

# **JULY 2023**

#### **Next Council Meetings:**

21 August and 18 September 2023 at 10am in the Council Chambers

# From the General Manager - John Brown

The Premier's recent announcement ruling out forced Council amalgamations grabbed some headlines but really he was just restating more strongly something that was said at the start of the Future of Local Government Review process. On a positive note, the amount of people in our community that have taken the time to participate in our community engagement process relating to options for our future has been fantastic. We really appreciate you taking your time to do this so a special thank you to you.

In the depths of winter, it is good to take a moment to look at a few of the positive things happening in our community. The new section of streetscape in the centre of St Helens near the Bayside looks great and nice and tidy, kudos to the team of Council workers and contractors who did this work.

A number of people within the community have come together to work on ideas to celebrate Christmas as a community each year.

Our Mayor, Mick Tucker, has been elected as President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania, this is an honour and shines a light on Break O'Day which is great. Although it does mean he will be even busier.

St Helens is going to get a new Police Station in a few years, which is greatly needed. Whilst on Tas Police, it was great to see the story about the new team in Fingal who are now looking after the area.

It is always nice to take the time to look at the positive things happening. I hope you all make the time to do it yourself, being grateful for the simple things can put a smile on your face.

You can find our newsletters online at www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/news-events/

## **larapuna Community Weekend 2023**



larapuna Community Weekend 2019

Enjoy walking 50km of the spectacular larapuna / Bay of Fires coastline this August on five big beach walks over four days. You'll get to walk and work with a mix of people while enjoying the amazing coastal and marine landscape beaches between wukalina/Mt William National Park and Ansons Bay. The aim of the walks is to remove the beach weed - sea spurge and collect marine debris to keep our precious coast healthy. You'll also get to hear from experts about the cultural and natural values of this coast and caring for it. The event is free and includes bus transfers from St Helens (excluding August 18). These are all-day walks over soft sand and rocks and the weather and terrain may be challenging so pack your lunch, water, appropriate walking boots, warm clothing and wind/rain protection. The walks will be held at Policemans Point, Saturday 5 August, Deep Creek, Friday 18 August, Eddystone Point, Saturday 19 August and Abbotsbury Beach, Sunday 20 August. See our website for more details or visit the larapuna Community Weekend 2023 webpage at Eventbrite.com.au for all the details. Bookings are essential and you must also be registered as a volunteer with the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service.

# Council Sponsorship For Environmental Groups

We are excited to announce that Council is looking to sponsor community volunteers to attend the Tasmanian Community Landcare Conference at Triabunna on 13 to 15 October.

We all have a part to play in caring for the natural environment and Council recognises the important contributions the community make to caring for our area. We want to back 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 who's 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. This opportunity will benefit our environment and volunteers across our municipality. We also encourage existing local environment and landcare groups to have a member attend the conference. 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



### The Tasmanian Planning Scheme Update

Break O'Day Council will now be assessing new planning applications under the new Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS). The TPS was developed to achieve planning consistency across the State. As part of the development of the new scheme, Break O'Day Council was required to develop a Local Provisions Schedule (LPS). This relates specifically to our Council area and allows for planning rules that cater for the unique qualities of Break O'Day. What does this mean for you?

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme and the Break O'Day Local Provisions Schedule will be used to assess

applications made from 21 July 2023 onwards.

Existing applications that are valid and lodged under the Interim Scheme, will continue to be assessed under the Interim Scheme.

If your application was lodged previously and remained invalid on 21 July, then it will be assessed under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

You can find more information on both planning schemes and other relevant information on Planning on our website www.bodc.tas.gov.au or give our office a call in regards to planning requires on 6376 7900.

# GetIn2Gear Program Succesful in Obtaining Another Grant

After another successful year, the GetIn2Gear program has obtained grant funding from the State Government to keep this program running for another 6 months. Last financial year saw six mentors who volunteered their time helping teach driving skills to 16. Of those 16, three successfully passed their driving test and have obtained their P1s.

Unfortunately, future grant funding for this important service may be in jeopardy and we desperately need more mentors to keep the program running.

Ifyou would like to help keep this project literally on the road, please contact the office. Even with the lack of mentors at the moment the program is thrilled to announce that the automatic learning car will be in Fingal, giving greater access to our community. If you are a learner and are interested in being a part of this program, please contact Break O'Day Council or Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House for sessions.

