

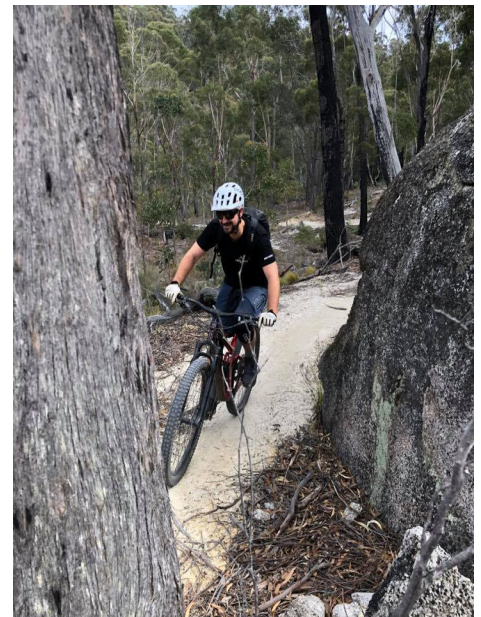
Next Council Meetings:
16 December and January 9 at 10am

From General Manager - John Brown

It was with a great sense of satisfaction the team working on the St Helens MTB Trails project participated in the opening and listened to the stories and feedback from those who had been out on the trails. The journey to this point has taken nearly five years and started soon after the opening of the Derby trails. From the outset, a small team within Council worked diligently through the design and approvals process leading us to the point where we could pursue funding for the project which was obtained through the Tasmanian and Federal Governments. Once this was secured, the team working on the project increased as we moved towards the construction phase and tying up leases and licences around this complex project. Over the last few months the pace of activity leading up to the opening increased exponentially. The project wouldn't have come together like it did without the hard work of Council staff, Works Teams, the many local contractors and of course the team at World Trail. I do need to single out one person, our Trails Project Manager, Ben Pettman, who has led the construction and delivery of this project and has done an outstanding job.

It has been a broad effort, the support we received from key stakeholders and land managers such as Parks & Wildlife Service, Tourism Tasmania, Sustainable Timbers Tasmania has been vital in getting to the point where we are today. As the project became 'real', we could see the interest and positivity build within the local community and businesses which, we hoped would happen. Seeing new businesses pop up made it even more real, Kerry & Jo Franklin at Gravity Isle, John Brakey at Giant St Helens, and Peter Robinson at Big 4 Caravan Park represent how businesses are going to grow in St Helens and surrounding areas, providing employment opportunities, particularly for our youth.

Apart from the smiles on the faces of the riders coming off the trails, one of the things which brought the greatest sense of satisfaction was seeing the kids of all ages out on their bikes having a great time. Helmets off to the local Pedalheads Mountain Bike Club who are at the forefront of getting our younger community members involved in riding and helping look after the trails.



Top: Mayor Mick Tucker talking to the media at Swimcart Beach. Above; riders tackling the Bay of Fires Trail.

St Helens MTB Trails Open

The St Helens MTB Trails are now open and after an amazing weekend, we are pleased to report that the trails are receiving positive feedback from pro riders to beginners.

The trails officially opened on Friday 22 November with two ribbon cutting ceremonies, one at Swimcart Beach for the Bay of Fires Trail which was opened by Senator Claire Chandler, and the other at the Flagstaff stacked loops which, were opened by John Tucker MP.

Sen. Chandler was one of 11 VIPs who were invited to take part in a World Trail guided ride on the Bay of Fires trail from the Halfway point on Ansons Bay Road. There were a few tumbles along the way, including Mayor Mick Tucker who left a little piece of himself on the trails, but Sen. Chandler made it unscathed to Swimcart and officially declared the trail open.

Ex-Break O'Day Councillor, now Lyons MP, John Tucker officially cut the ribbon and declared the St Helens stacked

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loops open on behalf of the State Government. He expressed his pride in the project which he had seen evolve during his time as a BODC Councillor. Once opened, the trails were a real buzz of activity with plenty of the local school kids taking the Friday off just to ride the trails. We also met people from California, France and all over Tasmania who were pleased to be some of the first to ride the St Helens Mountain Bike Trails.

With the all the official stuff out of the way, the community threw a Mountains to the Sea Trail-fest throughout the town of St Helens on the Saturday. This saw Shape and Ride on the foreshore running kids MTB skills coaching; which was booked out almost a week

before, Borys Zagrocki MTB stunt rider performing in the main street to a crowd of enthralled kids and adults, live music from the Pretty Things as well as stalls and promotions throughout the local business community.

Little Rivers Brewing Co. also used the Trail-Fest as an opportunity to launch their two new beers named after the trails, Pearler Lager and Salty Dog Pale Ale. The new Giant store opened its doors to the public making their first sales.

