

Next Council Meeting:

April 16 at 10am and May 21 at 10am

Message from the General Manager- John Brown

Recently Council staff spent a Saturday morning at Binalong Bay to gain the thoughts of the local community on a number of key issues which could shape Council activities and programs into the future. The main focus was on issues such as the Foreshore Master Plan which Council is working to implement, the vexed question of commercial activity if any and how and where would it happen and the parking and traffic issues which are significant in the busy season. Over 50 people took the opportunity to interrupt their Saturday morning and provide their thoughts and solutions on these items and other matters.

This process is enabling Council staff to further address matters which relate to specific communities and which were raised during the Community Conversations which were held to develop the new Strategic Plan last year. In coming months a number of other communities will be visited as part of this process with arrangements currently being made to visit Fingal, Mathinna and Ansons Bay.

All this feedback and information will now be collated and presented to Councillors at Workshop for discussion. We will be sure to advise the community of any outcomes and actions from the consultation once they are available and will also make the community feedback a public document.



Council staff, General Manager John Brown and Planning Coordinator Paula Kloosterman with residents at the Drop-In .



Break O'Day Council's Trail Project Manager Ben Pettman, General Manager John Brown and Mayor Mick Tucker discuss the St Helens Stacked Loop Mountain Bike Trail designs with Senator Jonathon Duniam.

\$1.5M for St Helens Mountain Bike Trails

Break O'Day Council welcomed the Australian Government's announcement today that they were successful in securing more than \$1.5 million grant as part of the Regional Jobs and Investment Package.

Council sought this funding through a formal grant process in order to develop the stacked loop mountain bike network south of St Helens.

"This project will be a real game changer for our area and region," Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"Independent modelling for the completed project has shown it has the potential to create more than 150 full time jobs and return more than \$18million annually to our local economy which will have a huge positive impact for our entire community.

"We are really thankful to the Australian Government in acknowledging and supporting the transformative effect this project will have for our entire region."

This funding will be used in conjunction with \$620,000 of the Council's own funding and \$1 million from the State Liberal Government to complete the \$3.1million dollar project.

The network will comprise almost

70 km of trail suitable for a variety of skill levels and has been designed to complement the Blue Derby Network. The network will include a "town link" which will link the trails back to the centre of St Helens where riders can access businesses and services.

As a family friendly destination already, we think our trail project has a real point of difference to others; mountain bikers will be able to bring along their families and stay longer in the area.

"St Helens already has a strong tourism focus that we can build on and further develop to support of the trails," Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"And our climate and the location of the trails support all year round use which is a great opportunity for us to try and smooth out the extreme tourism troughs we experience in the winter months."

Break O'Day Council expects to start construction of the Network in coming months once the approvals and tender processes are complete.



Council workers at the Talbot St jetty replacing pylons.

Jetty funding - works already underway

Break O'Day Council and Mayor Mick Tucker welcome the Tasmanian Liberal's State Election promise to contribute more than \$1.5M to enhance and develop water based activities in the Break O'Day area.

The lion's share of this funding, \$685,000, has been earmarked to refurbish jetties and build new facilities in the area to meet community needs. The Council will be examining all options for the funding to ensure that the right infrastructure is provided in the right place. Their focus will be to make sure community needs are catered for, access to the water is increased and the infrastructure complements a range of uses.

"The value of these jetties is

immeasurable to our local community as they provide so much more than just a beautiful tourist snap," Mayor Mick Tucker said.

The Tasmanian Liberals also promised to provide approximately \$500,000 to develop the car park at the Burns Bay boat ramp on St Helens Point.

They will contribute \$250,000 to MAST and the Council to develop the Scamander Bridge recreation area as well as \$130,000 to allow upgrades to the St Helens Marine Rescue Headquarters. This will allow the accommodation of the St Helens Game Fishing Club which it is hoped will be able to act as a feeder club to Marine Rescue, a volunteer run service and organisation.

Steam Engine Plaque unveiled

On Friday March 16 a plaque for the refurbished steam engine was unveiled by Mayor Mick Tucker.

Now located outside the library, the St Helens Lions Club have lovingly restored the steam engine which has now made its final stop.

"The Lions Club have done an amazing job with what has become a little slice of St Helens history.

"I am sure I speak for the whole community when I say we are all very grateful to the Club for their dedication and literal blood, sweat and tears getting the train to where it is now.

"Now it is located in pride of place where it is protected from the elements as well as being close to the St Helens History Room," Mayor Mick Tucker said.



The St Helens Lions Club with Mayor Mick Tucker



Mayor Mick Tucker unveiling the new plaque

IN BRIEF

Election promises

Break O'Day Council applauded the Liberals announcement that they would take over the management and upgrading of Binalong Bay Road.

The Liberals also made announcements for substantial works over the whole Great Eastern Drive including the recent announcement to upgrade the Tasman Highway south of St Helens to Dianas Basin as part of its Roads Package to support Tasmania's Visitor Economy.

Eight new mobile phone towers along the Great Eastern Drive were also announced.

Recycling and waste collection calendars

Australia Post has advised Council that they will begin the delivery of the new, annual waste and recycling collection calendars this week. However they have indicated that they may not deliver both calendars together. This means that you may have to wait a week or so before receiving both the waste and recycling calendars. Unfortunately this is beyond our control.

Please wait at least a week before you notify us that you have not received both calendars. We will have limited copies in the office once the delivery by Australia Post is completed in around two weeks time.

Clean Up Australia Day

A big thanks to the Friends of Ansons Bay who collected 19 bags of rubbish plus a very smelly freezer, a twin tub washing machine, four tyres, builders rubbish and 44 gallon drum during Clean Up Australia Day on March 4. Disappointingly, most of this rubbish was illegally dumped and found near Policemans Point turn off, and the North Ansons Road from Eddystone Point Rd down the hill past the tip to Acacia Drive. As Ansons Bay is a small seaside village that is relatively remote and surrounded by National Park, bush land, and unsealed roads, it is very disappointing that people think its ok to throw their rubbish in the bush at the edge of the road, " Anson's Bay resident Claudia Hudson said.

Stadium kiosk- cooking with gas!

Thanks to funding secured through the Tasmanian Community Fund, the Bendigo Community Stadium is now equipped with a commercial kitchen/kiosk.

The kitchen includes a gas stove and oven, benchtop dishwasher, cold box, sinks, fridges and stainless steel bench tops.

Late last year, Councillors also agreed

to purchase tables, chairs crockery and cutlery for the stadium.

The tables and chairs have already been getting a work out with XPD hiring the facility and equipment for the duration of the event.

These latest additions will go a long way to attracting more events like XPD to our area.



Above: the new kitchen set up at the Stadium. Below: XPD Headquarters setup at the Stadium.



XPD - an epic way to see our region

Last week 25 teams of four settled in to St Helens at the Bendigo Community Stadium as they prepared to embark on a 3-6 day 500km race that involves kayaking, trekking and mountain biking.

Not a spectator sport as such, it has certainly been fun watching the teams online via a GPS tracking system, especially when you can see them taking a wrong turn, back tracking and getting back on course.

Hailing from all over the world; Singapore, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Sweden and the US, the team members

must stay within 100 metres of each other throughout the course and some teams will only have had around 4hrs sleep throughout the entire race!

Council are really proud that our area was selected to be the course for this epic expedition race and we hope that all competitors have had a great time exploring our area from Peron Dunes to Upper Scamander, from the Fingal Valley to the Blue Tier and all the way back down the coast from Ansons Bay.

COMING UP

XPD Australia's Expedition

Adventure Race

March 16-25

Bringing international competitors and media to our area, this event is a coup for Break O'Day. The event is an expedition race that includes trekking, mountain biking and kayaking. You can follow online here, <http://live.arworldseries.com/xpd2018/>.

