

Next Council Meetings:
15 April 2024 and 20 May at 10am in the Council Chambers

Council Staff Back At School



Photo: Rowan showing off his work gear to the students of St Helens

This month marked a unique and exciting opportunity for two members of the Council team as they went back to school! Jenna, a member of the Community Services department, and Rowan, known for maintaining the trails around St. Helens as a team member with the MTB Maintenance Crew, found themselves trading their usual tasks for a day of engaging with young minds.

Grade Two students at St Helens District High School have been learning about significant places in our local community. Eager to enhance their understanding, the school extended an invitation to the Council, hoping to gain insights straight from the source. Jenna and Rowan introduced themselves and their roles within the

Council. They had an amazing time talking to students about Council and the St Helens MTB Trails. Jenna and Rowan were asked some great questions and the students had been very creative, showing them some miniature masterpieces of drawings and writings of what they had learned.

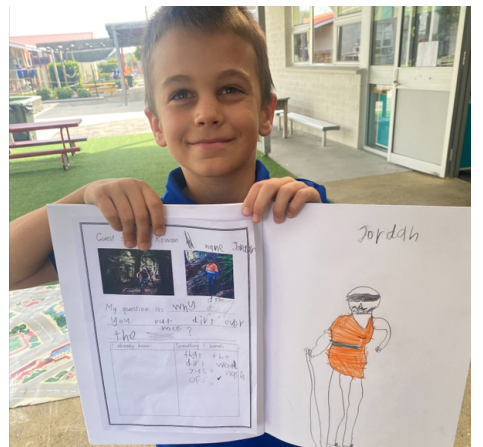


Photo: Student Jordan Hatcher showing what he's learnt



Photo: Jenna talking to the students about her role

A thank you goes out to the Grade Two students at St Helens District High School for sharing your classroom for the day. And thank you to Jenna and Rowan for your time and getting up in front of a class full of kids to represent Council. Both Jenna and Rowan really enjoyed spending time with the students and we appreciate the opportunity to give understanding to the kids of Break O'Day about what we do at Council.

Cats Kept At Home Are Happy and Safe

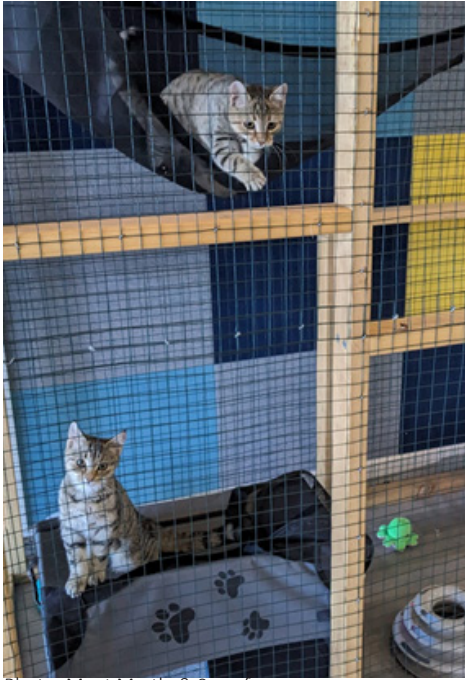


Photo: Meet Myrtle & Sassafra

Cats are a big deal in our community. They can be amazing pets, bringing happiness, comfort, and companionship to their owners, in fact, one in four Tasmanians are cat owners. However, when not properly looked after, they can become a bit of a hassle in our community and hunt and kill our local wildlife. Recently Council had Biosecurity Tasmania's Cat Management Officer and Tassiecat's Northern Regional Cat Management Coordinator visit for some information sessions for residents to learn and talk about the responsibilities of being a cat owner and keeping cats, communities and wildlife safe. Statistically, a free roaming cat visits up to 26 neighbouring properties a day, by keeping your cat safe at home you lessen the risk of your cat(s) being injured or killed from road accidents, fighting, disease and being trapped. A pet cat kept safe at



Photo: Lenny came to visit us for the day

home can live up to four times longer than a cat left to roam and its not that hard to keep your cat happy at home. Just check out our Council lobby. We've got friendly cats and kittens visiting us some days in our DIY 'Catio' display. They're happy relaxing in the resting beds, meeting people and doing what cats do best. The 'Catio' will be on display in Council foyer over the next couple of weeks and if you come visit us, you may be lucky to meet some furry friends as well. Staff also attended cat management information sessions to learn about keeping, selling, breeding and controlling cats in Tasmania, so we can assist you with cat enquires better and support responsible cat ownership. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for cats in the Catio and cat care information and for more information visit www.tassiecat.com.au or contact Council office on 6376 7900.

