



## NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

### WHAT WILL THE OUTCOME BE?

I am pleased to say that Flinders is close, hopefully, to gaining approximately \$5 million now that the Liberal Government has been returned. My understanding is that the commitment depends on their having a majority government. Below is a summary of the potential gains.

- \$350,000 over four years to strengthen biosecurity on Flinders Island – this would mean we could have two full time bio-security employees.
- \$900,000 upgrade for camping and RV access, and replacement of the stairs at Trousers Point Beach – this funding is for Parks & Wildlife.
- \$2 million to commence the staged sealing of priority sections of Palana Road – Michael Ferguson has also committed to continuing to work on the resealing of the whole of Palana Road into the future. This funding would be a great start.
- \$980,000 towards new veterinarian facilities and equipment to help attract a veterinarian to Flinders Island – this was one of Council's priority projects. We currently do not have proper vet facilities on the Island. John O'Dell currently provides vet services in his own time from Bio-security-owned premises. This funding would be such a relief for pet and livestock owners on the Island.
- \$200,000 for upgraded health equipment at the Flinders Island Multi-Purpose Centre – the MPC, in collaboration with the Department of Health, will work out the detail of this.

- \$120,000 to upgrade existing boat ramps on Flinders Island – I have set a date to meet with the boating community to discuss boat ramps on the Island.
- \$39,400 to the Furneaux Island Community Shed for maintenance, including a dust extraction system, fencing, a portico and new equipment. The new Community Shed is nearing completion. The Shed is important to many and the funding could purchase the equipment that the volunteers need to continue this valuable project.
- \$60,000 to the Flinders Island Sports and RSL Club towards new toilet and shower facilities. This is another step towards the Club's aim to create a Sports Hub that all Islanders can access easily.
- Extend direct underwritten flights between Hobart and Flinders Island until the end of March 2022, bringing thousands of dollars of economic benefit to the Island, as well as providing better options for locals to access Hobart.
- \$300,000 for a community-centred project that could create a visitor-economy based on Islander values.

### BOATING COMMUNITY FORUM

I have organised a forum on Wednesday 26th May in the Carpet Room at the FAEC, 5.30 pm. The objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- To enable boat owners to understand how Council intends to address the issue of boat ramps;
- To set up a process and procedure for future boat ramp building;
- To begin a discussion about current boat ramp needs.
- Discuss potential government funding to Council of \$120,000 for maintenance / building of boat ramp/s.

I invite interested boat owners to attend..

### FACE TO FACE MEETINGS AT KILLIECRANKIE

Just a reminder that I will be available at Killiecrankie on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm. I plan to meet Killiecrankie (and environs) residents at the common ground near the BBQ. Anyone from the area who would like to talk with me / ask questions is welcome.

### CAT MANAGEMENT ON THE ISLAND

At the April Ordinary Council Meeting, Council endorsed the Northern Tasmanian Cat Management Strategy. Action on this will depend on whether cat management features in Council's Annual Plan for 2021/22. The Annual Plan, based on our new Strategy Plan,

will be drafted in the next 6 weeks or so. But it is positive that the strategy has been endorsed.

### **FLINDERS DESTINATION ACTION PLAN**

The Flinders Destination Action Plan (DAP) was an outcome of the Hodgman State Government in 2016. The DAP Plan has now been reviewed by the Flinders Island Business Incorporated and the Flinders Council, working collaboratively. One of the main objectives of the revised DAP is to explore how the Flinders visitor economy can achieve improved balance. In the lead up to this year's State election, the Premier committed funding to a project that will explore how the Flinders community will create a visitor economy based on Islander-identified values.

### **THE ISLANDER WAY**

Todd Babiak, CEO of Brand Tasmania, worked with many islanders to create a Brand Story. The Brand Story paints a picture of what Islanders want. Have a close look at the Brand Story below: it represents the desire for authenticity; for retaining the Islander Lifestyle; for connectedness; and for contribution. It makes an excellent starting point for the work we will engage in soon: by 'we' I refer to Islanders and experienced consultants.

### **THE BRAND STORY**

#### **The Islander's Way**

The first thing you will notice, on Flinders and the Furneaux Group of islands, is the breathtaking scenery. In every direction, what you see is like nothing else in the world.

It's deeper than quiet beaches and coastlines, mountains and mist. These islands have a rich and dark history, and an intensely passionate community that wants to reckon with its past and build the right future together.

No one is here because it is the easiest place to live. Everyone is here because it's different. When something works on these islands it tends to be small and special. **As the rest of the world chases growth, we chase meaning.**

**The core of our culture is to be true to who we are**, to try to live on what we can find or grow on our rich land and in our waters, to support one another. When a crisis strikes one of us, it strikes all of us. Many of our family businesses have been here for generations, evolving yet never abandoning the spirit of this place. Artists and artisans are here to create and to connect.