Eating with Friends

March 28

Fingal Valley Neighbourhood house is hosting an Easter morning tea at 10am on March 28. Food includes sandwiches, cakes and hot cross buns. Cost, gold coin donation.

Georges Bay Music

April 27

The next Lunch and Munch Concert will be held at Tidal Waters on April 26 with guest artists husband and wife duo from Hobart, Ian and Jennifer Cocking, a jazz singer and bass player. Admission \$8 members and \$12 non members.

St Helens District High School

Chaplaincy Fun Run

April 28

Starting at 10.30am this event includes a 2, 5 and 10km walk/run. If you would like more information please call Carol Withers on 6376 1638.

Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival

June 9-11

Be immersed in the vibrancy of Tasmania's East Coast this June long weekend at the Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival. Event includes, Arts markets, workshops, Arts trail, live music and much more. For more information go to, www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au.

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.

Capital Works Projects - March

- Telstra will be doing an essential NBN upgrade for the St Helens Commonwealth Bank commencing on Sunday March 18, through to Wednesday March 21. There will be a section of footpath affected and the entrance to the Commonwealth Bank carpark from Cecilia St will be closed during the work. Telstra are responsible for this work.
- Resheeting is currently underway on Nth Ansons Bay Road.
- Slashing is underway in the Mathinna, Evercreech and Upper Esk area
- Talbot St jetty replacement will commence next week.
- Work at O'Connors Beach was delayed while the manufacturer made more blocks but work has now recommenced.
- Culvert upgrade in Lennox St, Cornwall has been completed.



Block retaining wall works at O'Connors beach.

Welcome to Break O'Day new Australian Citizens

On behalf of the community, Council would like to congratulate Debra Smith and Ammaralak (Kob) Warren who became fully fledged Australian Citizens at the March Council meeting.



Weed of the month - Pampas Grass



It's that time of year again when Pampas is actively growing and flowering so it is treatable.

Small plants can be dug out or treated carefully with herbicide. With larger plants, remove and dispose of flowers, cut back using shears or a brush cutter, then they can be dug out or left to re-shoot making herbicide application easier.

Lets aim for a pampas free Break O'Day. For more information on identification, treatment and control please visit: www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds/weeds-index/weeds-index-declared-weeds/pampas

Recycling service results in less landfill

The kerbside Recycling collection has now been underway for 15 weeks and already we have seen a reduction in waste to landfill of 121.9 tonnes.

This is a great achievement and means we are well on the way to being a more sustainable municipality.

As many residents would be aware, the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group have been conducting 'Bin Audits' in our area; this is a free service and is about providing Council with information on what further education and messaging our community needs rather than a compliance exercise.

The last bin audit found that the majority of residents were doing the right thing with very little contamination, however there were some issues raised by the auditors;

1. Some bins were not out by 6am.

BINS MUST BE OUT BY 6AM. If your bin is not out by 6am you could miss collection.

2. Some bins were placed too close together making it hard for the truck driver to lift and empty bins. BINS SHOULD BE 50CM APART.

The waste contractor, JJ Richards said that over the next few months they will be introducing stickers to create awareness about how far apart your bins need to be to help us all remember. Please keep an eye out for these on your bin.

3. Some people are putting their recycling in plastic bags which contaminates the bin. NO PLASTIC BAGS.

4. Food scraps are not to go in recycle bins. These can be composted or placed in your waste bin.

Targa Road Closures in BOD - April 18

Time

8.48am – 1.18pm

9.02am – 1.32pm

9.19am – 1.49pm

11.44am – 4.14pm

12.46pm – 5.16pm

Roads

Tasman Hwy between Moorina & Weldborough

Tasman Hwy between Weldborough & Pyengana

Tasman Hwy between Pyengana & Lottah Rd (east)

Elephant Pass between Tasman Hwy & Curtis Rd

Rossarden Rd between Nevin St & Rossarden Rd
AND Storys Creek Rd between Rossarden Rd & Stanhope Rd