

**Next Council Meetings:**  
**20 July at 10am and 17 August**

## From General Manager - John Brown

We (yes that includes you as well) all need to stop for a few moments and say thank you to our volunteers who have had a really tough time over the last few months. The figurative rays of sunshine we are seeing at the moment as we slowly emerge from our forced 'hibernation' of the last few months are being darkened by the impact of this on the future of some of our local organisations and events. Maybe we haven't stopped to reflect on the importance of the members who volunteer so much of their time for the good of our community undertaking projects; delivering activities and events; or just being there to assist. They are a cornerstone of enjoying a thriving community.

When these organisations or groups look like disappearing because of the increased load on a dwindling number of members what happens? Do other members of the community galvanise into action and step in to fill the breach? Or is it a case of it being someone else's problem..... It is easy to provide thoughts on what needs to happen – it is far harder to make a commitment and put up your hand and say "Can I help or be part of your organisation?". We need to do two things. One we need to say to the volunteers, "We've noticed the things you do and appreciate the difference you make in helping to create a thriving community". Secondly, take a deep breath and then take the next step and get involved. Approach a local organisation or an event organising committee and ask "How can I help or get involved?"

If you would like to say thank you, we have FREE thank you cards and magnets in the office which you can take away with you or get us to send.



East Coast Tasmania's Tourism Awards winners; Heidi Howe; Individual Contribution Award and St Helens MTB took out New Business



## Break O'Day Region scores at the East Coast Tasmania Tourism Awards

The St Helens MTB Trails has won its second award in less than 12 months of operation. The latest award win was for the East Coast Tourism, New Business Award which was announced on Friday 19 June via a virtual awards ceremony due to the restrictions on gatherings. Mayor Mick Tucker said he was proud of the recognition for one of the biggest projects ever undertaken by Council. "This recognition is a real honour and a tribute to the Council team who have been working hard on this project for several years.

"It has been a massive undertaking and we ourselves are so proud of the trails and this award is a testament to the experience the trails bring and will continue to bring our region," he said. Another big win on the night was the recognition of Heidi Howe who took out the Individual contribution award. All those that know Heidi will know that she has a strong work ethic and sense of community pride. She is one of those people that always wants to help. She is responsible for sharing the area's news with us as the editor of the Coastal Column, she has been instrumental in the development of the Bay of fires

Winter Arts Festival, has been an active business member in the community and so much more.

Congratulations Heidi from all of us here at Council!

The Break O'Day area did very well out of the awards with several winners and place getters from our region. Please join us in congratulating the following businesses:

### Accommodation-Caravan or Holiday Park

GOLD- St Helens Waterfront Holiday Park

### Accommodation – Self Contained

SILVER – Bed In A Shed Tasmania – Fingal

BRONZE – Blue Seas Holiday Villas

### Accommodation – Deluxe

GOLD – Bay of Fires Bush Retreat

BRONZE – THE LOFT – Bay of Fires Seascape

### Food, Wine, Retail

SILVER – Pyengana Dairy

### The 2020 East Coast Tasmania Tourism Awards – Individual Contribution Award

WINNER – Heidi Howe

Want to receive your newsletter via email?

email: [admin@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@bodc.tas.gov.au)  
and we will add you to our email list.

## Pollarding of Tully Street Trees

Did you know that the Elm trees planted along either side of Tully Street are on the Register for Significant Trees? This is because they were planted in 1937 as a memorial to King George.

Over the years the trees on the southern side of the road have been heavily pruned to prevent the limbs from touching the power lines. After decades, this treatment has resulted in the trees becoming unbalanced which makes them more susceptible to disease and mortality.

Together TasNetworks and Council approached an arborist (tree specialist) to deliver a report on the trees. They

recommended that the trees be pollarded to ensure their health and longevity.

Pollarding is a tree pruning technique that results in the trees being pruned right back to the trunk. While it may look severe, ultimately and over time, the new growth that sprouts will produce the best result for the trees both health wise and aesthetically.

TasNetworks and Council have joined forces and have contracted an arborist to undertake the pollarding on the southern side of the street. The works are expected to take two weeks weather dependant.

