

From General Manager - John Brown

Recently we conducted some informal engagement sessions with the community in relation to work we are undertaking to prepare a new Local Provisions Schedule which brings us into line with the State Government's Tasmanian Planning Scheme requirements. The sessions focussed on talking about the information that has been developed so far and gaining input from those who attended; local knowledge plays an important part in making sure we get this as right as possible. A diverse range of views are held by community members on key elements which they feel passionately about.

One area of particular interest relates to the oft quoted 'prohibition of subdivision within 1km of the coast'. Indeed the Environmental Living Zone in the current Break O'Day Planning Scheme has a requirement that any new lots must be located at least 1km from the High Water Mark. Under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme structure the Environmental Living Zone will disappear and is essentially replaced by the Landscape Conservation Zone which whilst it doesn't have the same 'prohibition' approach, it does increase the minimum lot size to 50ha. As we have very few individual lots of land along the coast in the Environmental Living Zone of this size the same outcome or better is basically being achieved because it covers areas more than 1km from the Coast.

As we progress into the formal part of the process with public exhibition of the Planning Scheme and Local Provision Schedules, it is important for the community to look at this information and take advantage of the opportunity to have their say whether it is to support what is proposed or suggest something else. That stage is still a number of months off and we will feel a sense of relief when we get to that phase.



Members of the Break O'Day Council One Night Stand Team just before the gates opened.

One Night Stand St Helens takes home Launceston Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Event, 2019 Award

A year on and we are still basking in the glory of the One Night Stand and being recognised for the effort our whole community went to to execute the event.

The latest accolade came on Saturday 26 October, at the Launceston Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards where we won Outstanding Event of the year.

This is the most prestigious award to date as we were up against some stiff competition including the Qantas Tourism Awards.

The judges of this award stated that our entry was a stand-out as not only did we achieve a hugely successful event in only 12 weeks, we involved the entire community and raised more than \$28,000 for charity.

"The Launceston Chamber of Commerce congratulates the Break O'Day Council on their winning TasPlan Business Excellence Awards entry in the Outstanding Event category

for the St Helens One Night Stand," Launceston Chamber of Commerce CEO, Neil Grose said.

"The success of the St Helens One Night Stand event epitomises the strength of the East Coast community who seized upon a unique opportunity to bring a huge national music event to St Helens with only several weeks' notice, and made it an outstanding success."

"This win also demonstrates a council and council staff who are prepared to make a huge effort for the benefit of the whole community."

"This category is very competitive with previous winners including the 2017 Enduro World series at Derby and the Subaru Rally in Launceston in 2018."

Despite these awards being through the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, they are open to all businesses and organisations in the North of the state and we would encourage local businesses to consider applying next year.

St Helens Mountain Bike Trails Opening

Are you ready?

Are you ready for the official opening of the St Helens Mountain Bike Trails? The trails will officially open on Friday 22 November with ribbon cutting ceremonies at Swimcart Beach and Flagstaff. However the real celebration will be on Saturday 23 November when the whole town of St Helens will come alive.

As mentioned previously, we have arranged for a variety of activity in St Helens town including; MTB coaching on the foreshore, a MTB stunt rider and live music in Cecilia Street. We will be partially closing Cecilia Street from Pendrigh Place to Quail Street from

1pm – 6pm on Saturday. There will still be access to the Supa IGA, United Petroleum and Pendrigh place with a diversion in place via Circassian and Bowen Streets.

We will be promoting the activities for this weekend via our website and social media pages including the St Helens Mountain Bike Trails page, so if you are a local business organising an event, please get in touch with us so we can add your event to our Gig Guide.

Please call or email Jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au if you would like your event/promotion included.



Left: Extreme Bike Stunts, Borys Zagrocki. Right: Chritsa from Shape and Ride with some of her students. Both Christa and Borys will be at the St Helens MTB Trail opening.

Council Trainees find full time employment

For the last three years Riley Plummer has been employed by Australian Employment Services (AES) and hosted by Council as a Trainee. He has proven himself to be a valuable member of the Valley Works team and has now completed his Certificate III in Civil Construction.

It is with great pleasure that we have made an offer to Riley of full-time

employment with Council which he has accepted. This is a great outcome for both Riley and Council.

Nathan Booth who was hosted as part of the same program with Riley, found employment as an apprentice in Launceston 18 months into the traineeship. So both young men have found full-time employment as a result of their time with Council as Trainees.

Rates Instalment

The next rates instalment is due on 12 November. Please note that BPAY and postal payments can take a few days to reach our account.

