

Council News

General Manager's Column

Elections

The Mayor is unable to provide her routine column due to the regulations around election advertising and communications. As we are now firmly in election mode, the Community has the chance to hear what Councillors have achieved during their terms and what they, and new candidates, would like to achieve in the term ahead. With 12 nominees for some 7 positions and for the first time in many years, 2 candidates for Mayor and 3 for Deputy Mayor the Community has a broad range of people to choose from. The Tasmanian Electoral Commission will be sending out election forms in the coming weeks with the polling period running from the 14th to the 28th of October. Flinders often has the highest voter returns in Tasmania and I hope this year will be no different.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors for their hard work, dedication and leadership. Few realise just how much time, effort and dedication performing the role of Councillor requires. The role of Mayor and Deputy Mayor even more so. I wish all candidates luck in the election and look forward to working with the Council chosen by the Community in the years ahead.

Roads to Recovery

The Honorable Warren Truss MP Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development wrote to Council late last week confirming the Federal Government's commitment to the Roads to Recovery program through to 2018-2019. Flinders has been allocated \$197,068 per annum during this time with 2015-2016 seeing a one off allocation of \$394,137. With a major road resealing program planned for this year, the extra funds provided will support this being expanded significantly in 2015-2016 and beyond.

Shipping:

As outlined in a householder last week, shipping to and from the Islands will continue under a 60-day trial of a new agreement between the State Government and Furneaux Freight.

Key to the deal was an agreement that secured a short-term, third party stevedoring service at Lady Barron Port.

The Tasmanian Government will release shipping contingency funds toward extra costs incurred during the trial period.

It should be noted that Furneaux Freight's statement made in the last edition of the Island News where they claimed Council had refused a development application near the Lady Barron Port, relates to an episode that occurred an estimated 12 years ago where the company at the time applied to rezone land for a depot below the hall area. Council approved the rezoning. No development on the site in question has occurred since.

Community Facilities

The planned renovations to the Emita Hall have now started with the builders in full swing. It is hoped this work will be completed in time for the Emita Sports Day in January (weather permitting). I would like to take this opportunity to again thank the Emita Hall Committee for their generous donation to the works planned on the Hall and their ongoing volunteer efforts.

Works have commenced on the upgrade to the Emita Cenotaph which includes a parking bay/drop off area with a path and handrail for easier access, installation of new seating and a general tidy up of the site. Planning has commenced for the Remembrance Day event which will be held at the Cenotaph on the 11th November 2014. This project has been funded through financial support from Flinders Council, Flinders Island RSL and funding secured through the ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program.

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The new BBQ and exercise equipment on the Whitemark Foreshore will be installed in November and plans to replace toilets at Yellow Beach, Killiecrankie and Trouser Point are progressing well.

A Structural Engineer will visit the island in the coming weeks to do an assessment on the Lady Barron Hall. Council has committed funds to the hall upgrade and the Lady Barron community is to be thanked for their assistance during the recent Lady Barron Hall Committee's community engagement exercise.

The Whitemark Civic Centre Forecourt project is well under way. Council staff are actively working with the architect, builder and Council Works Department to have the project complete and acquitted by the due date at the end of the year. This project is part funded by the State Government.

Tasmanian Government Funding

As part of the recently announced State Budget, Flinders was allocated the following:

- \$125,000 to improve telecommunications on the Island
- \$50,000 towards tourism marketing initiatives
- \$50,000 towards the Flinders Trail
- Continuation of the Shipping Contingency Fund
- Ongoing Community Service Obligation payments to Hydro Tas to offset the cost of power on the island

Bass MP Sarah Courtney will be on the island on the 21st of November to publically announce the funding. Those who would like to attend please call reception at Council on 6359 5001.

Telecommunications

The ongoing issues with mobile phone coverage, internet speeds and other related issues has been a matter of concern to Council for some time. With the assistance of Michael Ferguson the Minister for Information, Technology and Innovation, Council staff have been actively engaged with senior Telstra staff in developing a

telecommunications upgrade plan for the Islands. While still in development, I am heartened by the efforts of Telstra to not only recognise the problems but also put together a long term plan for solutions. Once delivered to Council for review, consideration will be given as to how best to implement and fund the plan with both the State and Federal Governments showing keen interest in the proposal at this early stage.

Quarterly Reports

The October Council meeting will see quarterly reports delivered by all Managers. These are a great way for the community to see all the projects Council is working on and how they are progressing.

Raoul Harper
General Manager

Furneaux Group Shipping & Aviation Special Committee Submissions

Community members are invited to prepare submissions for consideration by the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee or the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee. Please lodge submissions with Council by close of business Wednesday 28th October 2014.

WHITEMARK TIP

Opening Hours

MON, FRI & SUN 1.30pm- 4.30pm
WED 8.30am- 11.30am



CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

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FLINDERS COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council will be held at the Flinders Art and Entertainment Centre Whitemark, Flinders Island on:
Thursday 16th October 2014,
commencing at 1.00pm.

The Agenda will be available for perusal on our Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au or at the Council Office as from Friday 10th October 2014.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm.
Members of the public are invited to attend.

Raoul Harper
General Manager

Community Development

Spring School Holiday Program

The first week of the school holiday program has been a great success. Thank you to all of the young people who have attended our first week of activities; the helpers (particularly the Council Works crew as we have been a bit demanding), the School for lending us equipment, the Golf Club for the use of the kitchen and freezer space for our choc top ice-creams and Maria for offering her arts classes as part of our program again. We will be posting some photos on our Facebook page soon. Now for the second week.... we are excited about our Showtime activities!