## Park, Snack and Chat - Community Care Calls

Join Council officers later in July at one of 11 locations around the municipality for our Park, Snack and Chat - Community Care Calls.

Details on times and locations can be seen below.

The idea of these drop-ins is to check-in with our community and to see how you have been going through the pandemic. While the chats are informal, we will have a couple of questions for you which are all about us understanding how you are feeling, what your challenges were during COVID-19 and what we could do to help.

We will also ask you what your idea of a thriving community looks like. Your answers to these questions are really important and will help us identify gaps and needs in our community and understand what your vision for our community is both the short and long-term... also there will be FREE food!

We will be promoting these sessions and times through Facebook, the website, community notice board as well as on StarFM so keep an eye and an ear out. We hope to see you all there and look forward to hearing your stories. More detail below:

Town	Date	Time	Location
PYENGANA	Wednesday 15 July	10am- 12noon	Recreation Ground
BINALONG BAY	Wednesday 15 July	2pm - 4pm	Binalong Bay Beach Carpark
ST HELENS	Thursday 16 July	7:30am – 4pm	Portland Hall
ST MARYS	Friday 17 July	10am-4pm	St Marys Rotunda
FALMOUTH/FOUR MILE CREEK	Friday 17 July	5pm – 6:30pm	Falmouth Community Centre
BEAUMARIS	Saturday 18 July	2pm – 4pm	Beaumaris Park
ANSONS BAY	Sunday 19 July	10am – 12noon	Ansons Bay Fire Station
CORNWALL	Wednesday 22 July	10am – 12noon	Cornwall Hall
SCAMANDER	Wednesday 22 July	2pm – 4:30pm	Scamander Playground
FINGAL	Thursday 23 July	10am – 2pm	Fingal Neighbourhood House
MATHINNA	Thursday 23 July	3pm – 4pm	Mathinna Recreation Ground

## Old Tasmanian Hotel Renovations

The next time you are cruising through Fingal make sure you take a good look at the Old Tasmanian Hotel which has undergone a major facelift.

The renovation was made possible with \$500,000 in funding from the Commonwealth Government as well as \$100,000 from Council to complete Stage 1 of the works.

The hotel is sure looking good from the outside but it is the inside that is sure to impress! The works included: a meeting room, bathroom amenities, emergency accommodation, two office spaces and waiting room, refurbished verandah, as well as general maintenance works.

The additional rooms will bring great benefit to the local community by allowing space for service providers to take up occupancy in the building as well as providing space for the Fingal Community.

There have also been employment and skill development benefits with this project as the work was awarded to a local building company who employed two locals full time to complete the project. There were also numerous local subcontractors who were involved with the project.

Stage 1 Works are nearing completion and in the coming months a lift will be installed to ensure access to the building is available to people of all abilities.

The hotel in its hey day and a few years ago





## Council to take over general waste, kerbside collection this month

In an effort to make long-term savings for our ratepayers, Council has decided to take over the collection of waste in our municipality.

As our waste and recycling contracts expired this financial year, we went out to tender with both the waste and recycling collection services earlier this year. Unfortunately the tenders we received back for waste collection were not as competitive as we had hoped so we started examining ways that we could provide the service in a cost effective manner.

We investigated ways for savings and found that if we took over the service long-term we could indeed make some very significant savings meaning that we could minimise charges being passed on to our rate payers.

This has led us to purchase two waste collection trucks, one will be used as a spare so that we can ensure consistent service with minimal delays. Taking the collection on locally also means that we created an employment opportunity

for a truck driver, this position has been advertised and is currently being filled.

Over the next few months we ask for your patience and assistance as we settle into delivering this service to you. There will be no change to the collection days, but what you will notice is that initially your bins might not be collected at the time that you might normally expect as no doubt initially we will be a bit slower until we become practiced in the service.

Please be patient as our new drivers get used to the job of collecting bins. They may even accidentally miss a few here and there, just give us at the main office a call and we will get it sorted out. One of our ongoing frustrations has been the reliability of the service, now we will have control of this and our aim is to provide the best possible service going forward.



Members of the Works Crew testing out the new rubbish truck

## IN BRIEF

### Building & Plumbing Permits extended for a further six months

The Tasmanian Government has extended the expiry date for another six months for current permits including all building and plumbing approvals.

If you have a building permit issued before November 2012 or a current building approval and a Completion Certificate has not been issued, you now have a further six months from the date of expiry of your permit to either obtain Completion Certificates or apply to extend the permit.

As the local authority for building works in our area, we have an obligation to ensure all works have been completed in line with your building permit by issuing you with a completion certificate.

If you are unsure Councils Development Services staff are here to help, please contact us if you have any enquiries on 6376 7900

### St Helens History Room Open

In case you didn't realise, the St Helens History Room and the Visitor Information Centre have re-opened their doors to the public – WE ARE OPEN!

Come in and visit our new displays including 'The History of Bowood' one of the oldest properties in North East Tasmania and 'On Yer Bike!' that relays the history of cycling in St Helens through to the technological change of biking that is now the MTB revolution. The 'Finds and Fossicking' display in the foyer cabinet shows what is out in our district whether they are gemstones in the rivers or surprises beneath the earth.

Pictured below: 'Finds and Fossicking'





## Capital Works Projects -July

- Seasonal street tree pruning around our towns are being undertaken.
- Maintenance grading has commenced to coincide with favourable weather conditions. The crew have started in the Seymour area and will move through the Fingal Valley area grading where needed
- Drainage works continue where required with the crew currently in the Anson's Bay township
- Footpath replacement in St Marys from Story Street to the School will commence to coincide with the July holidays this work is estimated to take 2-3 weeks to complete - weather permitting

Pictured below, tree pruning.



## Tip Shops Now OPEN

**St Helens Tip Shop from July 6**

Sunday to Friday 11am – 2pm,

Saturday 11am – 4pm

**St Marys Tip Shop from July 9**

Tuesday and Thursday 11am – 3pm,

Sunday 2pm – 4pm

## Weed of the month- Boneseed



Boneseed is a declared weed in Tasmania. Boneseed is considered one of the worst and most invasive weeds in Australia due to its ability to establish itself anywhere and its potential to spread. Boneseed doesn't typically flower until 18 month old,

so it is important to remove plants as young as possible before they produce seed. They can produce up to 50,000 seeds per year making treatment of an area with mature plants a several year project. In the state Weed Management Act, landowners have a responsibility to remove and eradicate boneseed from their property. Due to their shallow root system, they are easily hand pulled or carefully spot sprayed with a registered herbicide. Plants can be piled ensuring the roots are not in contact with the ground. If seeds are present, they can be cut off, bagged and burnt. This time of year boneseed is actively growing and has not set seed, this is the perfect time to treat and remove, remembering follow up in the next year or two is essential. For more information please visit: [dipwwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds](http://dipwwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds)

## Your Rates, what the changes are and where they will be spent.

In the next couple of weeks, ratepayers will receive their rates charges for 2020-2021. Included with your rates notice is a 4 page rates newsletter that explains the change to charges, the COVID-19 Community Care Recovery Package as well as some of the major projects and areas your rates will be spent in the coming financial year.

To summarise what is happening with your rates this year, Council adopted a 0% General Rate increase this financial year due to the impact that COVID-19 is having on our community as well as the development of a Rates Hardship Policy and Community Care Recovery Package to assist ratepayers financially. More information on this can be found on our website.

Unfortunately we have had to pass on

a 3% increase in the waste charges due to additional costs to Council on waste services – this is still far less than what we would have had to pass on if we employed a contractor.

The increase in waste comes from three main factors:

1. The falling cost of oil which has made production of new plastic more cost effective than recycling to the sector

2. The cost to remove contaminants from the recycling has been passed on.

3. Large increase in general waste collection and disposal.

You can read more about this in the rates newsletter which you can view on our website in the news section or wait till you receive yours in the mail.

***Do you have someone you would like to say Thank you to?***

***Do you know someone who deserves to be appreciated?***

Drop into the office and grab one of our FREE thank you cards and magnets. You can fill out yourself or we can send it for you.

**Let someone know how appreciated they are today!**

