

Next Council Meetings:
15 March and 19 April at 10am at the Council Chambers, St Helens

From General Manager - John Brown

Break O'Day residents, we have a BIG problem – Our recycling contamination rates are ridiculously high and well over the acceptable limit.

Back in 2018 Break O'Day as a community welcomed the introduction of a household recycling service. This was a giant step which involved educating our community about what was recyclable. We sent out pamphlets, we ran education campaigns in our newsletter and social media, went on the local radio, put adverts in the Break O'Day directory and developed a Waste page on our website which features the Recycle Coach App which we have also heavily promoted. This App not only informs you what can and can't be recycled but also reminds you when your collections are. Moving on a couple of years and we should be old hands at this but sadly that is not the case. The simple facts are, that high contamination rates don't just cost the environment, they cost money. This means it is actually more cost effective for Council to recycle than dump waste in landfill. However when there are high contamination rates in the trucks, the contractors have no choice but to dump the whole load to land fill – this means that our individual efforts at recycling are ruined by those who in our community who are not doing the right thing. This means that Council will now be taking a hardline approach; we will be instructing our contractor to advise us of the recycling bins that are consistently doing the wrong thing. We will then be in touch with those households to remedy the situation, if this doesn't happen then we will STOP collecting the bins.

In terms of common mistakes residents are making, the most common issue is grass clippings and green waste. Both these items belong in a home compost heap or bring it to one of the waste transfer stations where we will turn it in to mulch. If you are genuinely unsure about what can go in your recycle bin you can find information under My Property / Waste including the Recycle Coach App which we encourage all in our community to download.



Dragon Trail - It's time to get excited!

We are counting down the days until the St Helens MTB Trails will host our first event, The Dragon Trail.

It is set to be a big couple of days with more than 300 competitors ready to roll into St Helens over March 19 – 20. The event's first day, Thursday 18 March, will be in Derby where competitors will ride from Bransholme to Woldborough. The next day, 19 March competitors will ride from Woldborough to Swimcart Beach via the Bay of Fires Trail. The final day, 20 March, will be on the St Helens MTB network where riders will tackle the Dreaming Pools.

It is a massive undertaking for event organisers, Louise and Craig from Geocentric Outdoors and we would like to congratulate them on the immense amount of work they have done to bring this event to our town. For a start, the event features a moving head quarters which will be relocated each day to accommodate competitors, this includes bright red yurts and glamping bell tents that will be packed up and moved from Bransholme to Woldborough to St Helens.

The headquarters for St Helens will be located at the St Helens Recreation area and includes the Bendigo Bank

Community Stadium so we ask that the public keep away from this area as it will be fenced off. User groups have been made aware of this and are very supportive of the event.

We will also be closing some of the trails to accommodate the event as listed below:

- Bay of Fires Trail – from midnight Thursday 18 to 2pm Friday 19 March
- The Entire St Helens Network (ALL TRAILS) from 8:30am to 3:30pm Saturday 20 March
- Townlink Trail will be closed from 8:30am to 5:30pm Saturday 20 March
- The Flagstaff Road and the Trailhead carpark as well as Loila Tier will be closed to the general public – 8:30am to 3:30pm Saturday 20 March

While the Trailhead will be closed for parking, the public are invited to come to the trailhead to spectate and there will be beer, food and activities for all to enjoy.

To get to the trailhead on Saturday you will have to jump on one of Gravity Isles' roaming shuttles, see their Facebook page for more information.

Domestic Violence is NEVER okay

Did you know that almost 1 in 20 Tasmanian women have experienced violence? Or that 17% of Tasmanian women have experienced sexual harassment? Even more worrying than these stats is that on average in Australia, one woman is killed every week by a current or former partner. This is not good enough and we all must do more.

Break O'Day Council will not tolerate domestic violence in our community. Domestic violence is defined by the Australian Government as including: behaviour or threats that aim to control a partner by causing fear or threatening their safety. Domestic and family violence can include:

- hitting;
- choking;
- denying essential money to the partner or family;
- isolating the partner from friends and family;

- insulting or constantly criticising the partner;
- forcing the partner to have sex; and
- threatening children or pets.

If you or someone you know is affected by domestic violence, they are not alone and there are a range of support services available to help. You can find information and links to support services at www.staysafefromviolence.tas.gov.au. We have also included some quick link phone numbers below.

- If you are in immediate danger, Call the Police on 000

Support services include:

- Safe at Home Family Violence Response – 1800 633 937
- 1800RESPECT (1800 737 732)
- Men's Referral service to counsel men who use family violence – 1300 766 491
- LifeLine: 131114
- Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800

IN BRIEF

Old Scamander Bridge Removal

The State Government will start the process of removing the Old Scamander Bridge which is planned for late March. The first stage of work is to upgrade the pedestrian access on the new bridge. This will involve closing one lane and reduced speed limits for a temporary period of time.

Once this is completed, the demolition of the Old Bridge will start, this is anticipated to start at the end of March. Council has received some FAQs from the Department of State Growth which you can find on our website under My Community / News.

Interim Planning Scheme Directive

If you are looking to lodge a development application, please be aware that the Minister for Planning has issued an Interim Planning Directive No:4 (IPD4) which came into effect on 22 February 2021.

This means that changes have been made to the Break O'Day Interim Planning Scheme as dictated by the Tasmanian Planning Commission – these changes aim to align the Interim Scheme with the new Statewide Planning Provisions prior to adopting the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

So if you are lodging a development application on or after 22 February, your application will be assessed under the amended Interim Planning Scheme. You can find the amended version on our website under My Property/Planning

Some of the changes relate to:

- Exemptions;
- Application Requirements;
- Special Provisions;
- General Residential Zone;

Please don't hesitate to contact our Development Services team on 6376 7900 or via admin@bodc.tas.gov.au if you have any inquiries.

You can also find a link to more information on IPD4 under Planning on our website.



Pictured above: Short course dual crossing the finish line. Diving into the days action

Break O'Day Tri-Challenge a great success

On 21 February the 4th Annual Break O'Day Tri-challenge took place in St Helens.

This year there were 105 participants registered across three event categories; the Long Course, Short Course and the Junior event which had 35 participants.

Each event included a Georges Bay swim leg, cycle leg out along Binalong Bay Road and a run leg on the new Georges Bay Multi-User track.

The short course included:

- 400 m swim
- 16 km ride
- 3km run

The Long course included:

- 900 m swim
- 25km ride

• 6km run
Junior Triathlon included:

- 100m swim,
- 3k ride
- 1k run

The event ended with an awards ceremony on the deck of Panorama St Helens where 70 prizes were awarded, all kindly donated by sponsors.

Council would like to congratulate all the participants, the 47 volunteers without whom the event would not have been possible, and most importantly the committee for putting on such a great event!

You can find a full list of winners on the Break O'Day Tri-Challenge Facebook page.

Positive start to our Wellbeing project

Last month we held the first Community Wellbeing Conversations which have been funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund. The first meeting was held in St Helens with more than 20 community members attending. It was wonderful to see so many people come together who genuinely want to make our community a better place.

The purpose of these conversations is to connect with like minded community members, learn a little about wellbeing and the Wellbeing Project as well as share their hopes for our wider community.

The Conversations will be fun, interactive, inspired to make a difference and have you walking away feeling positive about our community. Community Wellbeing Conversations are happening over the next two weeks at venues all over our municipality to give everyone a chance to connect with the project. If you're keen to get involved and share your thoughts and ideas on building a better community, please join our Break O'Day Community Wellbeing Project Facebook page or get in touch with Jodie at jodie.cooper@bodc.tas.gov.au



Pictured above: participants at one of the St Helens Wellbeing Workshops

Survey - How are our businesses going?

Did you know that Council sends out a business survey twice a year? - one just after summer in March and one in September just after Winter.

These surveys ask businesses to tell us how their summer/winter season has gone. This information is then collated and compared year on year. By doing this Council and the business community are able to understand:

- Where visitors are coming from
- How long they are staying for
- How many new positions jobs have been created
- How businesses are faring in a general sense, and more

This information is really useful to us as it helps inform; how best we can support the business community, what infrastructure may be needed, opportunities for development as well as helping us develop funding

applications.

Due to the way the surveys are constructed, we can produce individualised reports for participating businesses so they can compare their own data. This can be helpful in business planning.

The last survey which, compares the 2019 winter period with the 2020 winter period, has now been collated and is available to view on our website under My Community/ Community Consultation. The next survey which, will examine trends for the 2021 Summer period will be sent out in the first week of March.

The link to the survey is sent out to our business community email database, if your business is not on this list and you would like to be involved, please email jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au

WHATS ON

St Helens Game Fishing Comp

5-7 March

This year's event will again be an enjoyable one for the whole family with much happening in the St Helens Area over the March long weekend.

Clean Up Australia Day

7 March

In support of this event, Council will offer FREE waste disposal to registered groups. All you have to do is send a screenshot of your group's registration to admin@bodc.tas.gov.au and we will supply you with a letter to show tip attendants. Let's keep Break O'Day Beautiful!

International Women's Day

9 March

"A challenged world is an alert world and from challenge comes change. So let's all choose to challenge. How will you help forge a gender equal world? Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take action for equality."

Ten Days on the Island

12-14 March

Portland Memorial Hall will be transformed into a portal blending present and past through this live multimedia event. Van Diemen's Fiddles are three of lutruwita/ Tasmania's finest musicians – Julia Fredersdorff, Emily Sheppard and Rachel Meyers. They will make music inspired by dances, stories, people and the land, alongside electronics and visuals from Mac40Media's Caleb Miller. This world premiere has been curated in response to the communities of St Helens and its surrounds

Dragon Trail

18-20 March

On each of the three unique days of racing, riders will experience the joys of sensational flowing single track, purpose-built by trail gurus World Trail, through some of the most remarkable landscapes in Tasmania.

International Women's Day Luncheon

19 March

Hosted by Parkside Bar and Kitchen the lunch is \$50 per head and features two courses and Guest speaker Katie Flanagan, Head of Infectious Diseases LGH.

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.

Capital Works

Upcoming Works:

- Road Sealing Municipal wide including: Scamander, St Helens, Fingal, Mangana and Mathinna-
- Kirwans Beach shared use pathway reconstruction - Either side of the new bridge.
- Foreshore footpath works - St Helens Foreshore, work to extend the multi-user track pathway from outside the Wharf toilet block to Circassian Street, St Helens.
- Cobrooga Drive, St Helens. Footpath works.
- Mathinna Plains Road, Mathinna - Drainage work between Weises and Eton/Sandhurst Streets. This road will be closed to complete works from 7:30am - 5pm from March 1 to 5.
- St Columba Falls Bridge replacement has been programmed for start on the 24 March. The aim is to have these works completed and the road reopened by Easter- weather dependent
- Ansons Bay Road, Priory. Reconstruction of some areas and pavement rehabilitation. Section affected is from the last sealed section to the first bridge on the gravel section. Work is expected to take approx. 3 weeks.

***NOTE: Works are subject to favourable weather conditions. Please look out for workers and signage.**

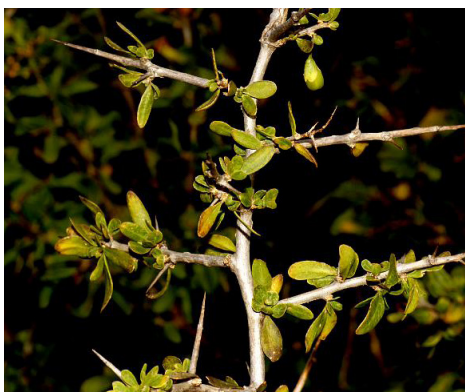
MULCH \$20M³

Double mulched green waste suitable for garden use available from the St Helens Waste Transfer Station.

Bring your ute or trailer and we will load it for you.

**AVAILABLE BETWEEN
10AM AND 2PM
WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY**

Weed of the month - African Boxthorn



African boxthorn is a declared weed in Tasmania and is a Weed of National Significance due to its invasiveness, potential to spread and effects on environmental value. It is a woody shrub that has white flowers and bright orange-red berries when ripe. African

boxthorn also has very large spikes, making them hazardous, displaces native vegetation and provides habitat to pests i.e. rabbits. They also have an extensive root system that makes manual removal difficult.

African boxthorn is found in numerous areas in the Break O'Day area and if you have it on your property it can be removed by digging it out if small or cutting it at the base and applying herbicide (being careful of the spikes). Large plants can also be removed using machinery.

For further information please visit www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Doggy Doo doos and Don'ts

We all love our fur babies, but are you a Responsible Dog Owner?

If you own a dog you are expected to adhere to the rules that come with pet ownership.

Aside from the legal requirements of registering and micro-chipping your dog, it is also important that you are doing the right thing while out in public.

Two areas we frequently get complaints about are; dogs not being on a lead and people not picking up after their dog.

There are several areas in the Break O'Day area where it is acceptable to have your dog off-lead but generally if

you are in public you should have your dog on a lead, particularly if your dog is aggressive with other dogs or people. (You can find dog zone maps on our website under My Property / Dogs)

Cleaning up after your dog is a necessity. As a responsible dog owner you are expected to have doggy bags with you (some areas they are supplied) and immediately pick up after your dog, especially in shared use areas. No one wants to step in your dog's doo doo!

If you have any questions we have some FAQs on our website.