October is Bushfire Awareness Month on ABC Local Radio Tasmania

Throughout October ABC Local Radio Tasmania will help you prepare for bushfire season. Bringing you stories on how to prepare, what to expect and what to do in the event of a fire. The ABC will take a look at the weather outlook, the warnings, traffic, the land, and much more. Across the station there will be discussions with members of the Tasmanian Fire Service, the SES, the Bureau

of Meteorology and stories from those who have first-hand experience.

Thinking of starting a new business?

Or are you looking to buy or grow a business? Business & Employment is a member of Business Enterprise Centres (BEC) Australia, an Australia-wide organisation that supports small business through all stages of development and their staff visit Flinders Island. Each BEC has access to resources and partnerships that provide FREE services through a range of programs, workshops and referral services.

If you would like to access these services, please contact Debbie Steer to make an appointment.

Mobile 0408 963 223 email:
debbie.steer@businessandemployment.biz

Gallery Upgrades

You may have noticed some recent building activity happening at the gallery... some much needed maintenance has been taking place. Thank you to the Tasmanian Regional Arts branch members for your understanding and patience whilst these works are being complete so that the gallery can be in tip-top condition for the summer months.

Notes from the Rose Garden

Massive thank you to Gary Blundstone for the generous offer of hay for us to finish off mulching the garden - Lifesaver! And also thanks so much to Steve Cole for finding me the perfect old-fashioned wheel for the council works crew to manufacture an umbrella-style arbour. The rambling rose will be happier off the ground... Thanks for keeping an eye out; it's exactly what I was looking for. Megan Morphet.

Whitemark Foreshore Amenity Improvements

We have had people ask the question: Is the BBQ and exercise equipment on the Whitemark Foreshore going to be in before summer? We certainly hope so! Works to the foreshore area are due to commence in November.

Community Noticeboard

The Community Noticeboard located in Whitemark has had one third of it dedicated

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to health promotion news. A big thank you to Angela Smith at the MPC for this initiative. Don't forget that Council also has an online community noticeboard on the Council website to keep you updated.

Emita Hall upgrades

The planned upgrade works to the Emita Hall have commenced. Thank you to all the Emita Hall volunteers who helped to prepare and clean the site. Access to the hall and the recreation grounds will be closed to the public whilst the construction works are in progress.

Notice to Event Organisers

If you are thinking of holding a Community event, Council staff are here to help you! There are a number of items that Council Officers need to address regarding public events and the application process may be daunting. Council requires at least 28 days notice prior to planned community events to ensure that an assessment of your event may be completed, ensuring compliance with Council's legal and regulatory obligations to the State Government. Please contact Jacci Viney or Jana Harper at the Council Offices if you would like more information.

Emita Cenotaph Upgrade

Works to upgrade the Cenotaph are nearing completion. The works include a new parking bay/drop off area with a path and handrail for easier access, installation of new seating and a general tidy up of the site! Thank you to Butch Barnewall and his merry workers, it is looking fantastic! A Remembrance Day Event will be held at the Cenotaph on the 11th November 2014. This project has been funded through financial support from Flinders Council, Flinders Island RSL and funding secured through the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program.

GRANTS

There are currently a variety of grants available that may be applicable to local community groups and organisations. Below are a list of the grants and their links for you to have a look at. If you have an idea or project we suggest you contact the funding

body to discuss your eligibility and application.

1. Sport and Recreation Tasmania 2014/15 Grants Programs -

www.dpac.tas.gov.au

Communities, Sport and Recreation Tasmania provides funding to increase opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation in Tasmania, and to assist the ongoing development of Tasmania's sport and recreation sector. Minor grants close 29 October 2014 and Major grants close 4 February 2015.

2. Commonwealth Scholarships Program

The Commonwealth Scholarships Program (formally known as the Commonwealth Learning Scholarships (CLS) Program) was introduced in 2004 to assist students from low socio-economic backgrounds, particularly those from rural and regional areas and Closes 31 December 2015

3. Career Pathways – Professional Development

www.australiacouncil.gov.au

These grants provide funding for individual artists and arts workers to build their professional capacity as community arts and cultural development workers. Funding is available up to \$12,000 for individuals to undertake opportunities that will develop careers in community arts and cultural development. This grant does not support project development and delivery.

4. Tasmanian Department of State Growth – various

www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

The Department of State Growth offers a variety of grants and loans to help both business and individuals prosper. The Department may assist in the development, expansion or retention of business undertakings in Tasmania, or conduct research or experiments for the purpose of the establishment of a business undertaking in Tasmania.

You can also subscribe to a grant alert list to receive email notifications by emailing:

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1. cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au or
 2. healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au
- Alternatively check out grants information online, here are some suggestions:

www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list

www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx

Thank you,

Dolly Wheatley & Jana Harper
Community Development

Position Vacant **Community Development Officer** Maternity Relief Position

Flinders Council is seeking to appoint a Community Development Officer – Maternity Relief position in the Community & Economic Development Department.

This position is offered as a fixed term part time position of 5 days per fortnight. As Maternity Relief, the position term can be shortened with appropriate notice however we believe a one-year term will be required. Salary will be dependent upon qualifications and experience. Terms and conditions for this position will be as per the Flinders Council Enterprise Agreement 2013-2016.

A Position Description is available from Sophie Pitchford, Corporate Services Manager by phoning **6359 5008** or please visit:

www.flinders.tas.gov.au/employment-and-business-opportunities

Written applications responding to the Position Description's essential "Knowledge, Skills and Experience"

criteria along with a current resume are required by **C.O.B. Thursday 16th October 2014.**

Applications are to be marked "Confidential" – Community Development Officer - Maternity Relief, and should be forwarded to the Corporate Services Manager, Flinders Council, PO Box 40, WHITEMARK, TAS 7255 or email directly to sophie.pitchford@flinders.tas.gov.au

Sophie Pitchford
CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER