

**Next Council Meetings:  
18 January - 15 February at 10am**



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**COUNCIL OFFICE  
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY  
OPEN HOURS:**

**We will be closed from 5pm  
23 December and reopening  
at 9am on 4 January**



Mayor Mick Tucker with Council's Mental Health and Wellbeing Coordinator and General Manager John Brown

**Community Wellbeing project funded**

Break O'Day Council has received a grant for \$375,000 from the Tasmanian Community Fund that will allow us to launch a three year Community Wellbeing project.

The project aims to equip the community with skills and resources to improve their own health and wellbeing as well as empower others. The project will be largely driven by the community and includes access to a wellbeing certificate through the Wellbeing Lab. This certificate will give participants wellbeing knowledge, skills and resources that they can then share with other community groups and members they are involved with. Developed as a pilot project, Break O'Day Mayor, Mick Tucker said he hopes that the project will be replicated by other Councils and groups around the State in years to come.

"Good wellbeing is so important to people's overall health and this year that has become more apparent than ever with the pandemic,"

"We really hope that other Councils and organisations will see the benefits of our project and consider adapting it

to their areas and communities."

It is anticipated that after three years the project will have touched approximately 15% of the Break O'Day Community and make a significant impact on individuals levels of resilience.

Break O'Day Council has partnered with the University of Tasmania and will be measured using the PERMAH Community Scale (Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, Accomplishment, Health). Once the project is completed, a final report will be made public.

"We are really excited to be able to offer this project to our community and in my view the real strength of this initiative is that it will be driven by the community for the community." Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"We also thank the Tasmanian Community Fund for not just the funding but for understanding our wellbeing vision."

More information about the project can be found on the Break O'Day Council website under My Community / Wellbeing Project.



## Christmas message from the Mayor

consider what was important to us. I am sure I am not alone in saying that being disconnected from family and friends made me realise how much we can take them for granted and just how important they are to us.

I have two daughters, one of them is based in Canada, and it was hard for us all not knowing when we may be able to see her in person again – of course we stayed connected through social media and phone but as you would all know, it is not the same when you know you can't just jump on a plane and go visit!

This year has made me treasure even more those that are close to me, friends and family and even just the familiar faces I see every day in the street. I really hope that it doesn't take another COVID style event for us all to appreciate our loved ones and what's important to us.

The holidays can be a hard time for

many people and I would like to ask the community to really look out for each other over the break. Simple acts of kindness don't just help the person you are being kind to, it can also make you feel pretty good too!

I would also like to urge you all to really look after your loved ones, every year we see the road toll go up over the holiday period and marine rescue is also kept pretty busy so please, drive to survive – don't let mates drive if they have been drinking, don't speed and stop for a break if you are tired. If you plan on hitting the water, make sure you have a life vest, flares and have let someone know where you are going and when you will be back.

In closing, I would like to wish you all on behalf of Break O'Day Council a safe and a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year and remember to treasure those close to you.

**MICK TUCKER**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

This year has certainly been a challenging one but I have been really proud of our community which, has not only shown great resilience but as usual has banded together to show true community spirit.

If we can take anything positive away from this year, it's personal reflection. If nothing else, 2020 provided the opportunity for us all to pause and



## End of year message from the General Manager - John Brown

waste collection service, we now get compliments about the service!!

- St Helens MTB Project has now finished construction and is fully operational
- Old Tasmania Hotel restoration of the top floor was completed at a cost of over \$900k once the lift is installed shortly. This project goes back to the 1980's
- Flood mitigation works at St Marys to address the ongoing risk of flooding to houses and some businesses.
- Missing link in the Georges Bay Foreshore multi-user Track was completed, something going back nearly 30 years.
- Huge program of infrastructure upgrades throughout the entire Break O'Day area.
- Break O'Day Employment Connect project starting to assist in

addressing employment barriers and getting people into work

- St Helens being Tassie's Top Tourist Town
- Margaret Williams, our wonderful CEO at Medea Park being named Telstra Business Woman of the Year. (Margaret has just announced her retirement and is going to be sorely missed)

So after that bit of reflection, I would like to say thank you to the amazing and dedicated team at BODC. They strive their hardest to work for the community and are really dedicated to what we need to achieve. In closing I hope that you all have a wonderful and safe festive season with your family, friends and acquaintances. If you get the chance show an act of random kindness and make someone's day and Christmas special. **JOHN BROWN.**

What a year!!! Eight months ago we were ready to call 2020 a 'write off' and bring on 2021 because we hoped that would leave Covid behind.... We lived in hope and whilst things are better than where we were earlier this year we are still very much in the grips of being careful. Setting that aside, 2020 has been a huge year here with your local Council and in the community we love so I thought I would touch on some of the major achievements in Break O'Day:

- Yes, we survived Covid and kept delivering services and support to the community, particularly some sections of our business community who were hit with an earthquake.
- BODC took back the household

## Recycling - we still have a long way to go

Unfortunately it seems some residents are still struggling with what can and can't be recycled. We can't express strongly enough how important it is that you don't put items that cannot be recycled in your recycle bin – if you do, it can contaminate the whole load which means the load has to go to landfill. This undermines all the hard work that others in the community have done to separate their recyclables.

Recently the Northern Tasmania Waste Management Group (NTWVG) undertook bin audits in our area. This means that two officers, one from NTWVG and one from Council have a look inside your recycle bin and rate your bin as either green-pass, orange-could be improved and red-fail.

The auditors looked at 105 bins and failed 19. The most common contaminates were:

- Plastic bags – soft plastics like plastic bags cannot be recycled at the JJ Richards recycling facility. This includes putting your recyclables in a plastic bag – please just place them in loose.
- Materials/clothing – curtains, old

clothing etc CANNOT be recycled. Please take them to one of the local op-shops or place them in general waste.