Phil and Joy's Bike Ride Campaign

Joyce and Phil Ogden are Rotarians (Rotary Club of South Launceston) in their mid seventies who plan to undertake a 3000km tandem 'End Polio Now' bike ride from Adelaide to Sydney via Melbourne. Joyce and Phil hope to raise funds for that goal and every \$1 they raise will be boosted by a pledge of \$2 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. To support this ride scan the QR code.



- Adelaide to Melbourne to Sydney
- Use your mobile phone camera to scan the QR code
- It will load a website from which you will be able to donate 😊



IN BRIEF

Waste Calendars and Rates Notices

Your general waste and recycling calendar will now be included in your annual rates notice that you will receive at the end of the financial year. Residents who receive their rates notice via email will also have the new waste calendar included. You can sign up for rates notice and dog registrations by email. You can sign up for rates notice and dog registrations by email. Make a positive impact on the environment, help us reduce our carbon footprint and have instant access to your documents. Email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au and include your name and address.

St Helens Library Autumn School Holiday Program

St Helens Library will be holding a few themed 'Autumun' activities and events these holidays to inspire the creative young minds of Break O'Day. To find out more check out St Helens Library's Facebook page or give them a call on 6387 5600.

Lottah Road Landslip Repairs

After the weather event that saw Goulds Country experience more than 260mm of rain over a few hours, there have been several landslips on Lottah Road. To undertake this work our contractor will have traffic management in place with one lane closed at times. Please look out for any signage and workers. This work is scheduled to start after Easter

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Georges Bay Water Sampling

Water sampling has been undertaken after the weather event St Helens experienced and Georges Bay is now declared SAFE for all recreational activities.

Lily's International Women's Day Youth Event

We recently celebrated International Women's Day and it was nice to see the community coming together and holding events for 2024. The Break O' Day youth got involved with Lily's International Women's Day Youth Event. Last year, we had a group of youths (supported by YcNCT and Free2B girls) visit the Councillors to present to us how we can support and best represent them in Break O' Day. It was an inspiring presentation and even more inspiring that some of these young people (in particular Lily) organised this event to celebrate young voices being heard in the community. Lily gave an empowering speech on the importance of youths having a voice.

With One Voice Break O' Day choir did what they do best and entertained and sung, with visitors and volunteers joining in and the St Marys Repurposing and Upcycling Group were on hand upcycling materials to facilitate craft activities. There was something for everyone with many from all ages coming to support the event and a great example of the community coming together to spread a positive message. Council is honoured we were asked to support the event and a big thank you to everyone who donated and help organise the event to celebrate the youth of Break O' Day and equality for women. What a success!

Community Update: Fingal Valley and St Marys Projects

The St Marys Evacuation Centre is well underway and approaching the 'lockup stage'. This means the bare bones of the foundation, the flooring, exterior walls and the roof are now all complete. Reaching lockup stage is a significant milestone for the project.

The new Indoor and Evacuation Centre will provide a new space for community activities such as a community gym, change facilities for the sports ground and will also provide catering facilities. This will be a flexible, indoor space for multi-use.



Photo: St Marys Evacuation Centre is drawing closer to 'lockup stage'

The project has been split into stages, with some parts of the project such as decks and pergola's pending further

funding opportunities but we are hopeful to have the building open for use by September 2024.



Photo: The Fingal Slab is currently underway with the slab being installed.

The Fingal Community Shed is progressing well with the concrete slab installed ready for the next stage of building. This has a completion date for August 2024 and will be a nice little addition to Fingal. The Community Shed will support a community of makers, builders and mechanics in Break O' Day. Community feedback was very useful in helping get these projects up and running and we can't wait to see the community benefiting from these projects once completed.

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 Cecilia Street, St Helens.

What Do I Say? What Do I Do? - 10 April

A FREE community workshop to increase understanding of suicide bereavement and learn basic support skills. This will be held at the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House. RSVP by 5 April by phoning 6374 2344. For more information phone Gayle Carroll on 0429 366 386. Light lunch provided.

LGBTIQA+ Disability Forum - 18 April

This forum will raise awareness about the issues LGBTIQA+ and the LGBTIQA+ living with disability face in their lives. There will be a FREE BBQ and social opportunities as well as presentations from lived experience speakers. You can register at EventBrite or call Paige on 6491 1552 for more information.

