

From the General Manager - John Brown

The simplicity of the wheelie bin system that many of us rely upon on a daily basis to meet the waste and recycling needs of our household does not reflect the complexity and scale of operations that these simple bins play in our waste system. Several years ago when faced with a very large cost increase to pick up the household waste bins, Council made the decision to take on this service itself. This required a very large capital investment to buy two trucks for this task. Recently when we went to tender for the recycling service once again we faced a very large cost increase and the only way to keep costs as low as possible was to bring it in-house as well. This is creating the need for some change and we have worked hard to make the overall collection system as simple as possible. We know that a change in routine can be challenging and if you are unsure just contact us. Behind the scenes is where it is complicated, the household waste is taken to Scamander where it is compacted and sent to Copping Landfill near Hobart. This is a good system but the infrastructure at Scamander is now 20 years old and close to end of life meaning we are looking at a multi-million dollar replacement. The recycling is now being transported to a new state of the art facility operated by Veolia at Spreyton. The biggest challenge that we have with our recycling system is the very high level of non-recyclable items placed in bins which contaminates the whole load. For example, things like grass clippings and tree prunings are not recyclable. We really need the help of our community to look at what is put in the recyclable bins to make sure it is recyclable.

Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival Celebrates 12 Years of Creativity



Photo courtesy of BOFWAF: Leigh Rigozzi "Afternoon Tea Trees" and Genevieve de Couvreur "A Leap In Time"

The Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival once again brought colour, creativity and warmth to the June long weekend in St Helens and surrounds – marking its 12th year as one of Tasmania's favourite winter events. With art, food, music, markets and workshops, the festival attracted visitors from near and far to enjoy a weekend celebrating local talent, stunning scenery and community spirit. The heart of the festival is the Bay of Fires Art Prize, which draws entries from across the country. This year, for the first time, the \$20,000 prize was shared between two winners – Leigh Rigozzi and Genevieve de Couvreur.

Leigh's artwork, Afternoon Tea Trees, was inspired by trips with friends to make art in a quiet, coastal setting. Genevieve's piece, A Leap in Time, came after a 15-year break from painting. She challenged herself to paint one small picture every day for a year. The final work includes 135 of these pieces, like a visual diary.

The People's Choice Award went to Rodney Alexander for his stunning piece Threads of Time. This work explores big ideas about time and invisible forces of the universe. Rodney's artwork was a

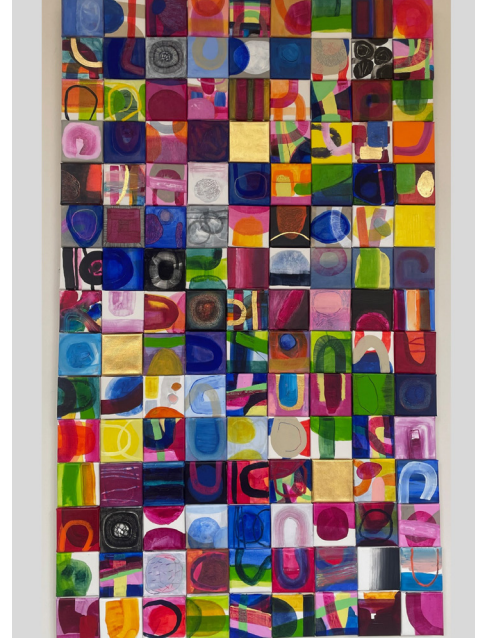


Photo courtesy of BOFWAF: "Threads of Time" by Rodney Alexander, with Sandra French - President of the BODRA and Sponsor Attila Szekely - Anchor Wheel Motel St Helens

clear favourite with the public, winning by a large margin.

Beyond the prizes, the festival was full of energy and variety. People enjoyed live music, markets, food stalls, workshops, and the chance to meet the artists. The streets of St Helens came alive with winter magic and community pride. The festival is a great way to support artists, showcase our region, and bring people together in the colder months.

Council is proud to support this special event, which brings many benefits to our community.

Congratulations to the Bay of Fires Arts Association, the artists, volunteers, and everyone who helped make 2025 another unforgettable year.

Serpentarium Wildlife Park: Local Volunteers Caring for Our Bushland



Photo courtesy of Jen Lownes: Volunteers removing harmful waste from the bush

Volunteers and Junior Keepers from the St Helens Serpentarium, recently took part in their quarterly “I CARE” bush activity in Stonyford, St Helens. The group ventured into the local bushland to explore and learn about the delicate ecosystems that make our region so special. From discovering a piece of bark teeming with life – including millipedes, spiders, ants, and roly-polies – to sharing ideas and theories about how nature works together in balance, this hands-on experience inspired curiosity and respect for our environment. Importantly, the team also rolled up their sleeves to tackle a disappointing but vital task – collecting dumped rubbish from our natural spaces. Thanks to their efforts, a large pile of harmful waste including cigarette butts, dirty nappies, and other pollutants was removed from the area.



Council commends the St Helens Serpentarium and its passionate team of Junior Keepers and volunteers for their leadership and dedication to protecting our local environment.



Photo courtesy of Jen Lownes: Hands-on learning about local habitats

It’s community spirit like this that keeps Break O’Day beautiful. Please respect our natural places – take your rubbish with you and help us keep our bushland, waterways, and wildlife safe.

IN BRIEF

TASWATER SEWER PIPE UPGRADE – ST MARYS RIVULET

TasWater has begun upgrade works on a section of sewer pipe crossing the St Marys Rivulet between Groom Street and Aulichs Lane.

Over time, natural erosion has caused part of the underground pipe to become exposed. To prevent future damage and protect the local environment, the exposed section is being replaced with a new cement-encased structure.

The project started on 30 June 2025 and is expected to be completed by 21 July 2025 (weather permitting). There may be minor noise and vehicle movement in the area during work hours (7:30am–5pm, Monday to Friday), but no road closures or service interruptions are expected.

This work is part of TasWater’s commitment to ensuring safe, reliable services and caring for the local environment.

For more information, please contact Holly at 13 6992 or email capitalprojects@taswater.com.au

REMINDER: 2025-2026 RATES NOTICES

Later this month we will be sending out the 2025-2026 Rates Notices to all rate payers. Included with your rates notice will be:

- Waste and Recycling Calendar
- Your rates explained brochure
- Responsible Dog Ownership brochure

The Your Rates Explained Brochure provides ratepayers with information on how rates have changed, where rates will be spent as well as information on understanding the Property Valuations. We hope that all ratepayers will take the time to read this information. If you have any concerns, please get in touch with us.



CORPORATE SERVICES OFFICER: APPLY NOW

We’re looking for someone organised and friendly to join our Corporate Services Team at Break O’Day Council. This is a great role for someone who enjoys variety and working in a supportive team.

- Permanent role in a collaborative and positive team
- Full time preferred, but we’re open to negotiation
- Help with admin, finance, and customer service tasks
- Work with a great team and support your local community
- Flexible working arrangements available - talk to us about what works for you.
- Based in the Break O’Day area

Applications close 5pm Friday 18 July 2025.

Apply here:

www.bodc.tas.gov.au/council/employment-opportunities

The Scamander -Beaumaris Structure Plan

Planning today for the towns we want tomorrow

Work has been progressing on the Scamander – Beaumaris Structure Plan with the draft Discussion Paper to be released on Thursday 10 July for public comment. The ERA Advisory project team will be in the Scamander and Beaumaris area on the weekend of the 25-27 July to meet with community groups and Scamander and Beaumaris locals to seek their feedback and understand what they love about their local area. If you'd like to come and learn about the project, please come

and say hi at one of the following drop-in sessions:

- **Scamander Sports and Community Complex: Friday 25 July, 5:00 – 7:00pm**
- **Rivermouth Café, Saturday 26 July, 8:00 – 10:00am**
- **Surfside Beaumaris, Saturday 26 July 5:00 – 7:00pm**

Keep an eye on Councils webpage, and social media, for more information on the project and how you can get involved."

New Waste & Recycling Service - Starting Now

Break O'Day Council's new waste and recycling collection service begins this week, with Council now managing recycling collections directly. This change aims to deliver a more reliable and locally focused service for our community.

Under the new system:

- General waste and recycling will alternate weekly.
- Some areas may have a new collection day—please check the calendar carefully

Collection calendars are now available to download from our website: www.bodc.tas.gov.au/property/waste

[bodc.tas.gov.au/property/waste](http://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/property/waste)

Printed calendars will be sent with rates notices in mid-July with hard copies available by August from Council offices, local post offices, neighbourhood houses, and real estate agents.

You can also download the Recycle Coach App via the App Store or Google Play to get reminders and helpful recycling info.

Thank you for your support as we roll out this improved service across Break O'Day.

Lighting the Way: New Solar Lights Set to Enhance Georges Bay Multi-User Track

On 29 July, Break O'Day Council will start the installation of 75 solar lights along the Georges Bay multi-user track. Starting at the St Helens wharf and ending at the Cunningham Street jetty, this will transform the 3-kilometre stretch into a safer, more accessible, and user-friendly space — particularly during the darker winter months.

The track will remain open while works are undertaken and this is expected to take around eight weeks to complete. Users of the track should expect some delays during this period as there will be pedestrian traffic management to ensure the safety of users and workers. This project was funded through LGAT's Open Spaces Grant with the lighting specifically selected to be low-impact and suitable for marine and land based native wildlife. The lights are low intensity and as you walk

towards them they will get brighter and then return to low intensity after you have passed.

"This upgrade supports community health, safety, and lifestyle," Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"The addition of solar lighting will make the track more accessible for everyone — whether it's for the morning commute, a family walk, or an evening run."

The community's desire for lighting was clearly expressed during consultation for the Georges Bay Foreshore Activation Strategy, where over 160 locals participated in a survey. Respondents frequently highlighted the need for lighting around high-use areas such as Beauty Bay and Kirwan's Beach to improve safety and encourage greater use of the track.

WHAT'S ON

The Lighthouse - Every Wednesday

Serving the Break O'Day community, The Lighthouse is a safe place where you can enjoy a free cuppa, hot soup and roll, warm beanies and scarves or a friendly chat. Open every Wednesday, 11am-1pm at the Anglican Hall - 56 Cecilia Street, St Helens.

East Coast Community Drama Classes - Every Thursday

Come along for some fun with Adriana and Alison. Make connections and be creative. 3.45-4.45pm every Thursday at Sunrock Studio, St Helens. For ages 6-17 years. Register at eastcoastcommunitydrama@gmail.com

Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce - Monthly Calendar

The Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce has created a monthly calendar of local events and activities to help showcase what's happening across our region. The Chamber is encouraging local businesses, community groups, and organisations to print and display the calendar to help spread the word. If you'd like to receive future editions, please email the Chamber at sthelenscoc@gmail.com

NAIDOC DAY - Wednesday 9 July

Join the Break O'Day Child and Family Learning Centre for a special day of art, craft and cultural learning as we celebrate NAIDOC Week! 10am–1pm. Open to all families (older siblings welcome too!) Let's celebrate together!

School Holiday Winter Fishing Clinics 2025 - Thursday 10 July

FREE fishing day for all ages — rods and bait provided or BYO. Kids must be accompanied by a guardian. If raining, the clinic will move indoors for fishing simulators and marine science games! Fishing participants must register. For more information email fishing.enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au. To register visit www.eventbrite.com.au

Cavaliers Netball Clinic - Friday 11 July

All ages welcome! Join Elite coaches Dannie Carstens and Lou Carter for a fun, active morning to build your netball skills. BYO snacks, drink bottle, sweat towel & suitable gear. Bendigo Bank Community Stadium

10am – 12pm. \$15 per person. For more information and to register visit www.facebook.com/Cavaliersnetball

Citroen Car Club Tas Inc. Car Show Display - Saturday 12 July

Come explore a stunning line-up of classic and modern Citroëns on the St Helens Foreshore 9.30am – 12.30pm.

LOCAL MARKETS

St Helens - Every Saturday

Location alternates between the Portland Hall and the Visitor Information Centre Carpark.

St Marys - First Saturday of the month

Held at the St Marys Hall.

Council Works Reports

- Road maintenance grading in Fingal streets, Mathinna Plains Road, Tyne Road and the Lottah area.
- Road resheeting of Mathinna Plains Road
- Penelope Street St Helens stormwater work is well underway. There are traffic management controls at the worksite with only minor delays to traffic. Residents are still able to access their properties



Photo: Mathinna Plains road

Keep up to date on Council activities and projects by joining our email database.

Email
admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

weedSCAN



Want help identifying weeds and help weed control efforts? Weedscan is a free Australian app that identifies weeds from photos and puts them on the map. You can use it online: www.weedscan.org.au/

DOG STATISTICS MAY 2025

Urban Patrols = 5

Beach Patrols = 3

Infringements = 1

Unregistered Dog = 0

Impounded Dogs = 1

Weed of the Month - boneseed

Boneseed is a Declared Pest in Tasmania. Boneseed is considered one of the worst and most invasive weeds in Australia due to its ability to establish itself anywhere and its potential to spread. Boneseed doesn't typically flower until 18 month old, so it is important to remove plants as young as possible before they produce seed. They can produce up to 50,000 seeds per year making treatment of an area with mature plants a several year project. In the state Weed Management Act, landowners have a responsibility to remove and eradicate boneseed from their property. Due to their shallow root system, they are easily hand pulled or carefully spot

sprayed with a registered herbicide. Plants can be piled ensuring the roots are not in contact with the ground. If seeds are present, they can be cut off, bagged and burnt. This time of year boneseed is actively growing and has not set seed, this is the perfect time to treat and remove, remembering follow up in the next year or two is essential.

For more information please visit: www.nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds



Update on Fingal Post Office

Council has been advised by Australia Post that it is continuing efforts to secure a new operator for the Fingal Post Office.

The planned closure date has been extended to 31 August 2025. In the meantime, postal services and opening hours will remain unchanged.

Australia Post is currently calling for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from anyone interested in operating postal services from suitable premises within the Fingal business area. The successful applicant will be required to meet Australia Post's terms and conditions.

Interested in applying?

Please contact RNPVICAdminSupport@auspost.com.au for further information or to submit an EOI.

Australia Post acknowledges the inconvenience these changes may cause and has committed to keeping the community informed.

If you have any questions, you can speak with an Australia Post team member or contact their Customer Centre on 13 76 78.

Council will continue to share updates with our community as they become available.

Iarapuna Community Weekend AUGUST 2025

Five big beach walks on the *Iarapuna / Bay of Fires* coast.

Saturday 2nd and Fri. 22, Sat. 23 & Sun. 24



For details and to book visit the event webpage

iarapuna25.eventbrite.com.au

Booking & volunteer registration essential