All in all it was an epic couple of days and Council would like to thank the community and local businesses for their involvement, excitement and pride in being a part of this project.



Mayor Mick Tucker and John Tucker MP open the trails.

Welcome and Thanks to our Trail Ambassadors

It has always been the goal of the Break O'Day Council to ensure the St Helens Mountain Bike Trails would be financially sustainable. This has led to us developing the Trails Ambassador program.

The launch of this program included a special introductory offer; businesses who signed up prior to 30 September received a 50% off the second year. Break O'Day Council were overwhelmed with the initial response to the program which will position the participants as official partners of the trails.

Benefits of the tiered program include; promotion of your business through official St Helens MTB Trail channels, recognition at the Trailhead and on the website, the use of the St Helens MTB brand, sale of official merchandise and more.

These businesses are now proudly displaying their Trail Ambassador stickers around St Helens so keep an eye out for them.

We would like to officially announce, welcome and thank our first St Helens Mountain Bike Trail Ambassadors:

Platinum:

- Gravity Isle Shuttles
- Bayside Comfort Hotel
- NRMA Waterfront Resort
- Vertigo MTB
- Big 4 St Helens Caravan Park
- Bendigo Community Bank
- Tidal Waters Resort

Gold

- Flying Colours Group
- Good Sports
- Woolcott Surveys
- Little Rivers Brewing Co.
- Banjos, St Helens

Silver

- Hillys IGA, St Helens and St Marys.

And our Trail BFFs

- Heidi Howe Harcourts St Helens
- Carmens Inn Holiday Units
- Crank Addicts
- St Helens Newsagency
- Nourish Your Soul Fresh Produce

The Trails Ambassador program is still open and we still have gold and silver packages available, if you would like to know more, please email : angela.matthews@bodc.com.au.

What's on at the St Helens History Room

'Shackleton'

The next exhibition at the St Helens History Room will be from the Australian National Maritime Museum on 'Shackleton'. The exhibition will open mid December and be on display over the summer period. Come and learn about this great Antarctic explorer and the trials he faced to save his crew.

'The Bay – The European History of St Helens'

The latest of Garry Richardson's local histories was launched at the St Helens History Room on Sunday 24 November at 11 am where 60 guests attended. The Mayor of the Break O'Day municipality, Mr Mick Tucker, officiated. This important volume takes in the European history of St Helens and places the settlement of this very popular seaside town in to perspective. Books can be found for sale at the St Helens Newsagency or the St Helens History Room.

For more information about what exhibitions are on at the St Helens History Room please visit their website.



Hanisi takes action on rubbish and wins

On her morning walk to school St Helens district High School grade 5 student Hanisi Terry was "very disappointed" by how much rubbish was along the Kings Park walkway.

Hanisi had been studying sustainability at school and having learnt about the importance of taking action, she was not content to do nothing so she wrote to us at Council.

In her letter she pointed out that the nearest bin to Kings Park was at the Fisherman's Memorial Park and stated that she was "very serious and keen to get new bins installed at Kings Park.

Of course we were happy to oblige and have now installed a bin in Kings Park! Hanisi and Council both hope that people will now start using the bin provided instead of dropping rubbish on the ground, and if you do litter, you will have Hanisi to answer to.



Hanisi Terry with 'her' new bin on the Kings Park walkway

Flat Bridge Works - St Marys

As part of the St Marys Flood Mitigation Project, Council contractors, Bridge Pro, will be raising the height of The Flat Bridge, St Marys by one metre including culverts and road ramps. The St Marys Flood Risk Management project found this will reduce flooding of Main Street significantly.

This work is scheduled to start on 4 December and take two to three weeks. The aim is to have the work completed by Christmas.

During this time the road will be closed with access still available via Franks Street. Please obey roadworks signage, stay clear and drive with care to keep workers and the public safe.

FREE GREEN WASTE
Every Sunday from:
3 November - 23 February

You can dispose of your green waste for free at the following Waste Transfer Stations:
St Helens, Scamander
and St Marys.

Report rubbish

A new online web application called Report Rubbish makes it easy to report litter and dumping via smartphone, tablet or computer.

Developed by the EPA to help reduce littering and dumping in Tasmania, Report Rubbish is simple to use. It requests information about the location, quantity and type of rubbish found. Photos of the rubbish can also be uploaded.

The system automatically forwards the report to the relevant authority (such as a local council or State Government organisation) alerting them that the rubbish is there.

If you see a pile of rubbish or littering happening, hop onto Report Rubbish at rubbish.epa.tas.gov.au

**Want to receive your
newsletter via email?
Please email**

jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au

What's On

St Marys Market

29 November

This market will be your last chance to buy your loved ones handmade Christmas presents. To help get you in the Christmas spirit there will also be Christmas Carols. Held at the St Marys Town Hall from 1-5pm.