# IN BRIEF Aquatic Committee Members

At the July Council Meeting, the Council decided who from the community would join our Aquatic Committee. The purpose of this committee is to explore the feasibility and detail of building a pool facility in Break O'Day.

We received a number of really great submissions from a variety of people across the municipality and Councillors went through all expressions of interest carefully. Because of the high caliber of some of the applicants – the Council decided to add an additional community member and additional representative from the Aquatic Committee.

We are pleased to announce that the Aquatic Committee will be made up of the following community members:

Elise Frost, Tim Gowans and Christine Treloggen from the community; Sally Faulkner – from the Health Sector

Fiona Gray and Peter Tonkin.

and.

These community members will join the following Council representatives; Ian Carter, Janet Drummond and Liz Johnstone on the committee.

We look forward to working with the committee on this important project.

# Future of Local Government Review Update

Our Community consultation for our Future of Local Government Review wrapped up at the end of this month and the survey is now closed. We have had an overwhelming, response to the Your Voice - Your Council Campaign. Over the last month, members of the community shared their views by taking part in the survey and coming along to meetings held across various townships. The aim was to give you the opportunity to express your opinion on the boundary adjustments being proposed by the Local Government Council appreciates Board. community's feedback which will be used in our submission to the Board. Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in our campaign.

# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

# GET!N2GEAR

#### **Learner Driver Mentors**

Experienced drivers wanted.

Spend one hour a week helping someone in your community get their licence.

Car provided.

The Learner Driver Mentor Program relies on the generosity of local volunteers. Supported by funding from the Tasmanian Government and Break O'Day Council.

Contact Jenna 6376 7900 <u>community.services@bodc.tas.gov.au</u> <u>bodc.tas.gov.au/community/community-resources/</u>



# The Valley and East Coast Voice Web Archive 1998 – 2017

Thanks to the dedicated effort of some of the locals in our community, the archive of the Valley and East Coast Voice is now accessible online. This local newspaper has covered our community history for over 50 years (1968-2017) with the last edition rolling off the press on 14 December 2017. In 2018, the Valley Voice was established as a community newspaper by the Fingal Neighbourhood House and is still in production as of June 2023. The St Helens History Room stores hardcopies of The Valley and

East Coast Voice archive which you are welcome to view during opening hours. It is amazing that our community's history can be so easily accessible to such a wide audience. We would like to congratulate and thank all who were involved in completing this project. All original printed documents were scanned by volunteers of the St Helens History Room and as you can imagine, this would have been a time-consuming and tedious process. The digital archive was compiled in 2023 by Glyn Johnson and Peter Bell.

#### All You Need To Know About Your Rates

No doubt your rates notice has now landed in your inbox or mailbox and hopefully you saw that this year, we sent the notice with some additional information, including a brochure on rates. When setting rates for the financial year, we must consider the expectations of our community, legislated responsibilities, our capital works projects and the community's capacity to pay. It is important to Council that we create a balance whilst keeping our increases to a minimum. We are aware that households experience cost increases and like you, we have also felt this impact when it comes to delivering services to our community. To maintain the level of service our community expects, we have increased rates this year but we have kept this to a minimum. We also looked at ways of making our rating

strategy more equitable. Our aim is to always make our rates and charges as fair as possible. Since the rates notices went out we have had a number of calls from residents confused about the waste charges which includes a Waste Infrastructure charge – this is for the management of our municipal waste transfer stations. This means that even if you do not have kerbside collection or a bin, you will still be charged the Waste Infrastructure fee. Ratepayers who have kerbside waste and recycling collection pay additional costs for this service, this will be stated on your rates notice as Waste Collection and Recycling Collection. If you have any queries please contact us on 6376 7900 or email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au



#### 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 Cecila Street, St Helens.

#### St Helens History Room -Month Of August

Come in and visit the latest exhibition at the St Helens History Room 'Ships of St Helens' where visitors can find information, images and objects from the major ships that serviced

Georges Bay and the early settlement of St Helens. Grab friends and family members – it won't break the budget at all as during the month of August, visiting the St Helens History Room is free! Part of the Tasmanian Tourism campaign The Off Season.



# larapuna Community Weekend - 5, 18, 19 and 20 August

Enjoy walking the larapuna/Bay of Fires Coastline. Get lots of fresh air while helping keep our precious coast healthy. Locations are Policemans Point, Deep Creek, Eddystone Point and Abbotsbury Beach. Free buses will run from St Helens most days. Visit our website or Eventbrite.com.au. Bookings essential

# Launceston Community Legal Centre - 14 August

Held at St Helens Neighbourhood House, LCLC will offer free legal advice from a visiting lawyer specialising in general law, family law, employment law, disability discrimination and welfare rights. For information or to book an appointment call - 6334 1577 or 1800 066 019.

# 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.

#### 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, demostrations and more. Free bus from Fingal available. FREE ENTRY.

#### 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

- Young Street footpath sealing has been completed.
- Stage 1 of Cecilia Street South streetscape project is now nearing completion. The light pole between the skate park and the adjacent foreshore car park is being relocated to enable Stage 2 to proceed.
- The new bridge across Kohls Creek at Pyengana was re-opened to traffic on 10th July.
- Line-marking has been added to the new portion of St Helens Point Road at Parkside.



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

Email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

#### **WEED MANAGEMENT**

Goshen - Spanish heath, blackberry

Fingal - Broadleaf, thistles

St Helens Town Link - Caper spurge,

thistles, broadleaf

Binalong Bay - Various weeds

St Marys - Common holly Ilex

aquafolium

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

Urban Patrols = 3
Beach Patrols = 10
Infringements = 3
Unregistered Dog = 0
Impounded dogs = 2

## Weed of the month - Mirror bush

Mirror bush (Coprosma repens) is a low shrub to tree with shiny upper leaf surfaces. It is a common and significant environmental weed in coastal environments, including our offshore islands. Seed is dispersed (often along fences) by birds eating the berries and by garden waste dumping. It can also sprout from stumps and branches touching the ground. Mirror bush is shade tolerant, growing up into a dense canopy that smothers all other vegetation and displacing native flora and fauna. It is very hardy, tolerating salt winds, drought, frost and most soil

types. Small plants can be hand pulled. Cut-stump or spraying with herbicide may be needed for larger plants. Replace any you have in the garden with a native or other safer alternative.



## Homelessness Week 7 - 13 August 2023

This year for homelessness week Centacare Evolve is working with schools, councils and local community groups to have discussions and raise awareness about people experiencing homelessness. The aim is to improve understanding about Community Housing and the support that exists. 'Home For All campaign is an education campaign focused on:

- Challenging the stigma around community housing and those who access it.
- access it.Providing information about

community housing.

- Listening to and discussing the impacts of housing in local areas.
- Colloborating with locals and councils for community intergration and wellbeing
- Advocating for inclusive housing policies and strategy with governments.

For more information and access to Homelessness Week resources visit www.centacareevolve.com.au or find them on Facebook.

## **Supplied From: Scamander Sports Complex**

# Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)

The Scamander Sports & Community Complex Committee (SSCCC) are pleased to advise that the external all-weather (Green) cabinet for our AED has been installed and the AED unit has been moved from the current location inside (dining room) to the external cabinet. This provides access for all Clubs and the wider Community to an AED in the event of an emergency.

The cabinet/AED are registered with Tasmanian Ambulance Service (TAS) and in the event of an emergency the Ambulance service and other emergency services can direct individuals to the location or if accessing the cabinet directly provide guidance (once 000 called) and support during the emergency until first responders are in attendance.

The cabinet has an access **code 7215** easy to remember as it is Scamander's Post Code. When accessing it will initiate an alarm, the purpose is to deter individuals who may access for non-emergency purposes and for security purposes the entrance is also monitored by our CCTV 24/7. **LOCATION:** Front entrance, Scamander Sports & Community Complex,

1 Coach Road, Scamander.

#### **ACCESS CODE: 7215**

The cabinet will also hold air viva bag however the SSCC Committee urge all Clubs to encourage members to be trained in basic CPR and use of AED.

**Next steps** – share this information to all your members and wider community.

If you have any queries, please contact the SSCC Executive scamandersports@gmail.com or 0417582065.