

Next Council Meetings:
18 September and 16 October 2023 at 10am in the Council Chambers

From the General Manager - John Brown

Uncertainty about medical services in the Fingal Valley came to a head at a community meeting in St Marys last week. Whether Dr Cyril Latt would continue with his private practice at St Marys and in his role providing care at the St Marys Community Health Centre has been a question for a number of months and we now know that Dr Latt will be finishing later this year. He will be sorely missed by his many patients and staff at the Community Health Centre and the community in general. For over 16 years, Cyril has worked tirelessly looking after us, putting his patients first and working unbelievably long hours and for weeks at a time without a break. The opportunity to have a break and spend time with his family is something that should have always been available to him but his dedication as the local GP came first in many instances. A **HUGE** thankyou to you Cyril, we hope to see you back in our community at some stage in the future when the time is right. You will always be extremely welcome.

The private practice of Dr Latt is his own business and that is something that he will be working on over the next few months. In the interim, the Tasmanian Health Services have entered into an agreement with Ochre Medical to cover the After Hours and Inpatient Care for the Health Centre until things gradually fall into place. It is fair to say that Ross Lamplugh from Ochre Medical received a grilling on service delivery from those in attendance and his thoughtful responses certainly helped to ease fears about what the future might look like and opportunities for additional services to be delivered. The whole situation at the St Marys Community Health Centre and this service delivery is quite complicated and from my close involvement in recent months, it was clear to me and many others close to the situation in the community, that it was not sustainable with the current service delivery arrangements for either Dr Latt or the Tasmanian Health Service.

A Week In The Life Of Council Program



St Marys students with Break O'Day's Erica McKinnell with their certificates of completion.

A Week in the Life of Council has come to an end. Council were fortunate enough to spend some time with seven students from St Marys, showing them the different departments of Council and what we do. We had a blast getting the opportunity to connect with some of the youth of Break O'Day and showing them what job and career opportunities exist in local government.

Each student was asked to create a poster of what they have learnt from their time with us. You can find these on our Facebook page. They were all

very creative and we were impressed with all the knowledge they gained. We are super proud of all your efforts. Well done guys!

One student, Joel Howe decided to write an article on his time at Council so we wanted to share his work with you and have published his article in our newsletter on the next page. We would like to thank the students who participated in the program, St Marys High School and Break O'Day Employment Connect for partnering with Council to make this program a success.

Students Celebrate National Tree Day



St Helens students planting seedlings

Students from the Hands On Learning Group at St Helens District High School planted over 100 native tussock seedlings for National Tree Day at the St Helens Dog Yards. The understory plantings add to the shade, shelter and screening provided by trees and shrubs planted there by students from the school in 2013 for National Tree Day. The Hands On Learning Group designed and planned the revegetation project over several months with Council's NRM Facilitator and Works & Infrastructure Department. They also baked a yummy lunch for everyone for planting day. Thank you for all your efforts!

THEY DO MORE THAN SMOKO ON THE ROAD!!

By Joel Howe

DAY ONE: The first day we first went to the Council chambers and learnt everything about the risk management triangle of staff. Once we finished with that part of the day, we drove up to the trail head at Flagstaff and went walking on some of the trails, learning about what it takes to make and keep the trails running. Once we got back, we had lunch and then Rowan showed us what he and his team use to maintain the trails to keep them usable for people to enjoy.

DAY TWO: We first learnt about the Council's communications team and everything they do to promote projects, events, and even lost dogs. We then got the run down on what the key parts of getting people to interact with social media posts, articles, etc.... Once that was finished, we went for a short walk over to the Visitor Information Centre (VIC). We copped a big talk about what the VIC helps people with and why they do it. Once we did that, we moved into the history room and learnt a lot about Tasmanian history. We also watched the Tin Dragon film. We then moved to the other side of the history room and learnt a little bit about mining history in Tasmania.

DAY THREE: On the third day, we never left St Marys. First destination was the St Mary's Waste Transfer Station (tip) learning heaps about recycling and how to save the world bit by bit. We then drove up to the cemetery and we planted some trees for the new project for the cemetery. We then headed down to the St Mary's skate park and got shown what it takes to get something like that started and then finished. Once we had finished at the skate park, we all headed into St Mary's main road to plant a Mongolia

tree for the 70th anniversary of the Queen on the throne. Once we did that, we drove over to the St Mary's Depot where we learnt a lot about what the civil construction team does, what roads they work on, all the stuff they do, and how they get it all done.