Like to receive your rates notice by email? You can register for this service through our website. Just click on the My Property tab and the Rate payments menu and follow the link. www.bodc.enotices.com.au

Sharps replacement containers

Council decided at the October Council meeting to provide replacement sharps containers to low income earners when they drop off their full containers.

All people have to do is drop-off their full containers at the main office on Georges Bay Esplanade, St Helens and show their Health Care or Pensioner card to get a free replacement.

Binalong Bay Seawall

Update from St Helens Marine Rescue

MAST have now completed works on the Binalong Bay Seawall and the ramp is officially open for boaters. The sea wall was tested several weeks ago by a dramatic north easterly swell and held up very well.

Local Provision Schedule – Drop-in Sessions

Did you miss our Planning Drop-in Sessions?

You can find plenty of info on our website including tables outlining the differences between zones, FAQ sheets and background information.

If you still have questions, we also have a display set up in the main office and the Planning Coordinator, Geraldine, is happy to walk people through the changes. We would recommend that you call first to ensure that Geraldine is in the office. 6376 7900.

www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/community-consultation/

New Banner Poles

Have you noticed our brand new banner poles in the main street, Cecilia Street, St Helens? They have been replaced to ensure safety, they even include seagull spikes and lanyard lockers. Thanks to Jules from East Coast Welding for his professionalism with this project and the works crew for coming up with the new look. The new poles have a life of 20 years.

Trail Ambassadors

Our Trail Ambassador program was received with great success and enthusiasm amongst the St Helens business community and we are getting close to being able to announce who our prestigious Ambassadors are! Keep an eye on social media, either the Break O'Day Council page or the St Helens Mountain Bike Trail's page for the big reveal!

Tasman HWY Crossing Boggy Creek to Lions Park

You may have noticed that work has commenced on the crossing from the Boggy Creek Boardwalk, across the Tasman Hwy to Lions Park. These works are part of the St Helens Mountain Bike Trail Network and will allow walkers and cyclists to safely cross the Tasman Hwy to either head up to the Trailhead or continue riding/walking around the Georges Bay multi-user trail.

As the road owner, State Growth approved and dictated the designs for the crossing from a Traffic Engineer before issuing Council with a permit to undertake the works based on their approval of this design. While there may be concerns regarding the location from the community,

Council must adhere to the permit guidelines provided by State Growth which was based on the expertise of a Traffic Engineer. The design included appropriate signage on the Tasman Hwy advising motorists of a crossing ahead and Council plans on installing as well as advising cyclists to dismount and give way before crossing the road. We have also asked State Growth to move the 60km speed limit south by approximately 100metres with any other consequential changes required. We have also raised the need for a broader review of speed limits in the area but not specified what they should be.

Fairy terns, turn on the charm at Scamander

Fourteen courting fairy terns were spotted in the Scamander River mouth bird sanctuary where dogs are currently prohibited until the end of March 2020. This small tern species is listed as vulnerable to extinction in Tasmania and nationally. Less than 100 breeding pairs are thought to be present in Tasmania.

Like the hooded plover and other shorebird species, they nest on the sand and choose wide-open sandy sites for their nesting colonies. If disturbed, the camouflaged eggs and chicks are vulnerable to predation or simply being stepped on.

It is important people observe the prohibited area for dogs in Break

O'Day at this time of year. Signs at Scamander have maps showing the prohibited area and there is a link to an online map for all of Break O'Day on Council's website.

Failing to comply with Council's Dog Management Policy and PWS Regulations can lead to prosecution and a costly beach visit.

Below- A fairy tern. Photo from Eric Woehler



What's On

National Rogaining Championships 9-10 November

Rogaining is a sport similar to orienteering that involves cross country navigation over a large area. Teams of 2 – 5 people navigate their way to check points during a 24 hour period.

St Helens Mountain Bike Trails Information Session

14 November

The last information session will be held at Tidal Waters from 5:30pm to 7pm.

St Helens MTB Trail-fest

22- 23 November

Join the Break O'Day Community in celebrating the long anticipated opening of the St Helens MTB Trails. Held over two days there will be fun and activity for all.

Homelessness FREE Drop-In information sessions

Every Wednesday

Are you currently without a home? Do you need information about what support and services are available to you? OR Do you want to get involved in your local community to help combat homelessness? Come along and join us every Wednesday morning 10am til 11am - everyone welcome, contact Trish on 6376 1134 for more information.

St Marys Markets

First Saturday of every month

Held at the St Marys Hall from 9am - 1pm and featuring local arts and crafts and much more. Stall inquiries can be directed to Megan on 0418 881 315.

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.

