

Message from John Brown General Manager

Regular readers of our newsletter may recall that I have previously talked about the important role that volunteers play in our community and encouraged people to get involved in the community, even if it is just to help out at one event during the year. During these initial preparations for the One Night Stand (ONS) concert. It has been fantastic to see the willingness of people within the community to step up and take responsibility for helping to make something happen. We see it time and again when a crisis hits our community and the same ones swing into action, but this is different. Other people are putting their hand up to help out and ease the load on those working to pull this event together which is heartening. As we get closer we will be looking for a lot of volunteers to help in the lead up, on the day and the day after. By spreading the load we can make this a successful event. Moving on from the volunteers, a key challenge for us is helping the local business community to cope with the influx created by this event. It is unprecedented in activity level so spare a thought for those on the front line of customer service which we interact with on a daily basis and business owners during this time. To say that "they are going to be under the pump" is a massive understatement. Maybe you can help them out in some small way during this time...



George River Flood mitigation excursion

On a wintery 30th of June, 24 people joined the George River and Flood Management Field Day. Participants were accompanied by river geomorphologist and engineer Julian Martin and examined the priorities and complexities of flood and river stability on the Lower George River.

The field day and investigation were funded by the Agricultural Landscape Rehabilitation Scheme from the Tasmanian Government and NRM regions following the 2016 floods.

A key finding of the investigation was that heavy sediment loads in the catchment from past tin mining are a significant factor. One recommendation is to reduce risks on the floodplain by stabilising and

securing tens of thousands of cubic metres of sand sediments at Priory. However, another lesson from the day is that the flood risk situation on the Lower George floodplain itself is complex and there are no quick fixes. A range of strategies were discussed and explored for further planning and design work.

The Lower George Riverworks Trust is constituted under state legislation. Landholders in the Riverworks District along the river from Priory to Georges Bay should contact the Trust Secretary if interested (williamswagga2@bigpond.com). Council is supporting and working with the Lower George Riverworks Trust on managing the flood risks and river stability issues.

St Helens Mountain Bike Network Update

On Saturday July 14 we advertised the Development Application for both the Bay of Fires Descent trail and the St Helens Mountain Bike Network which includes a lot of the detail surrounding the trail design including environmental reports, management plans and more in relation to the proposed development. It is great to be in a position to now move this forward following a substantial process involving numerous State Government agencies and land owners. Tendering for the construction of the trails was also advertised on Saturday

14 July. For those people interested in knowing more about the projects we will be setting up a room in the foyer of Council's main office where we will have maps, FAQ sheets and documentation regarding the trail projects. We welcome anyone to come along and learn more about the projects.

On July 21 we will be advertising for a brand and marketing specialist to help us develop a brand for the mountain bike trails that fits with the values of our organisation and our community.

MENTORS NEEDED
Are you patient and a good driver?
We need your help!
Contact Erica Lowry
erica.lowry@bodc.tas.gov.au

Remembering Peter Burns OAM

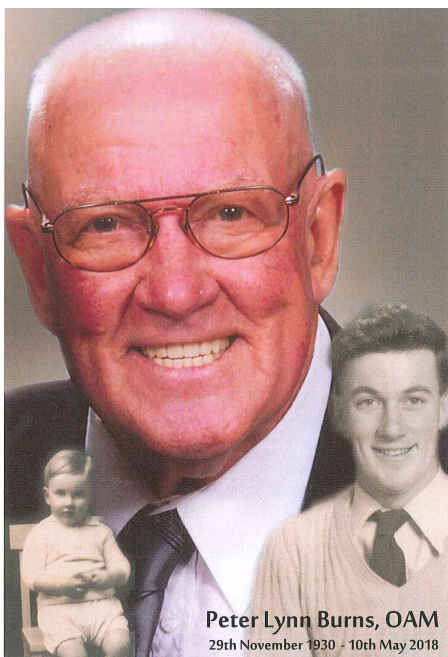
November 29, 1930 – May 10, 2018

By Kym Matthews – curator of the St Helens History Room

Peter Burns was the founder of the St Helens History Room and a man dedicated to preserving the history of our area. He produced a book called 'Then and Now' for the St Helens School when it celebrated its centenary in 1974 and had at least three different sites for his museum; the old 'Travellers Rest' at Goulds Country, his private home in Cecilia Street, opposite the Bayside Inn and lastly, the extra room that was included as part of the State Library building redevelopment.

Peter, with his wife Kathleen, helped to establish the St Helens Senior Citizens Club, the St Helens Meals on Wheels service and a vehicle to enable the then Government to employ a Domicillary (Community) Nurse for the aged residents of the former Portland municipality.

Peter and Kathleen created St Helens History Room Inc. and formed a committee to govern its functions. In 1991, he was able to secure an EcoTourism Commonwealth fund of \$20,000 to build the 'Goblin Forest Walk' and toilet and 30 kilometers of walking tracks on the Blue Tier. In 1992, Peter and Kathleen Burns were awarded the Australia Day Citizen Award and in 1995, Peter was awarded the Tasmania Day Community Award by the Break O'Day Council. Kathleen died in 1998 and was buried at the Union Church at Goulds Country.



Peter remarried and with Sue, his second wife, moved to Launceston. In 2009, Peter was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community, particularly through the preservation of the history of the St Helens area. The last 10 years of his life, Peter, with Sue, were active members with City Mission in Launceston and were choristers with the Choir of High Hopes.

We take this opportunity of remembering the Burns' contribution to the community of St Helens, especially the founding of the St Helens History Room. One of the area's far-sighted movers.



Scamander Playground completed

Finally the Scamander playground has been fitted with its new shade sail making the new play area complete. Manufactured by Sam's Sails Launceston

the sail is double tapered with heavy webbing edges and a stainless steel tensioning system to ensure it stays in place during the roughest winds.

IN BRIEF

Municipal Revaluation

Valuations of your property are determined by the Auditor General and informs in part, how much you will be charged in rates.

The entire municipality is being revalued between now and Christmas so you may see someone in your area during this time. A full revaluation occurs every six years with these new valuations taking effect from July 1, 2019.

Supplementary Valuations occur when development work is undertaken on a property. The property is then submitted for revaluation and rates will most likely increase depending on the type of works and the new valuation. It can take some time before Council is given these new valuations to make adjustments to the rates. Once updated a new rates notice will be sent out detailing the changes and the increase in rates which could also be due to wheelie bin collection fees for waste and recycling being applied if the property is in a collection area. Bins will not automatically be delivered to the property as the collection charge is for making a service available. Should bins be required it is just a matter of completing some simple paperwork which is available from Council, we will then arrange delivery.

If you have any questions please contact Council, our friendly staff will be happy to assist.

August FREE local month at History Room

Did you know that August is FREE locals month at the St Helens History Room? If you haven't already visited the History Room make sure you take the opportunity to learn all about our area's rich history during August.

You will find plenty of inspiring stories and artefacts from our first people as well as from pioneers, whalers and shipwrights as well as a display dedicated to the Chinese tin miners who were once a prominent part of society.

The St Helens History Room is part of the St Helens Visitor Information Centre and is open 7 days a week from 9am – 5pm.



Geraldton One Night Stand. Image courtesy of triple j.

One Night Stand for St Helens - Update

During the first couple of weeks in July the Break O'Day Council held three Business Information Sessions regarding the One Night Stand. These were held in St Helens, St Marys and Scamander. At the sessions the Council explained the magnitude of the event and just what businesses could expect. At some of the sessions, some pro-active business people shared their stories after talking with business owners in Geraldton. One commenting, that the feedback from Geraldton businesses was simple "if you don't open your doors you're crazy!" They also said that on the Sunday after the concert it was important to make sure there were places to eat, drink, and just hang out. It may be hard for some businesses to imagine just how busy they will be with the influx of patrons to the One Night Stand; Not only will it be potentially more people than the peak period, you will have them all in concentrated blocks of a few hours! Just imagine the full maximum of 15,000 patrons all leaving the One Night Stand at 9.30pm looking for food, entertainment and a real Tasmanian east coast experience, then you may get an idea of the sheer magnitude of the impact this event will have on our tiny town!

Another big difference is the demographic of visitors; they will predominately be in the 18-25 age bracket and very social media savvy. They will be using their smart phones to share their experiences with the wider world which is why it is so important that we give them a great experience

that they will want to come back for, as well as their audience.

One idea for businesses that has come up is to "Paint the town Orange". This is to tie in with the branding of the event and could be spread across the entire municipality. Businesses did a similar thing in Geraldton and it created a real 'open for business' and welcoming, connected community vibe. This can be as simple as wearing orange on the day or decking your shop out in orange streamers... the possibilities are endless! If you would like to get involved talk to Gary at Gazzmans. Remember that patrons will be traveling through the Fingal Valley and a splash of orange through the towns will not only let them know they are on the right track, they may just stop in to your business. Some of the other things Council is encouraging business owners to think about are: opening hours, staffing, stock, promotions, low waste packaging and the golden rule - working smart not hard.

The general message from Council is to do what you are comfortable with and make things easy for yourself, you can reduce your menu for the busy period, just serve coffees, whatever works for you! You are the specialist of your business not Council so you are best positioned to decide what is best for you.

You can find a Business Information Pack on the Council's website on the One Night Stand page if you would like more information.

COMING UP

Irapuna/Bay of Fires Community Weekend July 13, 14 and 15

Three days of Big Beach Walks. For more details keep an eye on our Facebook page or contact sam.cuff@parks.tas.gov.au or go to www.nrmnorth.org.au/events.

Community Barn Dance July 14

A fundraising event for the St Marys Community Centre held at the St Marys Community Hall, this event features the sounds of Moonshine and the Ragged Pony as well as Pete Cornelius. Adults \$10, families \$25. All dances taught and all ages welcome, supper and drinks available for purchase.

Tasmanian State Motocross Championship July 22

East Coast Motocross Club will host Round 5 of the Tasmanian State Championships at Goshen, Bar 20 Racing from 8:30-4pm.

Georges Bay Music Friday July 27

Held at Tidal waters from 12 noon to 2pm, this month will feature local duo Sea Katz made up of Kylie Wright and Tim Saunders. Admission \$8 members, \$12 non-members.

Field Archery Shoots Every Sunday from 9am

Break O'Day Field Archery Club Inc invite all to join them for a fun morning of archery. No experience required. Cost \$10 per person + \$5 hire fees. Range located at 24627 Tasman Hwy, Dianas Basin. All enquiries phone Liane Gordon - 6376 1815

Old Codgers Meeting Every Friday

St Helens Books and Coffee are offering men over 50 the chance to call in, enjoy a hot cuppa, play some cards/chess or just meet some new blokes. 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.

Want to see your event here?
Please email
jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au

Capital Works Projects - July

Council work crews are currently;

- Constructing a new concrete path from Chimney Heights to Jetty Rd.
- Performing regular boat ramp maintenance.

And resheeting the following roads:

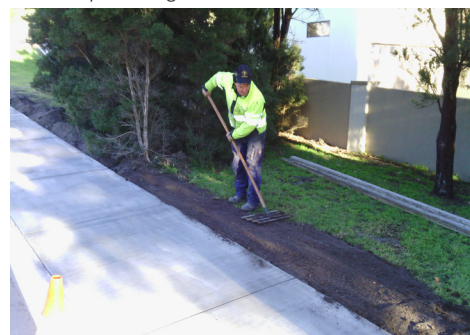
- Champ St, Seymour
- Roses Tier Road

Resheeting works coming up:

- Tyne River Rd, Mathinna
- Upper Esk Rd, Upper Esk



Boat Ramp cleaning



Council Worker Gary LeFevre finishing off footpath works at Chimney Heights.



Weed of the month - Bridal Creeper



Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*) is a declared weed in Tasmania as well as a Weed of National Significance. It is considered extremely invasive and inhibits native plants growth due to its thick underground tubers.

Bridal Creeper has been found in several areas of the municipality, and to date there are relatively small numbers. This is great news, however it is extremely important to quickly remove or treat any plants found to

stop it from spreading.

Treatment can include digging out (if the plant is small), ensuring all the underground tubers are removed and for larger plants, careful spot spraying with a registered herbicide.

Bridal Creeper will begin flowering around August, so now is the time to act. For further information on identification and treatment methods, please visit www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds

St Helens - St Marys Community Bank® - Community Small Grants announced

Members of the St Helens and St Marys communities will once again benefit from an essential element of community banking through the St Helens – St Marys Community Bank® branch's Community Small Grants Program.

This program is designed for specific one-off needs of community and not for profit groups and is funded through branch profits.

Local community organisations were recently encouraged to apply for funding from the second round of the Community Small Grants Program. Fourteen applications were received by the closing date and assessed, on a competitive basis, by the community bank Board.

Board Chairman Andrew McGregor, today announced the following successful applicants:

Cornwall Community Development Group Inc.: \$500 to complete the Cornwall Soldier's Memorial Park; Hub4Health: \$1,000 towards the purchase of a replacement treadmill for

St Marys Community gym; Mathinna Community / Landcare Group Inc.: \$1,000 to purchase new tables and chairs for the Community Centre and hall; Scouts Australia, Tas Branch/St Helens Scout Group: \$1,000 to replace stolen tools and goods; St Helens District High School: \$500 to purchase sporting equipment packs for Prep to Grade 2 students; St Helens Online Access Centre: \$500 towards the purchase of replacement \$800 inkjet photo printer; St Helens – St Marys RSL Sub Branch Inc.: \$913 to replace St Helens Memorial Park flagpole; St Helens Sailing Squadron: \$1,000 contribution towards costs associated with attending 2019 Stonehaven Cup in Melbourne, Victoria.

Andrew said that 'as the community banking business grows so too will profits and therefore more support will be given to more community groups. Applicants who have not been successful this time will be entitled to apply when the next round is announced.'