DAY FOUR: Today was one of the more chilled out days. First thing we went for a walk down through Beauty Bay to look at the sculpture and learn how it all happened and what it took for it to get there and to get made. Once we have had some food, we had someone from Break O' Day Employment Connect come into the chambers with us and tell us about all the jobs available to people our age and the best ways to get into those jobs and how to figure out if the job is for you or not. We also had someone come in and teach us some facts about the community with a quiz. We also learnt a lot about the boundaries of the Council and important parts of our community. That was it for the day moving on.

DAY FIVE: Rolled up to the Council today just waiting for burgers pretty much. But other than that, just finishing the week off with presenting the posters we all have made. But I did enjoy learning all the stuff about the Council and what they do. Before this week, I thought all the Council did was fill potholes, approve house plans really slowly, or just sit on the side of the road on SMOKO! But they do a whole lot more than that. If you don't know what they do, it's obvious why people get annoyed, but once you figure out what they do, you have a lot more understanding for the Council.

IN BRIEF

Tasmanian Community Landcare Conference 2023 Busary tickets

Council is looking to sponsor community volunteers to attend the Tasmanian Community Landcare Conference at Triabunna on 13 to 15 October. We want to support the contribution our community volunteers make and support the shared responsibility of looking after our natural environment in Break O' Day. Our aim is to encourage residents whose environmental volunteering activity is new, novel or just developing in our community to take the opportunity to gain Landcare knowledge, experience and contacts from around the state.

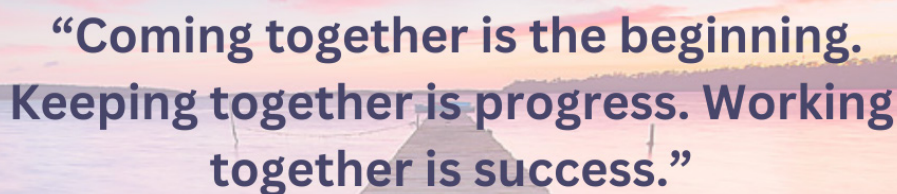
If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please visit www.landcaretas.org.au/conference2023

Council and Landcare Tasmania will inform successful applicants once selected.

Tickets cover Conference attendance.

New Office Hours

We have started trialling new reception hours for over the counter customer service starting on Monday 21 August. This change is both a reflection of when customers visit us as well as providing all staff, customer service staff in particular, with flexibility to be able to participate in other Council activities such as staff meetings as well as training and development activities. The new hours for over the counter customer service will be from 9:30am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday. Please note that you will still be able to phone us between 9am and 5pm and you are also welcome to call and make appointments during these hours.



**“Coming together is the beginning.
Keeping together is progress. Working
together is success.”**

- Henry Ford

Caring for Our Beach-nesting Birds

The start of September means our precious hooded plover and other shorebirds are starting to nest on our beaches to raise their families and survive as a species. It also means it is time for us all to think about what we can do to help shorebirds have a successful breeding season.



Photo courtesy of Eric Woehler

Next time you head to the beach you will notice some new signage that highlights the bird breeding season. There are some really easy things you can do to make sure you are giving

shorebirds the best chance of survival.

- **Walk on the wet sand** – birds generally nest on the dry sand on the ground so walking on the wet sand means you are avoiding nesting sites.
- **Obey the Dog Zones** – the dog zones have been developed to provide a balance between us and the environment – this includes bird breeding season and you may notice that as of 1 September some zones will change from dogs prohibited to no dogs at all.

Failure to comply with the zoning can result in a significant fine. Dog zones can be checked using this QR code.



Irapuna Community Weekend Big Beach Walks



Volunteers removing sea spurge

Approximately 46,000 invasive sea spurge plants were removed from 50km of the Irapuna coastline during this year's Irapuna Community Weekend in August. The 120 walkers taking part in the five walks over the four days of the event also removed 51kg of marine debris from beaches between Stumpys Bay in Wukalina/Mt William National Park, past Eddystone Point and all the way to The Gardens.

We'd like to send a big thank you to all the participants for their efforts to stop sea spurge taking over our coast

and cleaning up the marine litter on the beaches. We're proud to be a supporter of this annual event with Friends of Irapuna Coast Wildcare Group, Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, Aboriginal Land Council Tasmania, Tasmanian Walking Company, NRM North, Life's an Adventure, Friends of Eddystone Point Lighthouse and Ansons Bay Progress & Planning Association. This year, Irapuna Community Weekend was part of National Science Week 2023 and received a grant from Inspiring Tasmania for free bus transport by Calows Coaches.



Volunteers removing marine waste

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.

Asthma Smart At Home Online Workshop -14 September

Join Asthma Australia for a FREE online session from 12-12.30pm to learn about signs and symptoms, triggers, action plans and asthma first aid. FREE asthma toolkit posted out to anyone who attends.

