

From the General Manager - John Brown

Do you notice the 'things' happening which shape our community? How observant are you? Do you take the time to stop and appreciate them? Some are very visual, some are discreet and just appear or disappear. It can be easy not to see these changes as we go about our daily lives. Anyone driving along Annie Street will see the new St Helens Police Station rapidly taking shape and due to serve our community early in 2026. The old St Helens Hospital has disappeared, leaving many with a tinge of sadness and memories of the role it played in their hour of need or where they may have worked for a lifetime. We have been left with an area whose future is yet to be decided but which can shape the centre of St Helens. The Council continues to lobby the State Government to make the green space fronting Cecilia Street available as a community park. If we think subtle, have you noticed the wonderful artwork on a number of TasWater's pump stations? They might have even caused a few traffic near misses from distracted drivers catching a glimpse. Signage for the new Study Hub in St Helens has appeared on Avery House. There is a Community Open Day on October 22 if you want to have a look and learn how it will shape our community. Lighting has been installed on the Georges Bay Foreshore Track, gradually appearing over the last few months. Hats off to the Council's works team and local contractors who battled numerous challenges to make this happen. Our celebration of this lighting at Beauty Bay on October 2 brought nearly 100 people together—a testament to perseverance and making 'things' happen. Finally, huge congratulations to the mighty East Coast Swans on their Premiership. We must recognise the tireless work of their Committee, players, volunteers, sponsors and supporters.

Community celebrates Georges Bay track lighting at Twilight Walk



Photo: Community gathers to celebrate the newly lit Georges Bay Multi-User Track

Around 100 members of the Break O'Day community came together on Thursday 2 October to celebrate the official lighting of the Georges Bay Multi-User Track with a twilight walk from St Helens Wharf to Beauty Bay. The evening brought the community together to enjoy the popular track now lit by environmentally sustainable solar lighting. Attendees also learned about the history of iconic Georges Bay from guest speaker and local historian Garry Richardson, who shared stories of the Bay's significance, as well as the decades-long development of the track from Andrew McGregor, who reflected on its journey from early beginnings to today. Mayor Mick Tucker said it was fantastic to see the track, a community aspiration for around 40 years, so widely used and celebrated and now under lights. "This track is one of the most loved assets in our municipality, with more than 250 people using it daily at Beauty Bay alone. The new solar lighting will allow the community to enjoy it safely in the mornings and evenings, and it

has been carefully designed to protect the Bay's environment and birdlife while using a sustainable energy source," Mayor Tucker said.

The lighting project was made possible through the support of the Tasmanian Government and the Local Government Association of Tasmania, as part of a \$5 million State Government program that leveraged a further \$8 million in local government investment.

Mayor Tucker also highlighted Council's ongoing vision to extend the track to the Stieglitz boat ramp, a section requiring landslip mitigation and an estimated \$4 million investment. Council continues to advocate strongly with State and Federal representatives to secure funding for this next stage.

"Tonight wasn't just about lights on a track — it was about celebrating community perseverance, the partnerships that made it possible, and the bright future of Georges Bay," Mayor Tucker said.

Council would like to thank everyone who turned up to share the twilight walk and celebration.

East Coast Swans Soar to Division 2 Glory



Photo courtesy of East Coast Swans: .

The East Coast Swans Football Club have claimed victory in the Division 2 Grand Final. The Grand Final win is a testament to the club's teamwork and the support of the community. The Grand Final saw Ethan Goldfinch named Best on Ground. Other standout players included Angus Tate, Nick Child, Will Stoltenburg, Damon Howe, Marcus Haley, and Jared Mason. However, the victory was very much a team effort.

Mayor Mick Tucker congratulated the club, saying the result was a proud moment for Break O'Day. "The East Coast Swans have shown what dedication, teamwork and community spirit can

achieve. Their Grand Final victory is something the whole community can celebrate, and we congratulate every player, coach, committee member, volunteer, and supporter who helped make this success possible."

The club's achievement highlights the importance of local sport in fostering connection and pride. As the Swans celebrate this well-earned victory, the community looks forward to supporting the team in future seasons.

Congratulations again to the East Coast Swans Football Club on a remarkable season!

Support Your Local Stadium!

The Bendigo Bank Community Stadium in St Helens is the hub for basketball, netball, and community events. Each year, it supports over 150 local players and attracts thousands of visitors. Council is now offering sponsorship packages starting from \$200/year—a great way to promote your business while supporting local sport and wellbeing. Benefits include event tickets,

recognition at community events, and promotion through Council channels. Sponsorship ensures programs like Net Set Go, Aussie Hoops, and major events such as the Festival of Wellbeing and Tassie Makers Festivals continue to thrive across our community. For more information or to download sponsorship packages, contact Break O'Day Council at 6376 7900 or admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

Open Day at St Helens Study Hub - 22 Oct

CUC Eastern Tasmania invites the local community to our first Open Day on Wednesday, 22 October, from 2pm-6pm at 48 Cecilia Street, St Helens, opposite the Library. Everyone is welcome to drop in, explore the Centre, take a sneak peek at the facilities, and celebrate the work that has gone into preparing the Centre for local students. If you are studying or planning to study higher or vocational education, register in advance through

the link in our bio. Even if you are exploring your study options, the Open Day is a great opportunity to connect, ask questions, and learn more about what we offer. Please note that access to the first floor is currently by stairs only, as our lift will be installed early next year. Accessible spaces and facilities are available on the ground floor. For further information, please visit www.cuceasterntasmania.edu.au/faqs/

IN BRIEF

EOI: ST MARYS EXHIBITION BUILDING COMMITTEE

Council is establishing a liaison committee to oversee the repair and maintenance of the St Marys Exhibition Building, ensuring it remains a valued space for community use. The committee will also monitor the \$100,000 allocated in the 2025/26 Budget for this project.

The committee will include two community representatives, two Council staff members and one Councillor. It will be chaired by the Council officer managing the restoration project.

Expressions of Interest close 10 October 2025.

To get involved, fill in the EOI form available at <https://www.bodc.tas.gov.au/council/tenders/>. Hard copies are also available at Council offices.

For more information, call 6376 7900 or email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

GARAGE SALE TRAIL RETURNS TO BREAK O'DAY

Garage Sale Trail is back in Break O'Day this November for two weekends: 8–9 and 15–16 November. Join thousands of Australians in buying, selling and reusing. Be part of the fun and sustainability movement in our community.

Whether you sell from home, at a local market, or with neighbours, Garage Sale Trail makes it easy with free tips and promotional materials. Thanks to Council support, participation is free—sell on one day or both weekends. Kids can join too! Learn to reuse, recycle, and make pocket money. Get your DIY kit at www.garagesaletrail.com.au/kids-garage-sales. Register for free at www.garagesaletrail.com.au



East Coast Art Trail: Bringing Colour and Culture to Our Communities



Photo: Judith-Rose with one of her completed murals

TasWater is excited to share the next stage of their award-winning Asset Art program — the East Coast Art Trail.

Seventeen sewage pump station switchboards from Orford to St Helens will be transformed into eye-catching murals. Each artwork will celebrate the history, culture and natural beauty of the East Coast, creating a colourful trail that connects communities along our coastline. The artist leading this work in Break O'Day is Judith-Rose. She is a Trawlwoolway Aboriginal person and Granddaughter (5 times removed) of Manalargenna Chief of the Pairrebeene

Clan, whose country is Tebrikunna. Judith-Rose grew up in Launceston and obtained a Master's degree in Art from UTAS. Her artwork has already started to brighten our streets, you may have spotted some of her finished murals around town.

Break O'Day is proud to be part of this state-wide project. Next time you pass a switchboard, take a moment to enjoy the creativity and the stories it brings to our community.

For more information visit the TasWater Your Say page <https://yoursay.taswater.com.au/east-coast-art-trail>

WHAT'S ON

ALTime Grundge - Friday 10 October 2025

Come along to a night of music and entertainment at the Scamander Beach Resort starting at 8pm. Tickets are available at tickets.oztix.com.au – just search for “Scamander Beach Resort.”

Chalk and Cheese Comedy Night - Saturday 11 October 2025

Enjoy a night of stand-up comedy with Chalk & Cheese at 7 pm at Easy Tiger. Tickets are available at www.humanitix.com/au

FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection -

Saturday 18 October 2025

Don't miss the chance to safely dispose of household hazardous waste! Bring your old cleaners, chemicals and other hazardous items to the St Helens Waste Transfer Station 1:30pm – 4pm. Can't make it to your local collection? Residents can attend any collection event. For full details visit: www.nrmnorth.org.au

Scouts Trivia Night – Friday 24 October 2025

Join the St Helens Scout Group for a fun night of trivia! St Helens Bowls Club, Circassian St. \$20 per person, teams of up to 8 (or you can be placed in a team), Great prizes! Light supper provided. Drinks available at the bar. 6.30pm sharp. Bookings: Carol Liefing – 0418 135 051 | carol.liefing@gmail.com

Scamander River Mouth Coastal Hazards Project – Community Workshops -

Tuesday 28 October 2025

Two community workshops will be held at 1:00 pm and 5:30 pm at the Scamander Sports Complex to discuss the Scamander River Mouth Coastal Hazards Project. For more details visit www.bodc.tas.gov.au/council/current-works-2

Spyders Invading St Helens - 14-16 November 2025

The Can-Am Spyder community is coming to St Helens at the Panorama Hotel and Percy Steel Reserve. On Saturday 15 November from 10 am, visit Percy Steel Reserve to vote for the People's Choice Award at the Show and Shine display. Whether you ride a Spyder or just love a local event, come enjoy a weekend of community, camaraderie, and fun!

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.

UPDATE: Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study

The Aquatic Facility Feasibility Working Group and Councillors met on 1 October to review the Draft Feasibility Report and discuss next steps for the project.

The Working Group includes Councillors, Council officers and community representatives, some of whom bring significant expertise in the aquatic sector — from working with Olympic swim teams to managing aquatic centres and programs.

Consultants OTIUM have undertaken extensive research and analysis into both the benefits, social, health and economic as well as the financial impacts an aquatic facility could have on our community. Following the initial draft, Council and the Working Group requested further detail on the social benefits as well as the financial implications for both Council and ratepayers. These have now been incorporated into the final report.

Council and the Committee are now preparing a Communications and Engagement Plan to guide the release of the report and the next round of community consultation. Consultation is expected to begin in November and will run through the summer holiday period to ensure as many people as possible can provide feedback. At that time, both the full Feasibility Study and an easy-to-read community summary will be released – These documents are currently being finalised.

We know the community is eager to see the findings. However, with a project of this scale — a multi-million-dollar investment with long-term financial impacts for generations to come — it is essential that Council undertakes thorough due diligence before making any decisions. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Council Works Reports

- Maintenance grading Ansons Bay Road
- Tree maintenance in parks and reserves
- Town maintenance mowing underway
- Minor stormwater projects completed in Maori Place, St Helens and Charlotte Court, Seymour
- Sealing contractor starting prep work for 2025/26 sealing program

Australia Day Nominations Are Now Open!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond in our community? Nominate them for the 2026 Australia Day Awards!

- Citizen of the Year – 27+ years (by 26 Jan 2025)
- Young Citizen of the Year – under 27 (by 26 Jan 2025)

Download the form and send it to admin@bodc.tas.gov.au or drop it into Council offices.

Let's celebrate the legends in our community.

Construction of the Falmouth Toilet Block is currently underway with completion expected by mid-December 2025. A temporary toilet will be available during the construction period.

TasNetworks poles will also be removed and underground power will be installed.

Thank you for your patience while these important upgrades are completed.

DOG STATISTICS

AUGUST 2025

Urban Patrols = 5

Beach Patrols = 6

Infringements = 1

Unregistered Dog = 2

Impounded Dogs = 2

Weed of the Month - blackberry

Blackberry is well known for its sweet fruit late in summer and habit of developing into impenetrable thorny thickets. Blackberry is a widespread Declared weed in Tasmania, with several species now recognised.

It does best in open and disturbed places with reasonable moisture, in bush, along streams and roads, fence lines and neglected areas. Being a berry its seed is spread by birds and other animals. It also spreads by sprouting from canes touching the ground and pieces of canes, roots or its crown or lignotuber, which is packed with buds, being moved about.

While small seedlings can be pulled and dug, mature plants become more difficult. If left to develop into large

thickets it is much harder to kill crowns and roots and its starts to have significant impacts. A number of chemical, manual and cultivation treatments can be used and should be integrated in a well thought out control plan.

Because the fruit is commonly eaten, do not apply any herbicides to blackberry plants that are carrying fruit.

Find out about blackberry and other invasive weeds at nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds



St Marys Shines As One Of Australia's Best Retirement Destinations

We're proud to share that St Marys has been recognised as one of Australia's Top 50 Retirement Locations for 2025. This recognition highlights what locals and visitors alike already know, St Marys offers a lifestyle, combining natural beauty, a welcoming community and the services and amenities that make it a wonderful place to live.

The award shines a spotlight on our town as not just a great place to visit, but also a fantastic place to call home for those looking to retire.

This achievement is a celebration of the whole community and reinforces the importance of continuing to nurture the qualities that make St Marys so special.

Love our Beaches and Birds? Get Involved!

Would you be interested to help survey birds on our beaches with NRM North? The Hooded Plover Count is a citizen science project looking for volunteers to walk our beaches to record hooded plovers and other shore birds. The survey uses a method by BirdLife Australia for a national dataset, which helps scientists with the conservation of shore birds.

Hooded plovers are small Australian



Photo courtesy of Eric Woehler

beach-nesting bird at risk of extinction. Around a quarter of the world's eastern Australian 'hoody' population calls our beautiful north east coast and the Furneaux Islands home.

Enjoy a beach walk while making a difference! The Hooded Plover Count involves recording hooded plovers and signs of predators or other threats along the beach. If you are willing no experience is needed – NRM North will provide guidance and equipment. The Hooded Plover Count will be held between 31 October and 9 November. To find out more and join in email Nikita at NRM North: nsarangdhar@nrmnorth.org.au

This project is part of Protecting the hood' project, funded by the Australian Government's Saving Native Species Program and run by NRM North to help protect Hooded Plovers in our region.