Bendigo Bank Community Stadium Events

Pain and Gain Weekly Sessions

Proudly sponsored by
St Helens – St Marys Community Bank®

 **Bendigo Bank**
Bigger than a bank.

Fire Season – Are you prepared?

The Tasmania Fire Service has said that the East Coast will be at significant risk this bushfire season so it is important that you are as prepared as you can be. The following is a checklist of things you should consider in getting prepared.

Have a bag ready to go that includes; Torch, batteries, portable radio, any medications that you will need and any important documentation.

Keep up to date: Keep an eye on Social media sites like TasAlerts, Tasmania Fire Service – we will also share their alerts to our Facebook page. In the case of an emergency our website

will also change to display the most relevant links to information. Listen to ABC radio and StarFM who will be running regular updates.

Is your house ember proof? The biggest threat to property are ember attacks which can come from kms away so make sure; your gutters and roof are clear of debris, anything that is flammable is as far away from your home as possible, keep vegetation around your home as clear as possible. **(We have free green waste disposal at our Wast Transfer Stations every Sunday from November – February)**

Capital Works Projects - October/ November

- Road grading is occurring on Mathinna Plains Road after which the crew will move onto Evercreech Road and then to Ansons Bay Road.
- Work has been completed on upgrading the track at Grey Mares Tail in St Marys and the crew has started work on the track to St Patricks Head which will be followed by work on the track to Mathinna Falls. All of these projects are possible thanks to the provision of Government funding.
- Work at the St Marys Cemetery is underway with the roadways prepared for sealing and two new shelters will be constructed with one at the entrance to the lawn section and one at the rear of the cemetery.
- Fingal streetscape is progressing well and is on track for completion by the end of December.
- Town maintenance / mowing is in full swing with spring growth keeping crews busy across the municipality. Parks and reserves, sports grounds and cemeteries all require extra attention at this time of the year.
- Works to commence on the refuge island, crossing from Boggy Creek to Lions Park. (This project is part of the St Helen Mountain Bike Trails project.)

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

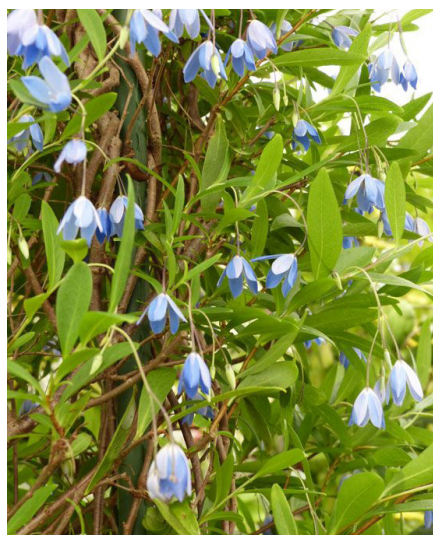
You can dispose of your green waste for free at the following
Waste Transfer Stations:
St Helens, Scamander
and St Marys.

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

Please email

jayne.richardson@bodc.tas.gov.au

Weed of the month- Bluebell Creeper



The bluebell creeper looks like a pretty plant, but did you know it is an invasive environmental weed?

This climber, native to WA, competes with native plants for sunlight eventually smothering them or strangling them with its twine like stem. Now is the time to remove and replace bluebell creeper before it spreads.

Small plants can be easily pulled out and larger plants can be cut and painted with herbicide.

Native blueberry (*Billardiera longiflora*) is a good alternative or replacement for bluebell creeper.

Rogaining Championships come to St Helens

The 2019 Australasian Rogaining Championships will be held in the St Helens area over 9 - 10 November. Rogaining is a sport that appeals to a wide range of people who have a love of the outdoors and enjoy the challenge of bush navigation using basic equipment, such as a map and compass (no GPS!).

The event will be based at Moulting Bay Camp Ground. Starting at 11 am, teams of two to five members will venture into the bush on foot to visit as many check points as possible in 24 hours. A non-championship 11 hour event is also being held.

The competition area covers approximately 120 square kilometers and includes the outskirts of the St Helens township. Do not be surprised

to see competitors walking the streets during this weekend. During the night time they will be wearing head torches. Up to 300 competitors are expected to participate. To date entries have been received from all Australian States, New Zealand, Germany, France, Norway, South Korea and Sri Lanka. The event Director Peter Tuft says the St Helens community has provided valuable support to the organising committee. Particular thanks are due to the staff of the Break O'Day Council, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the landowners who have given permission for their properties to be included in the competition area. The Rotary Club of St Helens is helping with the catering.

Pic supplied.

