

Next Council Meetings:
17 Nov 2025 and 15 Dec 2025 at 10am in the Council Chambers

From the General Manager - John Brown

A while ago we started a project to look into the feasibility of an Aquatic Facility, the question that was asked was "Is it feasible?" In the next few weeks the Feasibility Analysis into a potential Aquatic Facility in Break O'Day will be made public providing the community with the opportunity to examine the work which has been completed. It has taken more time than we had hoped but we have also broadened out the report further in the closing stages to look at the socio-economic benefits including a Benefit Cost Ratio analysis as well as a detailed examination of the financial implications of a facility if it is proceeded with. We have always known that Aquatic Facilities run at a financial loss and the options that have been examined are no different, they all run at a loss.

It is critically important that community members take the time to read the report when it has been released and provide your feedback through the survey process. There will be a summary document available but I really encourage people to have a good read of the full version report. There is so much valuable information and insight in this report. Throughout the process we have been assisted by a steering committee which included a number of community members bringing a diverse and important range of perspectives to the considerations and direction of the consultants. I would like to express our great appreciation for the work they have done as well as the consultants, OTIUM who have been incredibly patient and professional through the project.

Seniors' Outing Brings Smiles, Laughter and Community Spirit



Photo: A lovely moment of connection as participants savoured tea and treats together.

Our local seniors recently enjoyed a memorable and heartwarming day out on a special bus trip. The journey began with a visit to the beautiful Franklin House, where participants were treated to a delightful Devonshire morning tea, complete with freshly baked scones, jam and cream, enjoyed in the charming historic surroundings. From there, the group continued to Evandale for a relaxing BBQ lunch, where everyone had the chance to

enjoy delicious food, great company and plenty of conversation.

The day was filled with laughter, smiles, shared stories and heartwarming connections.



Photo: Our seniors shared laughter and freshly baked scones around the historic table.



Photo: One of our wonderful helpers enjoys a quiet moment with a warm drink during the outing.

A big thank you goes to the St Helens Neighbourhood House Association Inc. and Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House Inc. for working alongside Council to make this special event possible once again. And thank you to all who participated, reminding us of the invaluable role our seniors play in enriching, nurturing, and inspiring local life.

Scamander River Mouth – Second Community Survey Now Open

Thank you to everyone who joined our recent community workshops about coastal and flood hazards at the Scamander River Mouth. Around 20 locals came along to share their ideas, concerns and local knowledge to help plan how we can adapt to future challenges.

The workshops looked at areas that could be affected by flooding or erosion, including Dune Street, Pelican Sands, the northern estuary (lagoon/backwater), Bridge Esplanade and Upper Scamander Road. Together, participants explored possible actions and solutions for each site.

If you couldn't make it to a workshop, there's still a chance to have your say.

A second online questionnaire is now open for feedback. It asks for your thoughts on the proposed actions for each site, when they might need to happen and what would be required to make them work.

Your feedback will help shape practical and affordable solutions for managing future risks and will guide the creation of an overall Adaptation Pathways Plan for the Scamander River Mouth. Visit www.bodc.tas.gov.au/council/current-works-2/ or scan the QR code to take the survey and for more information about the project.



Aquatic Facility Feasibility Update

We're close to the finalisation of the Feasibility Analysis to develop a new aquatic facility for our community.

We know many people are keen to see progress and we appreciate the community's patience as we've taken the time to do our due diligence. It's important that any future decision is based on the very best possibility to enable careful consideration — this will be a generational investment for our municipality, and we want to make sure we get it right.

In the next few weeks, we'll be releasing

a detailed report, FAQ and short explainer video to help everyone in the community understand the nature and implications of the potential project, the options considered, and the work completed so far as well as costs and benefits.

Once this information is available, we'll also be asking for your feedback through a community survey to help guide Council's next steps.

Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for updates and links when the materials go live.

Garage Sale Trail is Here – Join the Fun

One weekend down and now one to go for the Garage Sale Trail and it's not too late to join the fun! By taking part, we can give unwanted items a second life, reduce waste and even make a little extra money. Last year, sellers made an average of \$519 and an incredible 42% of items were saved from landfill - what a win for our community and the environment!

St Helens Neighbourhood House Men's Shed and Community Garden are celebrating the trail with a garage

sale on Saturday, 15 November, 9-1pm, including a BBQ from 11:30-12:30pm. From tools to trinkets, plants to pre-loved treasures, there's something for everyone and it's a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community.

Be part of the excitement — register your sale or find sales near you at www.garagesaletrail.com.au and help make this year's Garage Sale Trail the biggest and best yet!

"I was taken by the power that savouring a simple cup of coffee can have to connect people and create community."

- Howard Schultz

IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA DAY NOMINATIONS

NOW OPEN!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond in our community?

Nominate them for the 2026 Australia Day Awards!

Citizen of the Year – 27+ years (by 26 Jan 2025)

Young Citizen of the Year – under 27 (by 26 Jan 2025)

Download the form and send it to admin@bodc.tas.gov.au or drop it into Council offices.

Let's celebrate the legends in our community.

A NEW ERA FOR AGED CARE

Australia's aged care system is being renewed to better support older people. The Aged Care Act 2024, coming into effect on 1 November 2025, focuses on your rights, choice, and quality of care. To find clear, reliable information about the reforms, visit agedcarequality.gov.au or My Aged Care at 1800 200 422.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

**EVERY SUNDAY FROM
NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY**

Waste Transfer Stations:

ST HELENS

SCAMANDER

ST MARYS

ANSONS BAY

Scamander-Beaumaris Draft Structure Plan

We're planning today for the towns we want tomorrow. The Draft Structure Plan for Scamander-Beaumaris is open for community feedback from Monday 3 to Sunday 30 November 2025.

Join ERA at a community workshop or pop-up session:

- **Scamander IGA X-press: Wednesday 12 November, 2:00–4:00pm**

- **River Mouth Café: Thursday 13 November, 8:00–10:00am**
- **Community Workshop at Scamander Sports & Community Complex – Wednesday 12 November, 5:30–7:30pm.**

RSVP via the website.

Prefer to have your say online? Visit www.scamander-beaumaris.com to take the survey and learn more.

SCAMANDER-BEAUMARIS Structure Plan

Planning today for the towns we want tomorrow.

www.scamander-beaumaris.com



Understanding Land-Clearing Laws — Protect Our Environment and Community

Council reminds landowners and residents that clearing native vegetation without approval is unlawful under State and local legislation. Tasmania's land-clearing controls protect the natural environment that makes our region special—from forests and coastal scrub to the wildlife that depends on them.

What You Need to Know

Clearing vegetation may require approval under laws such as:

- Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 – planning permits may be required in many zones.
- Forest Practices Act 1985 – a Forest Practices Plan is needed for clearing or converting native vegetation.
- Nature Conservation Act 2002 & Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 – protect threatened vegetation and species habitat.
- Even small-scale clearing can require approval. Contact Council's Development Services team before starting any works if unsure.

Why Native Vegetation Matters

- Scenic and amenity value: Shapes the character of our towns and landscapes.

- Wildlife habitat: Supports Bennett's wallabies, Tasmanian devils, echidnas, and native birds.
- Water and erosion control: Vegetation prevents erosion, improves water quality, and manages floods.
- Climate resilience: Trees and shrubs capture carbon and provide cooling shade.

What You Can Do

- **Check first:** Seek advice or confirm exemptions via Council or the Forest Practices Authority.
- **Retain vegetation:** Design property improvements to work with existing plants.
- **Explore LISTmap:** Learn about threatened flora and fauna on your land.
- **Seek advice early:** Council staff can guide your responsibilities and options.

Protecting Break O'Day's unique natural character ensures sustainable development for future generations.

Contact: Development Services Team on 6376 7900 or email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

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.

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

Ford Aussie Hoops Mondays - (Term 4)

Basketball Australia's official introductory program, Ford Aussie Hoops, offers a fun and inclusive experience for 5–10-year-olds. Participants enjoy skill-based activities and games designed to help them develop before reaching competition age. Bendigo Bank Community Stadium, St Helens. To register visit www.playhq.com/basketball-tasmania/register/b55e41. For more information email sthelensbasketballtas@gmail.com

Garage Sale Trail 8-9 & 15-16 November 2025

Clear out the clutter, pick up bargains and join the fun as the Garage Sale Trail transforms communities into treasure troves of pre-loved finds. To register or check out sales in the area visit www.garagesaletrail.com.au

Spyders Invading St Helens - 14-16 November 2025

The Can-Am Spyder community is coming to St Helens at the Panorama Hotel and Percy Steel Reserve. On Saturday 15 November from 10 am, visit Percy Steel Reserve to vote for the People's Choice Award at the Show and Shine display. Whether you ride a Spyder or just love a local event, come enjoy a weekend of community, camaraderie, and fun!

Mannalargenna Day Saturday, 6 December 2025

Mannalargenna Day is always an amazing event, packed with cultural activities, delicious food, fun activities and plenty of yarns. The event will be held at Little Musselroe Road, Cape Portland 9-5pm. A gold coin donation is appreciated. This is a family-friendly event. For more information email admin@mtwac.org.au

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

- Playground equipment painting and repairs to be undertaken in Pyengana and Scamander.
- Scamander Avenue footpath replacement to commence early November.
- Georges Bay multi user track surface maintenance will commence mid-November.
- Maintenance grading pending for Upper Scamander Road.

Waste tips

- Breakdown cardboard boxes before placing in your recycling bin. This will prevent the contents of your bin jamming and the bin not being fully emptied.
- Batteries should never be disposed of in your general waste or recycling bin. Batteries up to 2kg can be handed to your waste transfer station attendant or placed in battery drop off bins at your local IGA Supermarket.
- A reminder also to remove lithium batteries from vacuum cleaners and appliances before disposing of them.

WEED MANAGEMENT

- **Fingal**- Spanish heath, broom, gorse
- **Stieglitz** – Spanish heath, mignonette
- **Scamander** - Spanish heath
- **Falmouth** - Broom, watsonia, Spanish heath

DOG STATISTICS

SEPTEMBER 2025

Urban Patrols = 4

Beach Patrols = 6

Infringements = 1

Unregistered Dog = 1

Impounded Dogs = 1

Weed of the Month - Kunzea ericoides

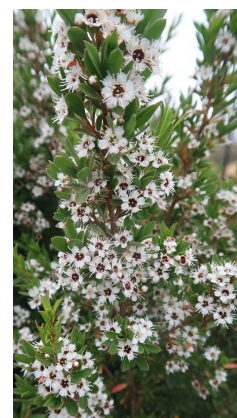
Kunzea ericoides is a popular hardy and easy-care shrub offered by nurseries that is now an increasingly common invasive weed in the municipality and worldwide.

Common names for it include burghan, white tea-tree, and in its native New Zealand 'kanuka'. It can be hard to identify, looking a lot like local native species prickly or manuka tea-tree (Leptospermum scoparium) and a bit like tick-bush (Kunzea ambigua).

Kunzea ericoides has white tea-tree-like flowers and reddish shoots, tip leaves and fruit capsules. A tough natural coloniser of disturbed ground in New Zealand, here it spreads quickly over bare and disturbed ground, along

roadsides and into bushland. Once established it is hard to control with digging, herbicides, slashing and to out compete with alternative cover. Prevention and hygiene are important.

If you have Kunzea ericoides in your garden or neighbourhood be vigilant and stop spread of seed and any seedlings. Find out about Kunzea ericoides and other invasive weeds at nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds



Protect Our Shorebirds This Nesting Season



Photo courtesy of Eric Woehler

As we enjoy the warmer weather, it's also important to remember that shorebird nesting season has now begun across Tasmania. From 1 October, some coastal areas in Break O'Day have dog restrictions in place to help protect these vulnerable birds. Depending on the area, this

may include no dog zones or on-lead requirements. Their eggs are well-camouflaged in shallow scrapes on the sand and their chicks remain flightless for up to a month before they can fly, so please take care when visiting our beaches. You can help protect these species by walking on the wet sand below the high tide mark, keeping your distance from nesting birds, keeping dogs on a lead and away from nesting areas, avoiding driving on nesting beaches, leaving seaweed and beach debris where they are and disposing of rubbish responsibly. For more information about where dog restrictions apply, visit www.bodc.tas.gov.au/property/dogs/.

Feralscan App: Report Rabbits, Deer & Cats

Did you know there's an app and website that lets you report feral animals in your area? FeralScan is a national service that collects information on feral species, including deer, rabbits, and cats, which have been affecting our region. This data is shared with government agencies to help

manage populations more effectively. If people want action, it's important to provide evidence on the map e.g sightings, photos and records of losses such as garden or tree damage, vehicle impacts, or near misses. You can report sightings through the FeralScan app or at www.feralscan.org.au