- Wire and household items – things such as a toilet cistern, bbq tongs, garden hoses, speakers and wood were all found in recycle bins – these items cannot be recycled but some may be taken by the tip shop so they can be reused.
- Bubble wrap, polystyrene (including meat trays) and postal bags – Cannot be recycled and need to go in the general waste
- Coffee cups/long life milk cartons – These items have a wax or foil lining and therefore cannot be recycled and need to go in the general waste.

If you are unsure you can head to our website, under My Property / Waste where you can find fact sheets as well as a link to the Recycle Coach App which can be used to remind you of collections as well as identify which items can and cannot be recycled.

**Download Break O'Day's FREE Waste & Recycling App for custom collection reminders!**

**recyclecoach™**

Available on the App Store and Google Play.

## On at the St Helens History Room Museum Matters ..... This is YOUR history

Reid Collection – Currently on show An interesting array of objects from the Reid family – original settlers of St Helens

**The St Helens History Room will be closed Christmas Day only.**

**Normal open hours are:  
Mon – Fri 9 am – 4pm  
Sat/Sun 9 am – 3.30 pm**



## WHATS ON

### St Helens Shark Fishing Comp 9 January

The Tamar Marine St Helens Shark Competition is happening early in 2021. Saturday 9 January is the date so don't miss out on this great competition sponsored by Tamar Marine. Closing date for entries is Monday 4 January 2021.

### Dragon Boating 23 January

The Georges Bay Dragon Boat Club has invited all Tasmanian Dragon Boat clubs for a day of paddling at Kirwans Beach. All are invited along to watch or even try their hand at paddling for \$5.

### St Helens Volunteer Fire Brigade - Lolly Run

**24 December**  
With Special guest - Santa! This event will be open to the public from 3pm-5pm. Due to COVID this event will be a little different this year so please make sure you get all the details via their Facebook page.

### Australia Day 26 January

Council will be holding an Australia Day award ceremony on Tuesday 26 January, 2021 from 10 am at the Portland Hall. Due to COVID and the number allowed to attend, RSVP's are required for those wishing to attend - Please RSVP to community.services@bodc.tas.gov.au

### Discovery Ranger program 29 December – January 7

Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania will be running their Discovery Ranger program over the summer holidays. There is a range of educational and fun activities suitable for all ages happening across the municipality from Policemans Point to the Bay of Fires. You can find their schedule of events on their website, [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au).

### Break O'Day Triathlon 21 February

This event will cater for all ages from 7 to 97 years of age, from novice to experienced athletes with a variety of distances for individuals and teams. For more information head to the Break O'Day Tri-Challenge Facebook page.

### St Helens Markets

**Every Saturday from 9am - 1pm**  
Drop by the St Helens Markets in the Portland Hall and bag yourself a locally crafted gift or some fresh produce.

**Do you have a community event or activity you would like us to promote?  
Please email  
[erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au)**

## Capital Works Projects - Dec/Jan

### COMPLETED

- New stormwater main at Cornwall completed.
- New asphalt footpath in High Street, Mathinna will be completed by Christmas.
- Mathinna Cemetery – slab laid for centre of remembrance garden which will house a new ashes wall – work ongoing in January.

### PROGRAMMED WORKS - JANUARY

- Grass management,
- Weed management
- Minor road maintenance
- Continuing work at the Mathinna Cemetery - slab laid for centre of remembrance garden which will house a new ashes wall



Above: Cornwall Stormwater works  
Below Mathinna cemetery works



## Weed of the month - ?



The weed you don't know you have is arguably more important to control than those you do have and know. Prevention, and quick action to eradicate new weed incursions is far more cost effective than the years of costly control to contain and eradicate weeds. The key steps to stopping weed incursions is to be on the lookout for unusual plants and remove them if they are weeds, the other thing you

can do is practice good hygiene and biosecurity to prevent them getting here in the first place.

There are two important things you can do to control weeds.

1. Detection. Identify weeds and take steps to stop them spreading. You can find information on various weeds here: <https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds/weeds-index>
2. Be careful to not let new weeds arrive. You can prevent the introduction of new weeds as well as the spread by taking some simple biosecurity measures such as insisting on 'hygiene' practices with machinery, people and materials, like gravel, mulch and fodder which you are bringing on to your property.

## Waste tips - Batteries causing truck Fires

Did you know that if you put batteries in your waste bin they can start a fire inside the garbage truck?

Batteries cannot be recycled and due to the danger of truck fires should be disposed of appropriately.

We have a battery collection bucket for small batteries in the main foyer of the office and the St Helens, Scamander, St Marys, Fingal and Ansons Bay Waste Transfer Station can take batteries including car batteries.

## Australia Day Award Nominations are now open!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond for our community? Why not nominate them for one of our Australia Day Awards?

### Eligibility:

Citizen of the Year:

To be eligible, the person must be 27 years or older on or before the 26th January 2021.

Young Citizen of the Year:

To be eligible, the person must be under 27 years of age on or before the 26th January 2021.

To nominate someone please download the form from our website My Community / News and either drop it in to Council at 32-34 Georges Bay Esplanade, St Helens or email it to [erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au).

## Community Funding Program is now open!

The Community Funding Program provides grants to communities to improve facilities/programs in their township or to improve the overall amenity of their town. All community groups that represent the ratepayers of their community are eligible to apply for funding.

Projects that will be considered for funding but not necessarily restricted to:

- Beautification projects
- Projects to improve or construct recreation facilities
- Projects that will improve the amenity of the township/community

For more information or to apply for funding, please download the form from our website under My Community/ News return it by either dropping it into the main office at 32-34 Georges Bay Esplanade, St Helens, or email [erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:erica.mckinnell@bodc.tas.gov.au)