

**Next Council Meetings:**  
**28 June and 19 July at 10am at the Council Chambers, St Helens**

## From Acting General Manager - Bob Hoogland

It is great to see that events are starting to happen again in our area after a COVID enforced break.

The June long weekend promises to be a fantastic weekend of activity and will see two signature events return to the municipality, the Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival and the St Marys Car, Boat and Pedal Car Show.

The St Marys Car Show is held in the main street of the town which comes alive with a range of vehicles - old, new, and a little bit different. The event also features live music, food vans, prizes and a market. It is certainly worth checking out as there seems to be something for everyone

The Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival will also be in full swing and features a range of events. The Bay of Fires Youth Art Prize will be exhibited in the Portland Hall from Friday 11th from 10am – 4pm. The Major Art Prize exhibition also starts Friday, commencing with a smoking ceremony. Held on the foreshore near the cosmic egg from 4:30pm, the smoking ceremony will be conducted by local Aboriginal Elder Jeanymaree and students from St Helens District High School. This is new to the event and has been facilitated by the Destination Action Plan committee. Following this, attendees can head over to the official Bay of Fires Art Prize Exhibition, this is a ticketed event (at Panorama) so make sure you have booked.

Saturday also promises a day of fun starting with a Dawn Dash and Splash (clothes optional) swim at Binalong Bay. Throughout the day you will also find the Terrapin Puppet Theatre performing or you can go for a drive and explore some local artists in residence with the Secret People, Secret Places self-drive experience.

You can find more information at [www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au](http://www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au).



Mayor Mick Tucker with one of the new signs you will be able to spot along the Great Eastern Drive

## Council decides to Watch out for Wildlife

Break O'Day Council has partnered with neighbouring Council, Glamorgan Spring Bay, East Coast Tourism, Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary and Hobart Airport in an effort to reduce road kill on the Great Eastern Drive.

Several months ago Break O'Day Council was approached by Hobart Airport to see if they would be interested in supporting a Watch Out for Wildlife campaign. Inspired by the colourful branding of the Hobart Airport and Bonorong's work in this space, the east coast Council started conversations with East Coast Tourism around implementing Watch Out for Wildlife signage along the Great Eastern Drive.

"We are really proud of our role in the development and installation of this signage," Break O'Day Mayor Mick Tucker said.

"All the township signs in our municipality as well as Glamorgan, will now feature these colourful signs which we hope will encourage visitors and locals alike to Watch Out for Wildlife."

There are more than 20 signs in total with varying designs which aim to ensure that drivers don't get fatigued by seeing the same sign every time. Each sign has been designed in the original campaign's style of bright blue and greens and features various wildlife from spotted quolls, devils, wallabies and wombats.

East Coast Tourism CEO Rhonda Taylor said when she first heard the idea she thought it was a great idea and really fits with the values of the east coast as well as the Great Eastern Drive.

"We know that people come to our area to see not just the beautiful landscapes but the fauna as well," she said.

"We understand that it can be distressing to our visitors in particular to see road kill and we are appreciative of any opportunity to protect them, like reinforcing slowing down from dusk to dawn and looking out for wildlife."

# North East Bioregional Network Award Win

Council would like to congratulate on behalf of the community, the North East Bioregional Network (NEBN) and Todd Dudley on their international award win.

The Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) held its annual forum from 10 – 13 May in Darwin where the work of ecological restoration projects was formally recognised.

NEBN were nominated in the Ecological restoration excellence award in the over 50 ha category where they won for their work on the Skyline Tier restoration project.

The Skyline Tier project involved the restoration of around 2000 ha of logged radiata pine forest behind Beaumaris. The project included the planting of thousands of trees and native plants to encourage natural habitat regeneration.

If you want to see the value of this work, all you have to do is take a drive out Skyline Drive to appreciate this huge undertaking.

You can read more about the project at [www.nebn.org.au](http://www.nebn.org.au)



President of the NEBN, Todd Dudley pictured on Skyline Tier with community conservation workers

## Responsible Dog ownership and you

We want you and your furry friend to get out and about together for exercise and to enjoy each other's company but it is important that you do the right thing as a responsible dog owner.

Break O'Day Council and Parks and Wildlife have tried to find a balance between dog ownership and our native wildlife by declaring certain areas suitable for dogs on and off leash while trying to protect our threatened shore birds – These areas are called the Dog Management Zones (scan the QR Code below to see these areas).

While you are out and about in our beautiful environment with your dog we ask you remember these two things:

1. Clean Up after your Dog. – You will find that some areas where dogs are allowed will provide doggy doo bags but it is always recommended that you have some with you at all times. No one likes stepping in dog

2. Obey the dog restrictions at various locations – Because of the native animals and threatened birds in our area we have tried to ensure that there is a balance between where people can walk their dogs both on and off lead as well as protecting threatened and vulnerable species.

Scan the QR Code below for a map of the Break O'Day Dog Zones.



## IN BRIEF

### BPAY – make sure you use the right one

If you like to use BPAY to pay your Council fees like rates and dog registration, please make sure that you check the reference number before you submit your payment. We use different numbers for each of your invoices so for example, your dog registration reference is not the same as your rates one.

Also, if you are using BPAY, just a reminder that it can take up to three working days to land in our account so it is important you make your payment at least three days prior to the due date. Thank you.

### Top Tassie Tourist town update

Break O'Day Council and the Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce have once again entered St Helens in the Tourism Industry Council Tasmania, Tassie Top Tourism Town competition which we won in 2020.

If we win again this year not only will we be back to back winners but we will also have the opportunity to compete against the top tourism towns of the other states in a national competition. The winner will be announced on 4 June. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for voting and for being the inspiration behind our entry.

If you haven't seen our video entry, you can find it on Council's website on the Employment page.

### Dog Registration

We have now sent out Dog registrations renewals so if you have not received yours yet, please contact the office on 63767900.

Pay your dog registration prior to 30 June 2021, to be eligible for the early bird discount.

You can find our newsletters online at [www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/news-events/](http://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/news-events/)



# Old Scamander Bridge Removal

State Growth has now started work on the removal of the Old Scamander Bridge.

If you have driven across the new bridge lately you will notice that the pedestrian guardrail is now completed which means it is finally time to move on the removal of the Old Bridge.

While Council understands that there are residents in the area that have an attachment to the bridge, we would like to take this opportunity to remind the community of the facts around this bridge:

1. The bridge is State Growth property, not Council
2. State Growth asked Council if we would like to have the bridge as one

of our assets

3. To keep the bridge was going to cost more than \$2.1million to refurbish – State Growth said they would contribute \$1million to this.
4. The ongoing cost of the bridge if kept was approximately \$30,000 a year
5. Even if the bridge was refurbished, it would not be able to be used to build anything on it.
6. The bridge was denied Heritage Listing by the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

You can find more information on the bridge on our website under My Community, News, Old and New Scamander Bridge Works – FAQ.

# Winter warming wood heater etiquette

Now that winter is here many of us will be cranking our wood heaters in an attempt to battle the chill.

While wood heaters are great for warming ourselves and our homes, they can also become an environmental hazard, not just to the environment, but our neighbours as well. If fires are not lit and burning correctly they can produce a lot of smoke which can cause problems for people who suffer from illnesses like asthma and heart disease.

The Environment Protection Authority

(EPA), Tasmania has a Burn Brighter this Winter program which aims to reduce exposure to wood smoke. They give four main tips.

1. Always burn with a flame – don't let your fire smoulder
2. After reloading, open the air control and burn your fire on high for 20 minutes, especially before going to bed
3. Only burn dry, seasonal wood
4. Ensure your flue is clean

You can find more information on the EPA website, [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)

# WHATS ON

## Restoring Nature and Communities 5 June

Held at Panorama, speakers from University of Tasmania and Highways and Byways, NEBN. Morning tea provided. Call 63761049 to RSVP.

## Breast Screen Tasmania 7 June - 2 July

The Breast Screen Bus will be at the St Helens District Hospital. To make an appointment call 132050

## Free IT help for older Tasmanians 8 June

Held at the St Marys Hall from 12noon to 4pm. Appointments required. Please call 62313265

## YCNECT Mad Hatter Tea Party 8 June

Held at the Portland Hall includes; free snacks, games, crazy dress and more. For more info call 0457362320. BYO mug or cup.

## Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival 11 to 13 June

A range of events make up this annual festival including the \$20,000 Arts Prize. Visit their website for more information: [www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au](http://www.bayoffireswinterartsfestival.com.au)

## St Marys Car, Bike and Pedal Car Show 13 June

Held in the main street from 9am - 2pm. Great prizes, live music, food stalls and market. Free Entry.

## St Helens Markets Every Saturday from 9am - 1pm

Drop by the St Helens Markets in the Portland Hall and bag yourself a locally crafted gift or some fresh produce.

**"My partner constantly screams at me and always puts me down, telling me I'm useless."**

**THIS IS VERBAL ABUSE  
AND IT IS FAMILY VIOLENCE.**

Help and support is available.



Contact a specialist service or visit  
[www.safefromviolence.tas.gov.au](http://www.safefromviolence.tas.gov.au)  
for more information.



## Support services include:

- **Safe at Home Family Violence Response - 1800 633 937**
- **1800RESPECT (1800 737 732)**
- **Men's Referral service to counsel men who use family violence 1300 766 491**
- **LifeLine: 131114**
- **Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800**



# MULCH \$20M<sup>3</sup>

Double mulched green waste  
suitable for garden use available  
from the St Helens Waste Transfer  
Station.

Bring your ute or trailer and we will  
load it for you.

**AVAILABLE BETWEEN  
10AM AND 2PM  
WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY**

## Council Works Updates

### **Mortys Carpark near Raida:**

Council crew will be putting up light poles, planting the gardens and generally tidying up this area so it is ready for the June long weekend, weather dependent.

### **Town Maintenance**

Crews are busy shifting their attention from grass mowing to clearing Autumn leaves around our town areas on a regular basis.

### **Road Works**

The Road crews have been busy the last few weeks including:

- Grading the southern road network in and around the Seymour area
- Started grading works on North Anson's Bay road
- Addressing maintenance grading including; Terryvale Rd, Argonaut Road plus other gravel roads around the Break O'Day area.
- Extensive bitumen road patching undertaken in most areas

### **MAJOR PROJECT UPDATES:**

#### **Gardens Road:**

Temporary signs will be replaced by permanent signs this week. Guardrails will be installed in July.

#### **St Helens Point Road:**

Minor items are being cleaned up now. Temporary signs have been removed.

#### **Skyline Drive:**

Minor items are being cleaned up now. Temporary signs will remain in place while motorists and pedestrians become familiar with the new intersection.



Andrew Howard, town maintenance, dealing with the Autumn leaves in St Helens

## Weed of the month- Boneseed



Boneseed is a declared weed in Tasmania and considered one of the worst and most invasive weeds in Australia. It is able to establish itself anywhere and it can produce up to

50,000 seeds a year. 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: [dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds](http://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds)

## St Marys and Fingal Valley Bank Update

Earlier this month the Commonwealth Bank announced that it would be closing the St Marys branch in August 2021. This leaves the entire Fingal Valley without a physical banking branch.

Council had no prior warning about this and found out about the closure through the media as well as through concerned residents who aired their concerns with Councillors.

Council was disappointed about this decision and the lack of consultation considering Council moved funds to the branch in 2001 to support the retention of the branch in the area. Council has written to the CBA and expressed its dissatisfaction with the decision and most importantly the lack

of consultation.

In an effort to ensure St Marys and Fingal have the banking service level they require, Council engaged with the St Helens/St Marys Community Bendigo Bank to hold a drop-in session at the St Marys Sports Complex on Thursday 27 May.

The Community Bank team held the session so that they could get a better understanding of the banking needs of the community and to determine if there is any way that the Community Bank can realistically fill that need.

Only 25 people showed up to the session so the Community Bank is now examining its next course of action.

## In Business in Break O'Day? We need your help

Twice a year, in winter and summer we conduct a business survey so we can better understand our business community and how best we can assist you. The way we do this is by sending out a link to our Business Community database. This database is also used to pass on important business related information to our Business Community like funding opportunities, upcoming events and more.

The Business survey information is collated year on year so we can look at trends and are better informed to

make decision about our business community. We also use this information when seeking external funding. You can check out the most recent as well as previous surveys on our website under My Community, Community Consultation, Business Survey.

If you are a Break O'Day business and you have not received a survey link, please email [jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au](mailto:jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au). or head to our website, My Community, Community Consultation, Business Survey.