

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

Furneaux Islands Festival was so good I hear. I was away on family matters so was unable to attend. I heard on the grapevine and on facebook how good the event was.

Big congratulations to the organisers. You did a fine job. Well done to all stall-holders at the market. I heard the market was awesome and all your products were so appreciated. I hope it was worth a lot to you for all your hard work. Apparently the vibe was great.

The supper and show were terrific by all accounts, the verandah music wonderful, and the final day BBQ out of this world.

Council workers, FIAAI workers, all who helped and all who attended – thank you for making this multi-cultural event an event to be proud of.

I will definitely be there next year!

What Does Being Australian Mean?

I was fortunate to have to consider this question over the weekend. The Sports Club held a family fun time and free BBQ on Saturday 26th, Australia Day. I was invited to make a short speech, for which I felt very privileged.

So, on advice from a valued friend, I looked up what indigenous writer, Wesley Enoch, had to say about Australia Day. He does not want to change the day – instead he wants all people to both celebrate and be encouraged to feel their sadness. So, I told my own story of migrating to Australia in 1974 with my husband and twin five-year-old daughters. I told of the joy and sense of adventure in journeying to a new home – I also told of the tremendous sadness at saying goodbye to my family in Scotland, the weeping and wailing, the feelings of loss. I told of how my career and lifestyle changed so much for the better - but also of the dreadful homesickness that lasted for a couple of years. It took me almost 20 years to apply for Australian Citizenship – I recognised the obvious benefits of making my home in Tasmania, but I felt the terrible loss of leaving my homeland.

Now of course I would not consider moving back to Scotland – I love being Australian and I especially love Flinders Island. But the accompanying feelings brought a double whammy.

The human condition is like that. If we are lucky, we experience times of great joy – but how many could say that they do not also experience great sadness and loss.

This country of ours is a bit the same. It brings us joy much of the time – but some of the history since the first fleet is horrendous. Instead of pushing that history into the fog – I believe we need to look at it. So, on Australia Day – we should celebrate this wonderful nation of ours and especially this amazingly beautiful Island and its people – at the same time enable those with sadness to mourn.

I hope the 26th enabled people to do that. My thanks to Wesley Enoch for his wisdom and to my good friend for suggesting I look him up.

Annie Revie Mayor

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Emita Hall

Emita Hall construction of new bar and kitchen has commenced! Unfortunately access to the site will be prohibited during the building phase which includes access to the playground area. We thank you for your patience at this time and apologise for any inconvenience.

Watch this space for development updates!!

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2019 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on:

Tuesday 19 February 2019 commencing at 9.00am.

Public Question Time will be held between 9.00 – 9.30am. Members of the public are invited to attend. The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday, 14 February 2019 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

Road Resealing

Please note that Council intends to reseal Bluff Rd, Robert St and Bowman St during the week between the 6th and 12th February 2019. Your care and patience will be much appreciated.

Development Services

A reminder that the building and plumbing surveyors from West Tamar Council will be on the Island next Wednesday, 6 February. If required, they fly over on the first Wednesday of every month.

All Building and Plumbing Permits issued have conditions stated on the Permit that must be adhered to, including having qualified, licenced persons conducting all works done. Permits also have mandatory inspections that need to be conducted for the work to be compliant.

If you need an inspection for one of the mandatory stages stated on your permit, please advise with 48 hours notice by contacting Council on 63595007 or through development.services@flinders.tas.gov.au and state your permit number, address and the contact details of the person who will be onsite.

Development Services Team
Flinders Council

WHITEMARK TIP OPENING HOURS
SUN, MON, FRI 1.30pm - 4.30pm
TUES +THURS 7.00am - 10.00am
WEDNESDAYS 8.30am - 11.30am

CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS