



MAYOR'S REPORT

19th of March saw the Tomb of History brought into the light of the 21st century. Around a hundred people – locals, former locals and visitors, came to see what was buried all those years ago. Unfortunately, time has not been kind and water infiltrated the tomb, destroying the chipboard inner box, and waterlogging a number of the packages inside.

Joanna Lang, our conservator, has been working hard to ensure that as many of the contents as possible can be preserved.

The Honorable Madeleine Ogilvie, Minister of Heritage visited the Island (for the first time) to officially open the event. Minister Ogilvie was so enamored with the Island, that she has volunteered to return when we bury the next time capsule – which will hopefully be later in the year.

Some of the treasures found within the time capsule, were a folder containing Council By-Laws of the time, an Annual Report from the Hospital, an Uncle Scrooge Comic worth an incredible \$35 (but unfortunately not in great condition) a copy of The Examiner from March 15 1973. There were also letters to loved ones, future loved ones, some faring better than others.

Once conservation efforts are complete, we hope to distribute those items where the recipient can be identified.

The Furneaux Historical Research Association is looking to hold a winter exhibition based around the Tomb of History. Hopefully, many of the contents will be on display. If you have anything that relates to the time capsule, contact the Museum at furneauxmuseum@gmail.com.

We have had an incredible amount of positive feedback about the event. I would like to thank Sammi and Megan at Council for organising the event, our works crew for unearthing the Tomb, Joanna Lang for her expertise and Councillor Peter Rhodes for co-ordinating the sorting and cataloguing crew.

On Monday, 20th March, Sophie Underwood from Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania (PMAT) held a public meeting on the island to

discuss issues that may arise as part of the Local Government Review. Areas of concern are the possibility that the Planning Authority, currently performed by Council, will be undertaken by a central panel located on the Tasmanian mainland, and forced “boundary changes” (amalgamations). Council is not in favour of either of these as we feel the losses to the community would be far greater than any perceived benefit.

The other area of concern is around mandating shared services. Whilst we are in favour of sharing services where possible, Councils must be free to do so when it is of benefit to the Council and community and have a choice in the matter.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 22nd March, some of the motions passed were as follows:

- \$10,000 was allocated to the 2023/24 Community Grants Program. Advertising will commence shortly, and will be open to community groups and individuals for projects that meet the application criteria.
- Development Applications were approved for a sand and a gravel quarry located near Lady Barron.
- Councillor Ken Stockton was appointed to the second Councillor seat on the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee.

The unconfirmed minutes have full details of all motions considered at the meeting can be found on the Flinders Council website or at reception of the Council office.

There has been a few instances lately where Council staff have been approached by community members who feel it is ok to hurl a bit of abuse at them for something they don't approve of Council doing or not doing. Can I please remind people that this is both inappropriate and disrespectful – especially if this is occurring when Council staff may be working elsewhere. If you have an issue with any aspect of Council please contact your Councillors (it is what we are here for) or the General Manager.

Luna, the BreastScreen Tasmania mobile screening unit, recently visited the island. Almost 170 women had mammograms performed during the week. We are very lucky that women over 40 are able to access this service without having to fly to the mainland.

Ok, on to some good news. The road stabilising works are due to start on Monday, 27th March – so should be underway by the time you are reading this.

Rachel Summers – Mayor
Phone 0467 046 809

WHITEMARK TIP – OPENING HOURS

- **Monday** 1.30pm - 4.30pm
- **Tuesday** 7am -10am
- **Friday** 1.30pm - 4. 30pm
- **Wednesday** 8.30am - 11.30am
- **Thursday** 7am -10am
- **Saturday** CLOSED
- **Sunday** 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Autumn KIDS Holiday PROGRAM

Easter Bonnet Making - Thursday 6th April,
10am until 11:30am @ FAEC (\$5) (6yrs & up)

Origami Day with Fiona Stewart - Friday 14th April,
11am until 12midday @Whitemark Library (FREE) (6yrs & up)

Polymer Clay Key Rings & Craft Day - Friday 14th April,
10am until 12midday @FAEC, Whitemark (\$10) (6yrs & up)

Movie Day - Friday 21st April
* Trolls, World Tour (G) (6yrs & up) 10am until 11:45 @FAEC, Whitemark (\$10)
* Go! (PG) (6yrs & up) 12:30pm until 2:15pm @FAEC, Whitemark (\$10)

TOMB OF HISTORY UPDATE



During the week, conservator Joanna Lang has been carefully drying out items retrieved from the Time Capsule.

This slow process is vital to be able to restore as many items as possible.

Next week, we will photograph and re catalogue items. Many thanks to Joanna for your amazing work!

FURNEAUX FUTURES FORUM 2023 Theme - Regeneration

Save the Date – June 7-9

A unique initiative known as the Furneaux Futures Forum, (*previously named the Fert-Isle Forum*), is designed to encourage entrepreneurship and business development throughout the Furneaux Islands community.

This year, Flinders Council, Flinders Island Business Inc (FIBI), and the Van Dieman Project have joined forces to organise the event.

The team will deliver a forum that promotes positive impact and provides actionable steps towards achieving success and building a bright future for the Furneaux Islands.

Whether you're looking to expand your business, launch a new venture, turn your hobby into a viable enterprise, or share a creative project with the world, we invite you to join us from 7-9 June 2023.

Visit www.furneauxfutures.com.au



**FLINDERS
COUNCIL**

GUNN BEQUEST

Applications for funding are now being sought from sporting organisations under the Gunn Bequest.

These funds are provided to suitable projects for the promotion or improvement of sporting facilities on the Island.

Applications must be received by C.O.B. Monday 15th May 2023.

Further information is available on the Flinders Council website <http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-grants-and-awards>



Policy to be Adopted

Council's Policy Manual is an important document of Council as it provides direction to Staff, Management and Councillors. Many of the policies are required by, or relate to, legislation and in most instances help manage Council's exposure to risk.

Council resolved at the 22 March 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the following policies, **Fraud Prevention and Control Policy, Related Party Disclosure Policy, Information Management Policy, and Work Health and Safety Policy.**

These policies will lie on the table for public comment until 28th of April 2023. They are available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and hardcopies are available from the Council Office.

Should you wish to make comment on these policies, please do so by addressing relative correspondence to:

Warren Groves
General Manager
PO Box 40 Whitemark TAS 7255



Policy to be Rescinded

Council's Policy Manual is an important document of Council as it provides direction to Staff, Management and Councillors. Many of the policies are required by, or relate to, legislation and in most instances help manage Council's exposure to risk.

Council resolved at the 22 March 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting to rescind the **Wybalenna Policy.**

This policy will lie on the table for public comment until 28th of April 2023. They are available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and hardcopies are available from the Council Office.

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AUDIT PANEL INDEPENDENT MEMBER VACANCIES

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Flinders Council has established and maintains an Audit Panel under Section 85 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the associated Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014. Due to a conclusion of term, Council seeks applicants for two upcoming vacancies for independent panel members. As the panel is independent from Council, staff and Councillors are ineligible to apply. Local residents with an understanding of finance and risk management are encouraged to apply.

The role requires a person who possesses good business acumen and sound management and communication skills; knowledge and expertise in the areas of audit practices and financial management; knowledge of and experience in relevant industries; and experience with governance processes including, but not limited to, risk management.

Interested persons should contact the Council Office via phone 03 6359 5001 or email office@flinders.tas.gov.au to obtain a position and role outline.

Expressions of interest outlining qualifications and experience are now sought for the position by **28 April 2023**.

Warren Groves
General Manager
PO Box 40 Whitemark TAS 7255