Lunch and Munch

29 November

Held at Tidal Waters from 12 - 2pm. This month's special guests are Simone Lee, Don Ives and band and, Jo King. Members \$8, non-members \$12.

Carols by Candlelight

14 December

Featuring the Choir of High Hopes, Carols by candlelight will be held at the Portland Hall from 7:30pm.

Walkathon for Homelessness

7 December

Starting at 9am at the St Helens Football Grounds the Break O'Day Action Group for Homelessness will hold a 24hr walkathon. The aim is to raise awareness for homelessness in the area. All welcome.

Van Diemen Band - Christmas in St Helens

18 December

Performing at the Portland Hall from 6-8pm, the VDB will be performing a range of family friendly Christmas music including well known carols.

St Helens Christmas Parade

24 December

Children's raffle at 5pm, Prize wheel at 6pm and the parade at 7pm.

St Marys Christmas Parade

24 December

Christmas eve celebrations, Christmas activities and giveaways and a visit from Santa. Starting at 3pm, Christmas parade at 5pm and finishing at 6pm.

St Helens Markets

Every Saturday

Held every Saturday in the St Helens town centre from 8am - 1pm. New stall holders welcome, phone 0408 927 154.

Old Codgers Meeting

Every Friday

St Helens Books and Coffee are offering men over 50 the chance to call in, enjoy a hot cuppa. Held from 2-4pm. Cost: \$1 per cuppa.

Capital Works Projects - November/December

- A new blackwater dump point has been installed at the St Helens Rec. Ground RV area to meet increased demand.
- We have a new rubbish truck servicing town litter bins.
- Crews will be focusing on town maintenance in the lead up to Christmas.
- Grading crews will be commencing maintenance on North Ansons Bay Road in the first week of December and will work their way back to St Helens incorporating Ansons Bay Road.
- Frank Street, Falmouth intersection will be resealed in December.
- A new section of Beaumaris Avenue leading to the playground will be sealed in December.

The road resealing program is scheduled to commence the first week of December. To see a full list of streets included please visit the Current Works section of our website.

New Staff -Welcome!

In order to keep the St Helens MTB Trails in top condition, we have employed two new Trail Maintenance workers.

We would like to welcome Rowan Garth and Luke Bouckaert. Rowan is a local Beaumaris lad who has most recently been employed by World Trail constructing the St Helens MTB Trail network, so he has a lot of experience around trail building and the network. Luke is a man of many talents and has moved to our area from the Sunshine Coast to combine two of his biggest loves, mountain biking and working outdoors. It helps that his partner also works in St Helens!

Welcome Luke and Rowan to the BODC team.

Weed of the month- Sea Spurge



Sea spurge is a coastal invasive weed native to Europe. It invades beaches,

mainly upper areas and dunes. This results in beach and dune deterioration threatening the displacement of native species.

Each plant can produce up to 5000 seeds. They are salt tolerant and can survive for several years in the sea making it easy for them to spread from beach to beach.

Sea spurge has a relatively shallow root system and can be easily removed by hand. Ensure that sturdy gloves are worn when removing sea spurge as their milky sap is toxic and may irritate skin and eyes. Washing hands after handling is important.

For more information please go to www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/weeds.

Take care to avoid nesting seabirds on the beach from October to March

Please report dog sign vandalism

In recent weeks dog management signs at Binalong Bay have been vandalised with black paint and even completely removed. This behaviour is not just illegal, it shows a blatant disregard for nesting bird life, as well as other users of the area.

Anyone with information about abuse of dog signs and dog access rules at Binalong Bay is asked to report it to Council, the Parks and Wildlife Service or the Police.

In an effort to find a balance between dog owners and native shore birds, Break O'Day Council in partnership with Parks and Wildlife have developed and

implemented new dog management zones.

While we appreciate that not everyone may be happy with the dog zone changes, there are plenty of alternative places to walk your dog in the Break O'Day area. St Helens has a fenced off-lead exercise area at the Sports Complex (a great social outing for dogs and their owners) and there is plenty of off-lead beach provided on St Helens Point and further south.

Please choose responsible dog care and habits, the beach is not just yours and your dog's we must share it with native birdlife as well as other people.



The St Helens Online Access Centre offer a range of FREE community services

St Helen's Online Access Centre is open to the public five days a week and offers a range of FREE digital services.

To find out more drop in to the centre at 61 Cecilia Street, St Helen's next to the St Helen's Library Monday to Friday from 10am to 5pm. Ph: 63761116, email: sthelens.oac@education.tas.gov.au or find us on Facebook.