

Next Council Meetings:
19 August and 16 September 2024 at 10am in the Council Chambers

From the General Manager - John Brown

With a Federal election likely in November, despite government denials, Council is prioritising community needs to lobby major parties for support. As the election approaches, we observe an increasing presence of parliamentary members—both from the House of Representatives and the Senate—inquiring about our community's requirements.

At the top of our list is the replacement of the existing St Marys Pass with an alternative road. This significant project demands substantial state and federal commitment. The State Government supports this, and soon the community will engage in considering alternative routes.

Another critical project is the completion of the Georges Bay Multi-user Track. While the Liberal Party committed funding last election, the Labor Party did not. This time, we will again seek support from both major Federal parties. The Multi-user Track enhances recreational opportunities and promotes tourism and local economic growth.

A new Early Learning Centre at St Marys is desperately needed for the St Marys and surrounding communities. We will advocate strongly for this project, emphasising its importance for local families and long-term community benefits.

Council is also identifying additional projects for State and Federal funding. We will monitor and report candidate commitments via social media to keep the community informed. We demand concrete commitments, not vague promises.

Advocacy for Break O'Day's future is a vital task of the Council. While state and federal members make promises, we, who live and work here, join community members in voicing our needs. Clear communication from the community to election candidates adds strength to our efforts, ensuring our priorities are heard and addressed, leading to meaningful improvements for all.

Learner Driver Mentor Program continues to Thrive in our Community



Photo: Our volunteer mentor Daryl who helped learner Liam Singline pass his Ps test in July

July was a fantastic month for the Learner Driver Mentor Program (GetIn2Gear), with a record-breaking 79.5 on-road hours logged. This highlights the dedication of our mentors and the commitment of our learners. With four active mentors in July, we were able to support 21 learners in their driving practice, leading to two learners successfully passing their P1 licences. Since the beginning of the year, from January 1 to July 31, 2024, GetIn2Gear has amassed an impressive 455.5 on-road hours. During this period, 42 learners have benefited from the program, with 10 successfully obtaining their P1 licences. Our mentors have been helpful in guiding and supporting these learners. The program is designed to serve various areas of Break O'Day throughout the week. On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, we service the St Helens area. Wednesdays are dedicated to the St Marys area, and on Thursdays, we focus on the Fingal area.

Both automatic and manual cars are available to accommodate the preferences and needs of our learners. We are proud to share Dikshya's (Dee) experience in the Get In2 Gear program. Dee found the hardest parts of getting her licence to be managing her anxiety, mastering the technique, and learning the road rules. She shared that the best thing about obtaining her licence is the

independence it provides, allowing her to drive to and from work. Her advice to other learners is to focus on the present and learn as many road rules as possible. Dee appreciated the convenient lesson times and found her mentor to be friendly, supportive, and helpful at every step. She expressed gratitude to Jenna, our Community Programs Officer, stating she couldn't have obtained her licence without Jenna's help.



Photo: Dikshya (Dee) is excited to have passed her Ps test

Congratulations to the two successful learners who obtained their P licences this month!

If you would like to sign up as a mentor or learner driver, contact Jenna at Council: 6376 7900 or admin@bodc.tas.gov.au We look forward to continuing support and seeing more learners achieve their driving goals.

Cats and Dogs - All at Sea: The Latest Exhibition at the St Helens History Room



Photo: Photograph taken by Sam Hood

A travelling exhibition from the Australian National Maritime Museum entitled 'Cats and Dogs – All At Sea' has come to St Helens History Room. Did you know that cats and dogs have been cherished shipmates for as long as people have sailed the seas? In a life without the company of family and children, pets provided sailors with much-needed companionship and affection. Between 1900 and the 1950s, Sydney

photographer Sam Hood captured countless photographs of crew members with their beloved pets. These snapshots, often taken as souvenirs or sent to distant families, showcase just how important these furry friends were to seafarers.

This exhibition features a selection of Hood's touching photographs, highlighting the bond between sailors and their pets.

Reopening of the Ansons Bay Waste Transfer Station (WTS)

WorkSafe Tasmania has now lifted its closure and prohibition notices on the Ansons Bay WTS. This means we have now re-opened the facility.

We scheduled the reopening of the Ansons Bay WTS for Wednesday 7 August. While the WTS was closed, we took the opportunity to review what waste items could be dropped at the station. We have now updated our website with what Ansons Bay WTS will and won't accept. We ask residents to make sure they are familiar with this list and opening hours before attending the WTS to save any inconvenience.

