

**Next Council Meetings:
18 March at 10am and 15 April**

From the General Manager John Brown

Old St Helens Hospital

The Council and the local community are keen to see what the future holds in relation to the old St Helens Hospital. With the new hospital in the final stages of preparations for an opening in the next few months, the future of the old hospital is something which needs to be decided. For several months Council Officers have been making it clear to the Department of Health and Human Services that the community and Council would like community consultation to occur and we had a tentative timeframe in place with DHHS. Then a couple of weeks ago we were advised by DHHS that the future of the old hospital would be dealt with by the Department of Communities Tasmania. This was quite frustrating given the work which had gone into working with DHHS. Subsequently we have met with Communities Tasmania to discuss the community consultation process and it is good to be able to advise that this is now back on track and will occur over the next couple of months. A concern that we had was that the old hospital would be neglected once the new hospital became operational but we have been reassured by both departments that arrangements are in place for a caretaker and maintenance to occur.



The Memorial park decked out in festoon lighting for the Australia Day Eve Twilight Market.

Australia Day Eve Twilight Market Good tunes, great food and Aussie legends

This year our Australia Day celebrations were a bit different and saw us hosting a twilight market at the Portland Hall on Australia Day eve.

The celebration included local artisan stalls, live music from The Pretty Things, food and beverages as well as the annual Australia Day Award ceremony.

Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker said one of his favourite duties as Mayor was giving out the Australia Day awards.

"As a small, regional community we rely heavily on our community members to volunteer and generally step up to support the rest of the community.

"This can be as simple as volunteering to run meals on wheels, dedicating personal time to engage with youth services or fundraising.

"We have so many hardworking community members that we are faced with a really hard decision every year as to who to award the Australia Day Citizen and Young Citizen as well as our own Community service awards," Mayor Tucker said.

This year Break O'Day's Australia Day ambassador was Mr Bob Clifford of Incat fame, a fitting choice for the coastal community.

"Bob is a real Tasmanian icon who continues to showcase the innovation of Tasmanian ship building to the rest of the world.

"We would like to thank Mr Clifford for attending our celebrations and appreciate his involvement," Mayor Tucker said.

To read all about our Australia Day winners see inside.

Would you like to be added to our newsletter email list?
Email jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au

St Helens Community Drop - In Session, March 6
Have your say on the future of St Helens and drop-in to the Portland Hall between 5:30 and 7:30 pm.



Australia Day Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Award winners, Melanie Norton and April Bromley.

Australia Day Citizen of the Year – Melanie Norton

Through her work as the leader of JAM and the Salvation Army in the Break O’Day area, Melanie Norton has touched the lives of many in our community.

In the words of the person who nominated Melanie:

“Melanie represents everything an Australia Day winner should, compassion, sincerity, gentleness, comprehension, common sense and a fair go for all.”

Young Australian Citizen of the Year – April Bromley

As a volunteer of the Break O’Day SES, April consistently puts the needs of others above her own.

During her time with the SES, April has been an advocate for the organisation, living their values and playing an instrumental role in recruitment.

Break O’Day Municipality Excellence Award – Sally Felmingham

As a small community, we often call on the same dedicated community members to help us with various volunteer driven services and events. A true example of a community member who has always made herself available is Sally Felmingham.

There is just simply nothing that Sally wouldn’t do for her community.

Break O’Day Municipality Excellence Award – Stephen Jones

Stephen is a real touch-stone of our community working with various

groups and individuals from all walks of life for no other reason than the joy of seeing people succeed.

He consistently puts the needs of others before his own and is dedicated to making a real change to the lives of others in our community.

Mayor’s Special Award – Margaret Torrents

One of the founding members of the St Helens School Op Shop, Margaret has shown dedication and enthusiasm for her community for decades without the need to be acknowledged or rewarded in anyway.

Mayors Young Citizen Special Award – Ebony Duke

Ebony is an outstanding role model for youth in the community. Ebony volunteers for both the St Helens Football Club as well as the St Helens Netball Club filling many roles and often going above and beyond her duties.

Break O’Day Community Service Award – Jessie Presnell

At 90 years young, Jessie Presnell continues to do all she can to help others.

She has donated handmade rugs to residents at Media Park and also donates them to raffles to fundraise for the facility.

She estimates that over the years she has donated over 2000 jumpers and beanies to South African children in need.

