and it's great to be able to see the support the mentees get from the rest of the community.

Due to the regional and at times isolating nature of where we live, this program is invaluable to our community members who struggle to source a supervisory driver, get access to a vehicle or simply can't afford professional driving lessons.

The program is not just about learning to drive but has been beneficial to participants in other ways such as gaining a sense of worth and

achievement as well as giving them new life opportunities, including employment within their local area or even access to employment outside of their local area, by obtaining the legal right to drive on the roads.



Megan Williams with her P plates! Congrats Megan

**MENTORS NEEDED**  
**Are you patient and a good driver?**  
**We need your help!**  
**Contact Erica Lowry**  
**erica.lowry@bodc.tas.gov.au**

## COMING UP

### Georges Bay Music

**April 27**

The next Lunch and Munch Concert will be held at Tidal Waters on April 27 with guest artists husband and wife duo from Hobart, Ian and Jennifer Cocking, a jazz singer and bass player. Admission \$8 members and \$12 non members.

### Arrows vs Cavaliers

**April 28**

State League Netball teams the Hobart Arrows and the Launceston Cavaliers will be clashing at the Bendigo Community Stadium with the U19s taking to the court at 1.30pm and the Opens at 3.05pm. The St Helens Netball Association will have the new kiosk fully stocked with a selection of curries, limited bar and more.

### St Helens District High School Chaplaincy Fun Run

**April 28**

Starting at 10.30am this event includes a 2km, 5km and 10km walk/run. If you would like more information please call Carol Withers on 6376 1638.

### Active Autumn Amazing Race Series

**April 29**

Organised by Parks and Wildlife, this is a free family event. Join the Discovery Rangers at St Helens Recreation Ground from 11am for games, sport and laughter. See the Parks and Wildlife Facebook page for more information.

### Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival June 9-11

Be immersed in the vibrancy of Tasmania's East Coast this June long weekend at the Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival. Event includes, Arts markets, workshops, Arts trail, live music and much more. For more information go to, [www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au](http://www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au).

### Field Archery Shoots Every Sunday from 9am

Break O'Day Field Archery Club Inc invite all to join them for a fun morning of archery. No experience required. Cost \$10 per person + \$5 hire fees. Range located at 24627 Tasman Hwy, Dianas Basin. All enquiries phone Liane Gordon - 6376 1815

### Old Codgers Meeting Every Friday

St Helens Books and Coffee are offering men over 50 the chance to call in, enjoy a hot cuppa, play some cards/chess or just meet some new blokes. Held from 2-4pm. Cost: \$1 per cuppa.

### St Helens Markets Every Saturday

Held every Saturday in the St Helens town centre from 8am - 1pm. New stall holders welcome, phone 0475 844 481.

## Capital Works Projects - April

- Mathinna Plains Rd resheeting has now commenced.
- The resealing program will be 75% complete by the end of next week.
- Talbot St jetty decking materials are expected to arrive next week with work to recommence the week after.
- O'Connors Beach blocks are also expected to arrive next week with work to recommence the week after.
- Penelope Street footpath is progressing well with completion expected in two weeks.

## Manager of Infrastructure and Development Services

Council is pleased to announce that we have appointed a new Manager for Infrastructure and Development Services, Mr David Jolly.

David previously provided a contract service to the Council and project managed the roll out of the kerbside recycling service, construction of the Argonaut Road Bridge and the most recent Cecilia Streetscape project.

David is an experienced operations and project manager who has worked in the private sector and with Northern Tasmanian regional councils since 2009.

## Recycling collection Update

The contamination rate for Feb/March averaged 3.22% which means approx. 3.5 tonnes of the total amount collected had to be sent to landfill. (That's about 1/3 of the recycling truck load). The main types of contamination are plastic bags, green waste and metal (other than cans). This is a great result and shows our community is doing a fantastic job and we're improving all the time!

**WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL**

**February - March 2018**

**129.62 tonnes**

**(Compared with last year's figures)**

## Weed of the month Banana Passion Fruit



Banana passion fruit is an environmental weed in Tasmania and is a cause for concern due to its invasiveness.

Banana passion fruit is a prolific grower and can smother and collapse shrubs and trees. Seed is spread by birds and other animals allowing it to spread quickly.

Now is a great time to treat this weed. Small plants can be dug out, while larger plants can be mechanically removed or the stem cut at the base and applied with herbicide.

## Dog Registration Renewals - Do we have the right information about you and your dog?

In May we will be sending out our dog registration renewal forms so to make sure we have all the right information ready to go, we are asking dog owners to please check their details with us.

If you have moved house, changed your phone number, re-homed your dog or it has passed away

we need to know!

You can update your details by dropping into the main office Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm, giving us a call on 6376 7900 or using our online form which you can find under Dog Registrations on our website.

## St Helens Esplanade sewage upgrades Message from TasWater

Sewage is on the way out of St Helens at a rapid rate with the newly replaced Esplanade rising sewer main connected and transporting the town's wastewater to the treatment plant.

TasWater Project Manager Fraser Nuttall says in the coming weeks construction will begin on the Esplanade Sewage Pump Station upgrade.

"We have already seen some improvements to how the network is operating with wastewater flowing almost twice as fast. That means we have improved the efficiency and capacity of the system and reduced the risk of sewage overflows into Georges Bay," Mr Nuttall said.

Works are almost complete on TasWater's Jason Street rising sewer main upgrades along the Tasman Highway to the Esplanade Sewage Pump Station. Completion of this work will further reduce the risk of sewage overflows.

"We are working with our contractor

on the final sections of the rising main upgrades before we begin works on the pump station upgrades." Mr Nuttall said.

"The contractor is replacing the sewage main on the Golden Fleece Bridge in the centre of town by working from a barge on the river.

"This meant we could reduce the traffic impacts on this important thoroughfare."

Construction will begin in the coming weeks on the new Esplanade Sewage Pump Station to be built adjacent to the existing pump station.

Once it is in operation by August this year, TasWater can then decommission the older infrastructure.

"These upgrades will improve the capacity for the sewer networks in St Helens into the future and we appreciate the patience of the local community while we complete these important upgrades." Mr Nuttall said.