To book visit: www.eventbrite.com.au/o/families-tasmania-13786015288

A Festival Called George - 6, 7 and 8 October

The festival is back for another year of celebrating craft beer. Something for everyone - Fine craft beer, family picnic day in the park, live entertainment, great food and more. The festival will be held on St Helens Foreshore. Tickets on sale now at www.eventbrite.com.au or for more information visit their Facebook Page.

Launceston Community Legal Centre - 9 October

FREE legal advice from a visiting lawyer will be available at St Helens Neighbourhood House. For more information or to book an appointment please call 6334 1577 or 1800 066 019.

Festival Of Wellbeing - 14 October

A wellbeing day in Break O' Day at Bendigo Bank Community Stadium. Bringing our community together to share the good stuff and create more of it together. The day will include workshops, goodie bags, market, food, demonstrations and more. Free bus from Fingal available. FREE ENTRY.

Break O' Day Senior's Week - 17 October

Break O' Day Council along with St Helens and Fingal Valley Neighbourhood Houses invite all seniors to take part in a FREE bus trip around our area with lunch provided. Please call or email Council to reserve your seat on 6376 7900 or admin@bodc.tas.gov.au. Booking are essential.

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

- Work has commenced on the Grant Street Falmouth footpath.
- Grading underway on North Ansons and Ansons Bay Roads.
- Grading completed in Seymour.
- Resheeting of Champ and Macquarie Street in Seymour completed.
- Memorial wall at St Marys Cemetery nearing completion.
- Stage 1 of Cecilia Street South streetscape project has been completed.

COMING SOON BODC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BY-LAW

The by-law shall cover the following areas: Refuse Disposal Sites, Household Refuse Disposal, Animal Control, Caravans and Control of Burning.

Keep an eye out on our socials and website for more information, including how you can make a submission to amend the proposed by-law.

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

Email
admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

WEED MANAGEMENT

Scamander WTS - Caper spurge, thistles, pampas grass, mullein, butterfly bush, Spanish heath, various

Binalong Bay - Thistles, capeweed, bridal creeper

St Helens - Thistles, broadleaf, blackberry, various

Fingal - Broadleaf

St Marys - Spanish heath, gorse, broadleaf

DOG STATISTICS 8/06/2023 - 5/07/2023

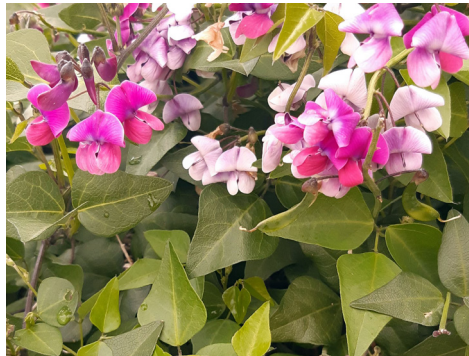
Urban Patrols = 6
Beach Patrols = 17
Infringements = 4
Unregistered Dog = 0
Impounded dogs = 4

Weed of the month - Cape sweet pea

Dolichos pea (*Dipogon lignosus*) is one of many scrabbling and climbing environmental weeds that creep out of backyards and strangle our bushland reserves.

It's attractive white to purple flowers and vigorous growth make it an easy-care garden plant, until it gets out of hand. Dolichos pea spreads when its hardy black seeds are spread. Other climbers that creep out of backyards, such as blue periwinkle (*Vincia major*) and Cape Marguerite daisy (*Dimorphotheca ecklonis*) can take root from stem pieces. Ivy groundsel (*Delairea odorata*) has wind-blown seed, while birds eat the berries and seed of English ivy (which also takes root from stems). Keep your pet plants

at home. Don't let them creep over the fence or produce seed and stray. If they have strayed into your yard get rid of them. And when cutting them back, don't lazily dump your garden waste in bushland. Dispose of it responsibly – better still, compost the prunings safely at home and turn them into something useful rather than harmful.





FESTIVAL of WELLBEING

A Wellbeing Day in Break O'Day

FREE EVENT

Sat 14 Oct
11 am - 4 pm
ST HELENS
Bendigo Bank COMMUNITY STADIUM

www.wellbeingaction.org

IT'S FOR EVERYONE



Drought Ready Tasmania

Northern Region Drought Planning Information Session

Join the conversation and hear about the Tasmania's northern region's drought risk and resilience study and meet the region's drought resilience planning coordinator.

Where: Online

When: Wednesday 27 September 10:30am

Register at the 'What's On' section of www.droughtready.tas.gov.au





Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Future Drought Fund



Tasmanian Government

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program is jointly funded through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and the Tasmanian Government.