IN BRIEF

New outdoor facilities for St Marys

Just before Christmas the Works Department completed two infrastructure projects in St Marys.

The St Marys Lions Park now has a new toilet and undercover barbecue facility so visitors and residents alike can enjoy this beautiful little park right on the rivulet.

We also finished a new storage facility and barbecue facility at the St Marys Sports and Recreation Complex.

Break O’Day Triathlon Road Closures

The Break O’Day Community Triathlon Committee successfully obtained approval for the following Road Closures on Sunday 3 March 2019:

- Marina Parade, Georges Bay Esplanade, Cameron Street to the Corner of Quail Street and Binalong Bay Road (to Lease 65), the time of total road closure will be 8:00am to 12:00 noon.
- Tasman Highway (Lions Park to Golden Fleece Bridge) Tasmania Police have recommended 7:00am - 1:30pm there will be disruption to traffic, with southern bound lane closure, managed by suitably qualified Traffic Controllers, for the running leg.

We hope residents and ratepayers get behind this fantastic annual event and Council apologises for any inconveniences caused.

Aboriginal Flag flies proudly and daily

We are proud to report that in the January Council meeting, a motion to fly the Aboriginal Flag daily was passed.

You will now see the Aboriginal flag proudly flying alongside the Tasmanian and Australian flags out the front of the Break O’Day Council offices.

Project Updates - Keeping you informed

Mountain Bike Trails

Trail construction is now underway! International trail building company, World Trail were the successful tenderer for construction of our mountain bike trail projects and have started construction on the Poimena to Bay of Fires trail just before Christmas. As part of our focus on ensuring sustainably constructed trails, all care is being taken during the construction stage including protection of notable flora species and minimal impact to the natural environment. The trail construction crews are also washing down machinery and their boots when entering and leaving sensitive areas to ensure weed and diseases are not spread. Once the trails have been completed, bike washdown stations will be provided for riders as well as

an education campaign around the importance of protecting this area. We hope to begin construction on the stacked loop network south of St Helens by the end of April this year.

You can find updates on our major projects under My Council, Major Projects on our website.

Parnella Landslip Mitigation

The end of February will see the completion of the installation of major stormwater infrastructure at Parnella which support an extensive landslip mitigation initiative undertaken by Council. The works are intended to channel storm surface water away from landslip prone areas along St Helens Point Road and have included the installation of road side kerb and channel, side entry collection pits and pipework upgrade.

TasWater Update - St Helens Foreshore

Upgrade works are nearly complete at the TasWater Esplanade Sewage Pump Station on the St Helens waterfront. The contractor has installed two large concrete tanks underground and all associated pipework to connect these to the St Helens sewer network and to the tank of the existing pump station. The new pump station will help build capacity in the St Helens area and reduce the risk of sewage spills into the sensitive receiving environment of Georges Bay. All construction fencing has been removed from the site and access to the carpark returned to the community. The carpark area will be sealed and project completed before the March fishing competition to be held on the foreshore. TasWater is very grateful for the community's patience during the construction of this new sewage pump station, particularly in light of delays in the schedule.

Tasmanian Planning Scheme. Where is it at and how can you get involved?

As you may or may not be aware, the State Government has been preparing a Statewide Planning Scheme, called the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. This new scheme will include Statewide Planning Provisions as well as a Local Provision Schedule for each municipal area.

The State Planning Scheme which has already been adopted by the Government includes some local provisions but not all have been carried over.

Local Provisions are specific planning guidelines that reflect matters of importance for a Local Government area.

We are currently commencing work on local provisions for this municipality and we are developing a webpage to keep you informed of our progress, invite feedback and ideas. You will be able to find this information under My Community, Community Consultation.

What's On

Free Hearing Checks

19 and 20 February

The Australian Hearing Bus conducting free hearing tests in St Helens on 19 February from 11am at St Helens District Hospital, Cecilia St and in Scamander and St Marys on 20 February - 9:30am at the Scamander Pharmacy and near the Town Hall, St Marys from 11:30am.

Lunch and Munch

22 February

Held at Tidal Waters Resort from 12 noon. Members \$8 non-members \$12.

Break O'Day Triathlon

3 March

Starting on the foreshore at 9am, this year there will be three races, an enticer for juniors an enticer for adults and the main Sprint event. Registrations are now open. For more information like the Break O'Day Community Triathlon Facebook page.

St Helens Community Drop - In Session

March 6

Have your say on the future of St Helens and drop-in to the Portland Hall between 5:30 and 7:30 pm.

Comedy Roadshow St Helens

20 March

Hosted by the East Coast Swans Football Club, the Comedy Roadshow will be held at the Portland Hall from 8pm. Tickets \$35 from Bay of Fires IGA.

Pyengana Easter Festival

20 and 21 April

Held at the Pyengana Recreation Ground, this annual event features woodchopping, sheep dog trails, show and shine, working blacksmith, BBQ and more. Camping available. Contact Vaughn Oldham 6373 6170.

Chaplaincy Fun Run

27 April

This event starts at 9:30am at the Bendigo Community Stadium. It is a family event with 10km, 5km and 2km events. For more information like the St Helens Local Chaplaincy Committee facebook page.

St Marys Markets

First Saturday of every month

Held at the St Marys Hall from 9am - 1pm and featuring local arts and crafts and much more. Stall inquiries can be directed to Megan on 0418 881 315.

Old Codgers Meeting

Every Friday

St Helens Books and Coffee are offering men over 50 the chance to call in, enjoy a hot cuppa. Held from 2-4pm. Cost: \$1 per cuppa.

St Helens Markets

Every Saturday

Held every Saturday in the St Helens town centre from 8am - 1pm. New stall holders welcome, phone 0475 844 481.

Capital Works Projects - February

A number of capital works projects commencing this month:

- **Fingal Streetscape** – work will commence on Monday 18 February including installation of new kerb, footpath and stormwater infrastructure. The work is scheduled to take eight weeks to complete depending on favourable weather conditions.
- **St Helens Point Road** – shoulder widening between Egret Street and the eastern entrance of Treloggens Track is scheduled to commence next week and will take approx. two weeks to complete.
- **Gardens Road** – shoulder widening over four sections of road will start next week and is scheduled to take five weeks to complete.
- **Kismet Place, St Helens** – This Roads to Recovery project includes road reconstruction and associated sub soil drainage works. Scheduled to start in the last week of February the project will take approx. three weeks to complete.

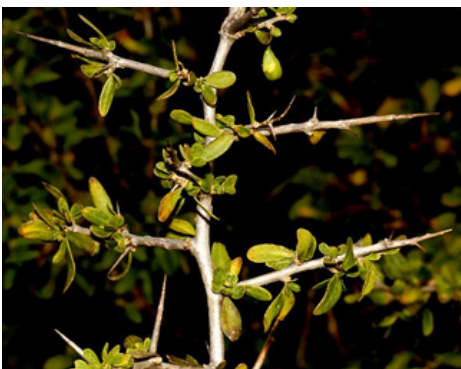


The new BBQ and toilet facilities at St Marys Lions Park.



The new storage and BBQ facility at the St Marys Sports Complex.

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 mechanically using machinery.

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



Some of the fishing waste collected in the Hook, Line and Sinker containers.

Hook, Line and Sinker success

Just before Christmas we launched our new Hook, Line and Sinker collection containers. Made from PVC pipe, the containers have been trailed at the St Helens Wharf as well as the Kirwans and Talbot Street jetties.

The idea was that we would test out the containers to make sure they would be used correctly, as you can see from the photo, the containers have been a great success.

The simple containers have largely been filled with fishing line filament as well as old hooks and sinkers, just like we hoped.

Thank you to everyone who has been using them and a big thanks to our Works Department, who made, installed and empties the containers.

As we continue refurbishing jetties, we will be able to consider installing the Hook, Line and Sinker containers in suitable locations.

Community Grants Don't miss your chance

Are you part of a hardworking not for profit community group? Or perhaps you have a great idea that would benefit the Break O'Day Community. If you are looking for ways to fund your project, perhaps you could consider applying for one of Break O'Day Council's Community Grants.

The Community Funding Program supports projects that improve facilities, programs or the overall amenity of BOD.

To apply you must lodge a detailed submission to BODC by Monday February 25, 2019.

For more information go to the News and Events section of our website or contact the Council Office on 6376 7900, erica.lowry@bodc.tas.gov.au or chris.hughes@bodc.tas.gov.au.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

Every Sunday from November 1 to February 28 you can dispose of your green waste for free at the following Waste Transfer Stations: St Helens, Scamander and St Marys.