Autumn Harvest Festival 19 April

Come check out this FREE event at the St Helens Community Garden in Eagle Street. Fun to be had for all ages with food vans, market stalls, children's activities and competitions and more. Rock out to some live music and show off your moves. Event is between 4pm-7pm. For more information contact either Fingal Valley (6374 2344) or St Helens (6376 1134) Neighbourhood Houses.

St Helens Library: STEAM Fun - 19 April

Dive into a whirlwind of STEAM fun with 'kites, shells and sea snakes!'

Join library staff as you craft kites that defy gravity, count seashells and measure sea snakes.

Bookings via Eventbrite.

Contact the Library on 6387 5600 for more information. Laurel House - Community Conversation -

24 April

Join Laurel House for a conversation and FREE training about sex, consent and preventing harm for everyone's wellbeing. The session will be held at Break O' Day Trade Training Centre - 1a Groom Street, St Helens at 12.00pm-1.30pm with lunch provided.

RSVP by 17 April by emailing nita.joy@laurelhouse.org.au

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.

"I'm a reflection of the community."
- Tupac Shakur

Council Works Reports

- North Ansons Bay Road sealing completed.
- North Ansons Bay Road resheeting completed.
- St Columba Falls Road – shoulder widening and sealing is in-progress.
- Old High way Seymour – sealing, pavement pre work completed, final trim and seal 1st quarter of 2024. Project now complete with on some line marking to be done.
- Installing new drainage in Morrison Street, Falmouth - works have started with completion expected after Easter.
- Stormwater works in Victoria Street after Easter.
- Resheeting works have commenced on Upper Scamander Road.
- Resheeting of Davis Gully Road and Lyne Court at Fourmile Creek have been completed.
- Pavement damage on Lottah Road and Goulds Country Road are underway. Some roads have been repaired with some still receiving attention, works are expected to be completed after Easter.



Want help identifying weeds and help weed control efforts?

Weedscan is a free Australian app that identifies weeds from photos and puts them on the map. You can use it online:

weedscan.org.au/

DOG STATISTICS 3/01/2024 - 8/02/2024

Urban Patrols = 11
Beach Patrols = 15
Infringements = 0
Unregistered Dog = 0
Impounded dogs = 1

Weed of the Month - pampas grass

Pampas grass is a Declared Pest that spreads aggressively by tiny windblown seeds that grow into very large tussocks. Relatively small numbers persist in parts of Break O'Day despite efforts over the years to eradicate it.

In autumn new growth and large pink or white flower heads make pampas easy to spot for control. 'Deadhead' the flowers first by cutting them off carefully to not lose seeds in the wind and bagging them securely. The dense roots can be dug and pulled out if plants are small, or larger ones if you have time

on your hands and need the exercise! Treatment with herbicide is effective for large plants.

For more information on identification, treatment and control look up pampas grasses on the 'declared-weeds-index' at nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds



Now Live Streaming Council Meetings

Break O'Day Council is pleased to announce the launch of live streaming for its council meetings which aims to encourage greater access and community engagement. With the introduction of live streaming, residents can now conveniently tune in to council proceedings from the comfort of their homes, workplaces, or anywhere with an internet connection. This will make sure they can be kept informed in the decision-making processes that shape our local community. By offering live access to council meetings, residents will have a firsthand view of discussions, decisions, and deliberations taking place within the council chambers. It will also offer greater access to residents who may otherwise face barriers to attending meetings in person.

"We want to make sure our community has as much opportunity as possible to be involved in the decision making of Council as well as be informed and learn more about what amazing things our local Council does," Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer our community such easy access to meetings, now the community can tune in and watch the meetings live or later, when it suits them."

Residents interested in staying informed about Council matters can easily access live streams of meetings via our website www.bodc.tas.gov.au or subscribe to our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@BreakODayCouncilTAS to receive video notifications. Council's Facebook page will also post the link on the day.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN BREAK O'DAY

**IF YOU NEED HELP NAVIGATING YOUR
EMOTIONS OR JUST LOOKING FOR
SOMEONE TO TALK TO SUPPORT IS
AVAILABLE.**

Visit BODC's Health and Wellbeing page on our website www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/health-and-wellbeing to find the Break O'Day Mental Health Directories or pick up a copy from Council office.

You can also contact Fingal Valley (6374 2344) or St Helens (6376 1134) Neighbourhood House for assistance with services in Break O'Day.