

Next Council Meetings:
19 October 2026 and 16 November 2026 at 10am in the Council Chambers

From the General Manager - John Brown

Help Shape the Future of Break O'Day

Why do we choose to live in Break O'Day? What attracted us here? What encourages us to stay, and what might cause us or others to leave?

Understanding the answers to these questions is at the heart of Council's Liveability Strategy and the reason we are asking the community to complete one of the most important surveys we have undertaken. The survey will help Council understand what makes Break O'Day a great place to live and identify the challenges that affect people's quality of life and future decisions. These themes are central to the development of the Liveability Strategy.

Behind the survey is a framework that identifies 13 key areas that influence how we live. These include housing, health services, employment, education, transport, community connection, recreation, safety, access to services, and the quality of our public spaces. Together, these factors shape whether people feel connected, supported and able to build a future here.

Importantly, this survey is not about creating a list of projects for Council to deliver. It is about building an evidence base to understand what is working well, where the pressures and gaps exist, and what matters most to residents, new arrivals and former residents. The findings will help guide future planning, investment, partnerships and advocacy with State and Federal Governments and other service providers.

Whether you have lived here your entire life, moved here recently, or have left the area, your experiences matter. Every response will help build an understanding of what attracts people to Break O'Day, what helps them stay and what we can do together to strengthen the liveability of our communities.

Please take a few minutes to have your say and help shape the future of Break O'Day: www.bodc.tas.gov.au

We're Bigger For Sharing Profits With You



Photo: Mayor Mick Tucker, Branch Manager Mel von See and Chair Steve Walley

Article supplied by Community Bank St Helens - St Marys

When you choose to bank local with Bendigo Bank St Helens - St Marys, you make a difference, because we reinvest our profits in local projects and organisations that help our community thrive.

St Helens - St Marys Community Bank recently renewed our stadium sponsorship for further 3 years. This is a direct investment in our local athletes, families, and community facilities.

This is one of our many community investments and by choosing us for your banking needs, you make it all possible. Talk to our local team today by dropping in to say hi, or call us on (03) 6376 2560.

Mayor Michael Tucker, our Branch Manager Mel von See and Chair Steve Walley are pictured above acknowledging this further milestone showing our continued support of our great community here in St Helens and the Break O'Day area.



FESTIVAL OF WELLBEING
A free, inclusive community event celebrating the little things in life.

FREE EVENT

WORKSHOPS & COME 'N' TRY ACTIVITIES **DISPLAYS & DEMONSTRATIONS** **MARKET STALLS & FOOD** **LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT** **& MORE!**

ALL WELCOME!

facebook.com/FestivalOfWellbeingBreakODay

WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2026
10AM - 2PM
BENDIGO BANK COMMUNITY STADIUM ST HELENS

SUPPORTED BY
Break O'Day COUNCIL, WELLBEING PROJECT, Mental Health Council OF TASMANIA, Mental Health Week, Tasmanian Government



"COUNCIL WORKERS JUST SIT AROUND ALL DAY AND DO NOTHING!"

Our crews are hard at work across Break O'Day — building, maintaining, planning and supporting our community every day.

- 543 km of roads maintained
- 72 public toilets cleaned daily
- 11 playgrounds, 5 sports and recreation grounds maintained
- Around \$90,000 in community grants awarded
- On average our workers collect, handle and manage more than 3000 tonnes of waste and 600 tonnes of co-mingled recyclables a year – not to mention the mulching of green waste

Hard at work for our whole community!

"COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE ROADS, BEACHES, LAND AND EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN OUR COMMUNITY!"

Roads: Council maintains local roads. State Government manages major highways and state roads.

Beaches: Council provides amenities, signage and access points. PWS manages beaches in state reserves or national parks.

Parks & Playgrounds: Council owns and maintains local parks, playgrounds and sporting grounds.

Waste: Council manages local waste collection, recycling and public bins.

Grants & Community Support: Council provides local grants, programs and support services. State and Federal Governments provide larger funding for programs.

Bottom line, Council is an important part of the team, but some services and responsibilities sit with other levels of government and agencies.

St Marys Water Supply Improvement Project – Works Underway

Work is now underway on TasWater's St Marys Water Supply Improvement Project, with construction starting at the Fingal Water Treatment Plant.

Works will progress along the pipeline route, connecting to the Fingal Pump Station before continuing towards St Marys. This section of the pipeline is expected to take around four months to complete.

Work will generally take place Monday to Friday, between 7am and 6pm, weather permitting.

These upgrades are an important

investment in our local water infrastructure and will help provide a more reliable and resilient water supply for the St Marys community into the future.

If you're travelling through the area, you may notice construction activity and some temporary disruptions. Please take care around work sites and follow any traffic signs or directions in place.

Council appreciates the community's patience while TasWater delivers these important upgrades.

"It takes courage to be kind"
- Maya Angelou

IN BRIEF

MEDICARE MENTAL HEALTH

On behalf of the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing: Medicare Mental Health offers FREE mental health and wellbeing support for everyone across Australia

Visit: medicarementalhealth.gov.au

Call: 1800 595 212

EFTPOS facilities are available at the following waste transfer stations:

**St Helens, Scamander
St Marys, Fingal**



Follow Break O'Day Council on Facebook

for the latest news, updates and community info!

www.facebook.com/BreakODayCouncil

Break O'Day
Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

MEET THE CANDIDATES

BREAK O'DAY COUNCIL ELECTION 2026

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce & Tourism is hosting a Meet the Candidates event for the 2026 Break O'Day Council Election.

This is a great opportunity for the community to hear directly from the candidates, learn more about their priorities for our region and get to know the people standing for Council.

ST HELENS



WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER



6pm to 8pm



Waterfront Room, Panorama Hotel
1 Quail Street, St Helens



- Candidates will speak on topics of their choice.
- No public question session.
- Stay afterwards to mingle with candidates.

COME ALONG AND MEET THE CANDIDATES!

St Marys Pass Options Assessment Released



Photo: St Marys Pass circa 1915

The St Marys Pass Options Assessment has now been released, following considerable community interest in the future of this important connection between St Marys and the coast.

Representatives from the Department of State Growth presented to Council in September, providing Councillors with an overview of the assessment and the options investigated.

Seven options were assessed, ranging from continuing to maintain or upgrade the existing St Marys Pass through to five alternative routes.

The assessment highlights the challenges of the area, with steep

terrain and landslide risks impacting all options. Some of the alternative routes were estimated to cost more than \$1 billion.

The Australian Government has committed \$10 million towards improving the resilience of the route. The findings of the assessment will now help inform future planning and discussions around potential improvements.

Council will continue to advocate for a safe and reliable connection between St Marys and the coast as the next steps become clearer.

Voting in the Local Government Elections



It's local government election time again and this year voting is compulsory.

Voting is by post, with ballot packs now being delivered and expected to reach electors by the end of that week. Keep an eye on your letterbox and make sure you complete and return your ballot by **2:00pm on 27 October.**

If you don't receive your ballot pack, will be away and unable to receive it in the mail, is lost or damaged or need assistance with voting, please contact the Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) or Council for information about your options. The TEC and Council can issue supplementary ballot packs.

Telephone Assisted Voting is also available for electors who are interstate or overseas, or who have a print disability. This service will generally be available from 12–23 October, with earlier access on 8 and 9 October for eligible voters with a print disability.

Local government elections are your opportunity to have a say in who represents the Break O'Day community around the Council table for the next four years.

For election enquiries, contact the Tasmanian Electoral Commission on 1800 801 701 or 6208 8700, or email ballot.box@tec.tas.gov.au

WHAT'S ON

Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce - Monthly Calendar

A monthly calendar of local events and activities. If you'd like to receive editions, please email sthelenscoc@gmail.com

Mental Health Comedy Roadshow- 10 October 2026

Featuring an all star line up of the state's funniest acts speaking their minds about mental health. Portland Memorial Hall at 7pm. To register for FREE tickets visit www.clubhousecomedy.com.au

Lions Tasmania - FREE Skin Checks - 30 - 31 October 2026

Early detection can save lives, East Coast Village Car Park - Opposite the RSL, St Helens from 9.00am. Bookings essential, contact Bicheno Lions Club on 0418 130 969.

Back to St Marys Weekend - 31 October 2026

Reunite, reflect, reminisce, supported by Break O'Day Regional Arts, St Marys District School Association and Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House. Email backtostmarys2026@gmail.com for more information.

Annual Beach Clean Up - October 2026

CJR Foundation and Tangaroa Blue, with the support of the Council, will be hosting a community beach clean up at Binalong Bay in October. This will be an annual event so keep a look out for date and time on Council's Facebook to come along and be inspired.

Trivia Night - 6 November 2026

A fundraiser for the St Helens Scout Group, organise your own team table or be placed on a team. Great prizes and light supper provided. From 6.00pm at St Helens Bowls Club. Cost is \$20 per person. For bookings contact Carol Liewing on 0418 135 051 or carol.liewing@gmail.com

Garage Sale - St Helens Neighbourhood House - 14 November 2026

Come along to St Helens Neighbourhood House for a great morning of bargain hunting. Op Shop, Men's Shed & Community Garden will all be there! 9am – 1pm with a BBQ from 11.30am – 12.30pm! Bring your friends, grab a bargain and enjoy a sausage sizzle!

Great Southern BioBlitz Tasmania - 27 – 30 November 2026

Get outdoors and discover Tasmania's biodiversity as part of the Great Southern BioBlitz. Simply photograph wild plants, animals, fungi and other organisms you find and upload your observations to iNaturalist. Everyone can take part, no expert knowledge required! www.greatsouthernbioblitz.org/

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.

Council Works Reports

- Installation of a new stormwater main pipe in Annie Street, St Helens
- Widening and resheeting of a section of Ansons Bay Road
- Maintenance grading of gravel roads around St Marys
- Sports ground and other reserves maintenance
- Council building inspections and maintenance
- Planting of Petunias in Cecilia Street, St Helens for summer colour

Join Australia's final Garage Sale Trail

7 - 8 & 14 -15 November 2026

Clear out the clutter, pick up bargains and join the fun as the Garage Sale Trail transforms communities into treasure troves of pre-loved finds. To register or check out sales in the area visit www.garagesaletrail.com.au

WEED MANAGEMENT

- **St Helens:** Bridal creeper, blackberry, foxglove, Spanish heath, broom
- **Fingal:** Capeweed, broadleaf, thistles, caper spurge, Spanish heath.
- **Scamander:** Thistles, capeweed, broadleaf, caper spurge, pampas, Spanish heath.
- **Ansons Bay:** Spanish heath, gorse.
- **St Marys:** Spanish heath, thistles, capeweed, broadleaf, caper spurge, pampas.

DOG STATISTICS

AUGUST 2026

Urban Patrols = 13

Beach Patrols = 13

Infringements = 1

Unregistered Dog = 0

Impounded Dogs = 1

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 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, crown or lignotuber being moved about. While small seedlings can be pulled and dug, mature plants are

more difficult. If left to develop into large thickets, it is much harder to kill crowns and roots and it starts to have significant impacts. Chemical, manual and cultivation treatments can be used and should be integrated into a well thought out control plan. Because the fruit is commonly eaten, do not apply herbicides to blackberry plants carrying fruit.

Find out more about invasive weeds at www.nre.tas.gov.au



Explore St Helens These School Holidays

The school holidays are here so why not explore some of the great attractions right here in St Helens?

Serpentarium Wildlife Park

5 West Street, St Helens

Get up close to a collection of reptiles, including snakes, pythons, tortoises and more. The indoor experience also features gem displays, cultural artefacts and a daily keeper presentation. Great for curious kids (and brave adults!).

Mainly Maritime

13 Pendrigh Place, St Helens

Discover a collection of maritime history and memorabilia. With plenty

to see and stories to uncover, Mainly Maritime is a hidden local gem and a great way to learn about our connection to the sea.

St Helens History Room

61 Cecilia Street, St Helens

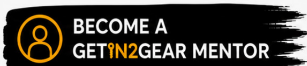
Step back in time and discover the people, industries and stories that have shaped St Helens and the Break O'Day area. With more than 1,000 artefacts, historic photographs and displays covering maritime history, tin mining and early settlement, there is plenty to explore.

GETIN2GEAR

LEARNER DRIVER
MENTOR PROGRAM

THIS SEAT COULD HELP SOMEONE REACH THEIR GOAL.

Help a learner driver
gain confidence, experience
and opportunity.



Find out more at
www.bodc.tas.gov.au



driver mentoring tasmania inc.

ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL
TOWARDS ZERO



Break O'Day
COUNCIL

Did you know volunteer mentors can help fill the gap when family and friends aren't always available to supervise driving?

For many learner drivers, busy family schedules, work commitments and other responsibilities can make it difficult to complete the driving hours needed to gain their licence.

Whether it's providing extra driving experience, building confidence behind the wheel or helping learners reach their goal, one volunteer could change a future.

If you have a full licence and some spare time, we'd love to hear from you. Find out more: www.bodc.tas.gov.au