

## From the General Manager - John Brown

The importance of access to childcare in our community is something which can't be underestimated. Over the last six months there has been a project occurring in our community which is building a comprehensive understanding of the demand and challenges we face in relation to this vital service. Funded by the State Government through the Eastern Strategic Regional Partnership, consultants, Ninety Mile Consulting, have undertaken extensive research and on-ground consultation to build a complete understanding of the situation. The key initial focus was a Needs Analysis in relation to St Marys and an examination of the options to locate a new centre. Approximately 10 years ago there was a lot of valuable work done by the community to look at a new centre co-located at the St Marys District School, this is one of the options being considered. The analysis was expanded to look at the situation in key towns along the East Coast encompassing St Helens, Bicheno, Swansea and Triabunna. On Wednesday 27 August there was a forum held at Swansea bringing together a wide range of agencies and stakeholders involved in the childcare sector with connection to what is happening on the coast. The focus was to look at the challenges and develop solutions which can be pursued in relation to infrastructure, workforce and services. The knowledge, passion and commitment to make a difference in relation to access to care for our youngest community members from those that attended was incredibly motivating and heartening, it makes this kind of project so worthwhile. I am convinced that this report will not be one that sits on the shelf gathering dust, it will be vital to new and improved services on the Coast. With this evidence in hand, a strong case for a new centre at St Marys can be mounted and is what needs to happen now.

## Annual Irapuna Weekend Shows the Power of Community Action



Photo: Volunteers unite to protect the Irapuna/Bay of Fires coastline.

Our famous Irapuna / Bay of Fires coast got its annual clean up by the Irapuna Community Weekend in August. Over four days and 50km of beach walks 130 volunteers removed 55kg of marine debris and pulled out over 32,000 sea spurge plants, an invasive beach weed. Participants come from all over Tasmania to enjoy this spectacular coastline and care for it together.



Photo: Volunteer helping care for our coastline.

The event has been preventing sea spurge from overrunning the remote coastline from Wukalina / Mt William

National Park to The Gardens for a decade. It is a joint effort organised by the Wildcare Friends of Irapuna Coast group with partners including the PWS, NRM North, Tasmanian Walking Company, Council, Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council, St Helens Walking Group, Friends of Eddystone Point Lighthouse and Ansons Bay Community group. This year NRM North's 'Protecting the Hood' project provided funding for the shuttle buses to make these beach clean-ups possible. The Tebrakunna Rangers joined in and BirdLife Australia made a special visit, highlighting the connections between caring for Country and importance of beach habitats for many bird species. Sea spurge is a seafaring weed with toxic sap. It can cover dunes and coastal flats, ruining the beach for people and beach-nesting birds like the hooded plover, that depend on undisturbed open sandy beaches to raise their families and survive.

## Dog Park Now Open in St Marys



Photo: The new dog park in St Marys – a safe and fun space for your furry friends to play and socialise!

Exciting news for St Marys dog owners — the long-awaited Dog Park is officially open! Located near the new Multi-purpose and Evacuation Centre off Harefield Road, this space gives our four-legged friends the freedom to run,

play, and socialise safely. Doggy doo bags are provided, so please remember to help keep the park clean. Thanks to the St Marys community for your patience — we hope your furry family members enjoy this new addition!

## St Marys Hall Heating Upgrade Underway

We're excited to let you know that works have started at the hall to:

- Remove the existing gas heaters
- Install 8 new ceiling-mounted electric heaters

The works will run intermittently over two weeks, with completion expected by Friday 12 September 2025.

At the same time, we will be exploring the installation of roof-mounted solar panels, with this upgrade planned to roll out in the coming months.

All hall bookings during this period have been notified of the works schedule.

Thank you for your patience as we work to improve comfort at the hall.

## Protect the Endangered Davies' Waxflower



Photo: Davies' Waxflower growing in Quail Street

Threatened Plants Tasmania and NRE Tasmania are looking for volunteers to help plant seedlings of Davies waxflower near St Helens this September. Davies waxflower (*Phebalium daviesii*) is unique to St

Helens, in the wild it is only found near St Helens and its numbers are very few. But just now you can see some in flower in the Quail St. car park opposite the RSL in St Helens.

This hands-on project is a rare opportunity to protect this nationally threatened wildflower from extinction.

Planting dates are 10 & 11 September and 13 & 14 September. To find out about helping with the planting and what you'll need please see NRE's project details at <https://btrr.im/otvn8> and contact Carla at [carla.bruinsma@nre.tas.gov.au](mailto:carla.bruinsma@nre.tas.gov.au)

## Bright Nights Along Georges Bay

The solar lights along the Georges Bay Multi-User Track are now about one-third complete! Locals and visitors are already noticing the difference, enjoying safer walks, rides, and runs after hours. This project wouldn't have

been possible without the support and funding from the Tasmanian State Government and the Local Government Association of Tasmania — thank you for helping light up our community.

## IN BRIEF

### UPDATE: AQUATIC FACILITY REPORT- THE NEXT STEPS

Council has received the draft report for a potential aquatic facility in Break O'Day from consultants Otium.

Before the report is released, Council has requested some additional information to strengthen the study. This includes a closer look at the social and economic benefits of a facility for our community.

Once this extra work is completed, the report will first be provided to the Aquatic Committee for review, and then formally considered by Council. After it has been formally received by Council, the document will be made publicly available and shared with the community.

We understand there is strong interest in this project and thank everyone for their patience.

### COSMIC EGG TIME CAPSULE UPDATE

The time capsule at the base of the Cosmic Egg will not be opened as planned. A small amount of moisture got into the capsule tube, and most of the contents, including photos, letters, and newspaper clippings, were unfortunately damaged despite careful sealing and wrapping.

While the time capsule contents were lost, the Cosmic Egg itself remains intact. Organisers are now planning a new student project for next year - stay tuned.

### BPAY PAYMENTS REMINDER

We have recently received a high number of incorrect payments where the biller code and payment reference number used did not match the notice being paid.

Please remember that BPAY biller codes and payment reference numbers vary depending on what is being paid. Always check your notice or invoice for the correct BPAY information rather than relying on details saved in your internet banking to ensure your payment is correct.

## Swans Secure Spot in 2025 Grand Final



Photo courtesy of Chris Oakenfall: Post-game victory - Swan boys celebrating their win- taking them to the 2025 Grand Final.

The East Coast Swans are through to the 2025 Grand Final after a fantastic 97 to 50 semi-final win over the Perth Magpies, who had gone undefeated all season. The team's performance showed just how strong and skilled they are, setting the stage for an exciting finish to the season.

The semi-final was a tough test, but the Swans' teamwork and smart play paid off. A dominant third quarter, where East Coast kicked seven goals to none, set up the victory and highlighted the team's determination when it mattered the most.

Next up, the winner of the Campbelltown vs. Perth semifinal will face East Coast in what promises to be

a thrilling 2025 Grand Final. The Swans last won a premiership in 2018 and will be aiming to add another memorable chapter to the club's history.

### Grand Final Details

- 2.10pm, Saturday 13 September
- UTAS Stadium, Launceston

If you can't make it to the game, don't worry—the Grand Final will be streamed live at Easy Tiger in St Helens. Fuelled by skill, determination and team spirit, the Swans are set to make a big impact in the Grand Final. After their recent form, supporters have every reason to be excited for what's ahead.

## New Wheels for Local Learner Drivers

Our new learner driver car has arrived – complete with a makeover – and it's looking pretty snazzy! This vehicle is already hitting the road helping local learner drivers get valuable supervised practice.

### Are you a learner driver looking for extra practice behind the wheel?

We now have mentor drivers available every Tuesday to help you work towards your AUTO licence.

Our mentors can:

- Provide supervised driving hours

- Help build your confidence on the road
- Support you to become a safe and independent driver

Contact Jenna on 6376 7900 or [community.services@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:community.services@bodc.tas.gov.au)

### Want to volunteer as a mentor?

Mentoring is a rewarding way to give back to the community, share your driving experience, and help a learner driver gain confidence and independence. Get in touch to find out how you can participate.

## 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.

### Netball Grand Final - Friday 5 September

Come along to cheer on your local teams as they battle it out for the championship. It's sure to be an afternoon full of excitement, skill, and community spirit—perfect for fans of all ages! 4– 9pm at the Bendigo Bank Community Stadium, St Helens.

### East Coast Swans Grand Final - Saturday 13 September

Come along to cheer on the boys at UTAS Stadium, Launceston. Game starting at 2.10pm. If you can't make it to the game, don't worry—the Grand Final will be streamed live at Easy Tiger in St Helens.

### Women's Health Tasmania - 18-19 September

Women's Health Tasmania is coming to the St Helens Child and Family Learning Centre this month to run 3 FREE workshops on a range of women's health topics. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Margie on 6231 3212 or email [margie@womenshealthtas.org.au](mailto:margie@womenshealthtas.org.au)

### Artisan Market, St Helens - Sunday 5 October

Come explore the stalls at the Artisan market at Bendigo Bank Stadium, St Helens 10-4pm. Browse a range of handmade goods, local art, crafts, and delicious treats. It's the perfect day out to support local and discover something new.

### Scouts Trivia Night – Friday 24 October 2025

Join the St Helens Scout Group for a fun night of trivia! St Helens Bowls Club, Circassian St. \$20 per person, teams of up to 8 (or you can be placed in a team), Great prizes! Light supper provided. Drinks available at the bar. 6.30pm sharp. Bookings: Carol Liefing – 0418 135 051 | [carol.liefing@gmail.com](mailto:carol.liefing@gmail.com)

### MEDICARE MENTAL HEALTH

On behalf of the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing: Medicare Mental Health offers FREE mental health and wellbeing support for everyone across Australia  
Visit: [medicarementalhealth.gov.au](http://medicarementalhealth.gov.au)  
Call: 1800 595 212

### 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.

"Never lose a chance of saying  
a kind word"

- William Makepeace Thackeray

## Council Works Reports

- Playground maintenance
- Road verge maintenance St Helens area and Mathinna
- Foreshore solar light project nearing completion

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

Email  
[admin@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@bodc.tas.gov.au)



**Follow Break  
O'Day Council on Facebook**

for the latest news, updates  
and community info!

[www.facebook.com/BreakODayCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/BreakODayCouncil)

**weedSCAN**



Want help identifying weeds and help weed control efforts? WeedsScan 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/](http://www.weedscan.org.au/)

### WEED MANAGEMENT

- **St Helens** - Spanish heath, fleabane, crabgrass
- **Pyengana** – Capeweed, thistles
- **Scamander** - Caper spurge, thistles, Spanish heath, various
- **St Marys**- Spanish heath, gorse

### DOG STATISTICS JULY

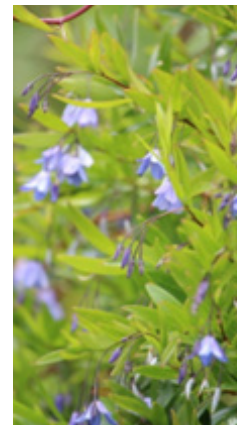
Urban Patrols = 4  
Beach Patrols = 6  
Infringements = 0  
Unregistered Dog = 1  
Impounded Dogs = 2

## Weed of the Month - bluebell creeper

Bluebell creeper (*Billardiera heterophylla*), a West Australian native often planted in gardens but that escapes easily. Bluebell creeper is a climber with twisting and tangled stems, narrow shiny leaves, white or blue flowers followed by hanging berry-like fruits that are spread by birds.

They may look lovely in the garden but they do spread into our native bushlands. Now is a good time to remove bluebell creeper before the problem spreads further. Small plants can be pulled out and larger plants can be dug or cut and painted with herbicide. Be on the lookout for escapees in your neighbourhood.

Our Tasmanian climbing blueberry (*Billardiera longiflora*) with shiny blue fruits might be a good alternative, or something else that will stay in your garden. In the meantime, if you want to keep your bluebell creeper at home please remove all fruit as the flowers finish. For more information visit [www.nre.tas.gov.au/invasivespecies/weeds](http://www.nre.tas.gov.au/invasivespecies/weeds)



## Have Your Say: Trade Strategy 2030

The Tasmanian Government is developing the new Tasmanian Trade Strategy 2030, which will guide how our state connects with the world over the next five years.

A roundtable consultation will be held in St Helens on Thursday, 26 September 2025. This is your chance to share your

views on Tasmania's trade future and help shape the strategy.)

Register online:  
[events.humanitix.com/trade-strategy-2030-consultation-roundtables](https://events.humanitix.com/trade-strategy-2030-consultation-roundtables)

Or scan the QR code



## Expressions of Interest – The Titley Shack

Council is inviting Expressions of Interest for the future use of The Titley Shack at Binalong Bay. Council's vision is to see this iconic coastal site activated in a way that benefits both our community and visitors — whether that's through a welcoming food and beverage offering,

a gallery space showcasing local artists, or other creative ideas. We're open to a range of proposals that respect the coastal environment while adding vibrancy and value to Binalong Bay. Please submit a request for information via [admin@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@bodc.tas.gov.au)

## New Truck Making Recycling Easier in BOD

Council has welcomed a brand-new recycling truck to help keep our community clean and sustainable.

The truck will collect recyclables across the municipality, making waste management more efficient.