We have a complex relationship with change because we understand what it can bring.

It's different here and we make different invitations to visitors: **for an unforgettable time on Flinders Island, learn to be one of us for a few days, a week, or the rest of your life. Slow down, listen, get lost, contribute.**

**Don't try to change this place. Let this place change you.**

The Furneaux Islands Festival celebrates our Aboriginal history, our ancient and modern cultural traditions, our art, even our complications. Our Council and Community launched it as a gently provocative and intensely local alternative to Australia Day – the first in the country.

Quiet is a word you will hear a lot on Flinders Island. **The Tasmanian story is the quiet pursuit of the extraordinary, and on Flinders it is aged and distilled: quieter, harder yet more rewarding, more mysterious, more connected, more complicated, more extraordinary.**

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### **WHEN / IF THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT IS DECLARED TO BE IN MAJORITY**

Then our Brand Story can begin to guide our community's work on bringing community values to the heart of our visitor economy. Please consider participating once this work begins.

**ANNIE REVIE**

**MAYOR**

**TEL: 0477 557 338**

**EMAIL: [annie.revie@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:annie.revie@flinders.tas.gov.au)**

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

Applications for funding are now being sought from Community Groups.

**Applications received by COB 24<sup>th</sup> May** will be considered by Council as part of the budget process for the next financial year.

## 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 COB Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May.**

Written applications for both grants, using the forms available from the Council Office or the Council website <http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-grants-and-awards> should be addressed to:

General Manager  
Flinders Council  
PO Box 40

**WHITEMARK TAS 7255**

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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

**Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 2:00pm.**

**Public Question Time will be held between 2:00pm – 2:30pm**

The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday 13 May 2021 on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au).

**Warren Groves | GENERAL MANAGER**

## SEPTIC TANK MAINTENANCE TIPS

A septic tank and the associated waste water disposal area, or land application area (LAA), are often forgotten about as soon as it can no longer be seen in your backyard. An onsite waste water system should function efficiently for around 10 years but there are some things you can do to get the best life out of your system.

1. Limit the amount of water you use. The less water, the less work the system has to do.
2. Ensure tree and grass roots are kept away from the LAA. Roots love to find water and block things up.
3. ENSURE grease and fat does not enter the system. Some is unavoidable (such as showering and washing greasy clothes) but don't let oil, fats or dairy (unless light yoghurt) down the kitchen sink. Wipe plates clean with paper towel and pop that in the bin.
4. Never flush sanitary items – even if they claim to be biodegradable etc
5. Check for septic friendly products; and remember:
6. Coffee grinds are great for the garden and terrible for your septic tank!

If you follow these tips, hopefully you can continue to forget about your waste water system in the back yard for a while longer!

Flinders Council  
**Environmental Health Officer**

## VISITOR INFORMATION APP



**Scan the QR code with your smartphone to download the Visitor Information App.**

## CASH FOR CANS WE NEED YOUR HELP



Come along and be part of the Flinders Island War on Waste, by helping sort Aluminium Cans at the Whitemark Tip before they get sent off Island for recycling.

Every can sorted and recycled = money for Flinders Island District High School.

### Save the Dates:

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May & Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June**  
(weather dependent, times TBC)

If you would like to participate in a Volunteer role with Council, a registration process is required.

Once complete, this registration will last for 2 years and covers many events and activities.

Please contact Sammi Gowthorp at Council to register: [sammi.gowthorp@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:sammi.gowthorp@flinders.tas.gov.au)

### WHITEMARK TIP HOURS

<b>Monday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9:30 – 1:00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:30 – 1:00pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9:30 – 1:00pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1:30 – 4:30pm</b>

### CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

## CHECK IN TAS APP



As of 1<sup>st</sup> May, all people entering our Council facilities will need to use the "Check in Tas" app (aged over 16 years and in the venue 15 minutes or more)

Check in TAS makes contact tracing easier by sending data directly to the Department of Health.

Details are kept for 28 days and only accessed if there is a case of COVID-19 in the community.

Please do your bit to ensure we keep our community safe

### VIDEO LINK FACILITIES – STAY CONNECTED

With generous support from Tas Community Fund, Council recently installed a new Logitech video conferencing system at the FAEC.

The Zoom video facility is available for businesses, community groups and individual use when hiring the Rose Garden Room.

On behalf of the Flinders Island Community, Flinders Council would like to sincerely thank the Tas Community Fund for the opportunity for Flinders Island to 'Stay Connected'.