Opening hours are:

Wednesday 12pm-4pm

Sunday 10am-4pm

Monday long weekends only 12pm-4pm

During our review of the operation of the Ansons Bay WTS, it came to Council's attention that members of the community had been accessing the WTS outside of the open times. This is an illegal and dangerous practice. Anyone caught trespassing on the site will be prosecuted.

We thank the Ansons Bay community for their patience while we worked through the closure and clean-up of the Ansons Bay WTS.

Do You Know or Live with Disability?

The University of Tasmania and Menzies Institute of Medical Research want to find out how people with disabilities in Break O'Day get around and access their local areas. The survey is open to Tasmanians 18+ living with a disability and you can win one of five \$50 gift vouchers.

Contact Maria on 0433 354 235 or

maria.hobbs@utas.edu.au for more information or to take the survey. Alternatively, you can use the QR code to take the survey now.



IN BRIEF

MULTI-USER TRACK UPDATE

Winter certainly doesn't stop people from getting active and we've got great news to make getting active safer during those darker months. Thanks to our successful application for grant funding, we're set to install solar lighting along the Georges Bay foreshore Multi-User track. Since it opened in October 2020, the track has seen about 260 users daily. Clearly, it's a hit with the community! This popular route, loved by walkers, cyclists, and nature enthusiasts, is getting a significant upgrade to make it safer and more accessible for everyone. This project will run from July 2024 to June 2025. So, look forward to brighter paths and safer travels on our beloved Multi-User track!

BAY OF FIRES UPDATE

We would like to apologise for not mentioning the Local Arts Prize category in the recently held Bay of Fires Winter Arts Festival. It was another great year for our local artist community, with 45 entries for the Local Arts Prizes from within Break O'Day. Congratulations to Keri Sidney for winning the Judge's Award with her stunning pastel painting. We also want to congratulate Margaret Earles, the People's Choice winner, for her beautiful oil painting of a landscape scene. This festival is a wonderful opportunity for local artists to showcase their talent during winter.

A big thank you to the Tasmania Shop and the St Helens Neighbourhood House for sponsoring the Local Art Prize. And, of course, a huge thank you to all the amazing volunteers who helped make the exhibition a success.

FREE ENTRY - THE HISTORY ROOM

Good news! Entry to the History Room is free in August! The History Room is open Monday to Friday at 9 am – 4 pm and Saturday and Sunday at 9 am – 3.30 pm at 61 Cecilia Street, St. Helens



HAVE YOUR SAY

Community Engagement Updates

Reconciliation Action Plan - Survey

Council has partnered with Reconciliation Tasmania to develop a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for our community.

A RAP's purpose is to enable and inspire every Australian to contribute to a more reconciled nation. Reconciliation Australia has developed a framework to help organisations develop a meaningful approach to reconciliation. The RAP framework centres on three pillars, *relationships, respect and opportunities* and enables organisations to turn their good intentions into action and to support the national reconciliation movement. For more information visit www.bodc.tas.gov.au/community/community-consultation/

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

To develop the RAP Council and our partners at Reconciliation Tasmania will be undertaking community consultation which includes directly

engaging with our local aboriginal community and elders as well as Aboriginal organisations. We will also consult with our staff internally and the general community.

This RAP consultation will help Council understand the aspirations of our local Aboriginal community, the wider Break O'Day community and Council staff.

The ideas and feedback received through the consultation processes will help to shape the actions set out in the RAP.

We want to hear your thoughts and ideas on reconciliation!

TAKE OUR SURVEY

www.surveymonkey.com/r/K2L9V2N or scan the QR code



School Student Broadband Initiative – Free Internet for Eligible Families

The School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI) provides free internet for Families with Children at School who have previously not had an internet connection at home.

- For any families signing up now, this offer means free internet until 31 December 2025.
- For families who have already connected with SSBI, their free internet

will automatically be rolled over until 31 December 2025.

If you know of any one that may be eligible you can advise them to contact the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610 or visit anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet or contact your Federal Member who will be able to assist with the application.

Fingal Valley RV Park is being Relocated

Due to the new Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023, we'll be relocating the Fingal Valley RV Park. Currently, it's right next to the children's playground, which under the new legislation, isn't considered a child-safe location anymore. The RV Park will be moving to the Fingal Recreation Ground, which already has

amenities like parking space, showers, and toilets, plus it offers more room than the current location. You can pick up a fact sheet from the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House with more information. We're excited for campers to enjoy this new spot and experience Tassie's great outdoors!

WHAT'S ON

The Lighthouse - Every Wednesday

Serving the Break O'Day community, The Lighthouse is a safe place where you can enjoy a free cuppa, hot soup and roll, warm beanies and scarves or a friendly chat.

Open every Wednesday, 11am-1pm at the Anglican Hall - 56 Cecilia Street, St Helens. Also, if you would like to help us help those in our community who are on a low income, homeless, or just struggling with providing nourishing meals for themselves or their families we welcome your support! Items can be dropped off every Wednesday between 11am-1pm and you are welcome to stay for a cuppa.

Van Dieman's Band Arcangelo and Co -

Sunday 11 August

Experience the musical talents of Arcangelo and Co at Portland Hall, St Helens at 2pm. Featuring the music of Corelli, Geminiani and Dall'abaco.

Book now at www.vandiemensband.com.au

larapuna Community Weekend - 16, 17, 18 & 24 August

Enjoy walking 50km of the spectacular larapuna / Bay of Fires coastline this August. Five big beach walks over four days.

Come for one day, two days or all four! Free buses from St Helens will get you there and back (16 August)

Look after the coastline by helping to remove the beach weed 'sea spurge' and marine debris along the way.

For details or to book visit www.larapuna2024.eventbrite.com.au/

Booking and volunteer registration essential.

Spring Feast and Festival - 18 September

St Helens & Fingal Neighbourhood Houses are teaming up with Break O'Day Council & Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania to host a FREE and open event to the whole of community. Come to the community garden site at Eagle Street, St Helens 4pm-7pm. Choose from a number of different food vendors as well as enjoying live music and activities for the kids. You won't want to miss out!

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.

Keep up to date on Council activities and projects by joining our email database.

Email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

Council Works Reports

- **Road Grading Update**
Maintenance grading is currently in progress on North Ansons Road. Grading has been completed on Ansons Bay Road, Policeman's Point Road and various roads in Seymour.
- **Work on the new roundabout at the Circassian Street/Medea Road junction will commence this week.** Please follow the road closure and detour signs that will be displayed at the work site. Work will continue to the end of August.
- **The new amenities block at the Scamander Sports complex is progressing well, with the concrete slab now poured.**

Weed of the Month - sweet pittosporum

Sweet pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*) is a shrub to tree found in gardens, along fence lines and invading bushland, often near the coast. Native to the eastern mainland it has aromatic leaves with undulating margins and is spread by birds eating its yellow berries with sticky red seeds. Often a volunteer in gardens, it may be valued for screening and shelter, but is a rampant environmental weed that grows up through shade to smother native vegetation it invades. If you have sweet pittosporum on your land control spreading plants, establish non-invasive alternatives

for the garden and in the meantime remove fruit before the birds do. Seedlings can be hand pulled or dug quite easily. Large plants can be treated with cut-and-paint or drill/frill herbicide application. It is intolerant to fire. For more information please visit: www.nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species



Wellbeing Project Update and Put the Festival of Wellbeing in your Calendar

The Break O'Day Community Wellbeing Project continues to discover and design new ways to strengthen wellbeing. Please join in. The 8 week Wellbeing Certificate is already underway in St Helens and Fingal and local wellbeing actions are being designed by local people. Find out more about local actions by local people at www.wellbeingaction.org or look for updates at Council. The Festival of Wellbeing is back! Thursday 10 October, Launceston

Show Day, at Bendigo Bank Community Stadium. This free event will be brimming with activities and ideas for living well, with something for everyone. Join the fun and celebrate and share all the ways we care for ourselves and each other. Then on Friday 11 October join a FREE Wellbeing Summit, 'A Place for EverBODY' hosted at Panorama. Together we will share, discover and dream of more ways to help everyone love where they live, work and play.

weedSCAN 

Want help identifying weeds and help weed control efforts?

Weedscan is a free Australian app that identifies weeds from photos and puts them on the map. You can use it online:

weedscan.org.au/

WEED MANAGEMENT

- **Binalong Bay**
Mirror bush, capeweed
- **Seymour**
Spiny rush, gorse, blackberry
- **Scamander**
Spanish heath
- **St Helens**
Spanish heath, blackberry
- **Fingal**
Spanish heath, capeweed

DOG STATISTICS 07/06/2024 - 30/06/2024

Urban Patrols = 6
Beach Patrols = 8
Infringements = 0
Unregistered Dog = 0
Impounded dogs = 4

FESTIVAL of WELLBEING

A Wellbeing Day in Break O'Day

THURS 10 OCT

2 FREE events for everybody

SUMMIT

A Place for EveryBODY

FRI 11 OCT

Bringing our community together to share the good stuff and create more of it together

www.wellbeingaction.org

