



#### **NOTES FROM THE MAYOR**

#### **HAVE YOU BEEN VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19?**

I have certainly had my first jab. I felt very achy and a little unwell for two days – but then I felt fine. I have an appointment for the second jab mid-August.

Please, please – get the jab! It will not only make it safer for you, but it will also protect the rest of the community.

#### **COUNCILLOR PORTFOLIOS**

Following up from the last Island News, I provide the below information on two councillor portfolios. Councillors have taken on these responsibilities in order to support the community in a variety of ways.

#### **COUNCILLOR VANESSA GRACE**

Councillor Grace has a keen interest in the environment, she has taken on the “natural environment” portfolio. She has already encouraged helpers to work with her in removing noxious weeds from the Whitemark Foreshore. Vanessa is also interested in the long-term goal to add beautification to our townships.

Vanessa also serves on the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee, which works to facilitate the safe movement of freight from source to destination.

If you would like to discuss the above topics please contact Councillor Vanessa Grace.

#### **COUNCILLOR PETER RHODES**

Councillor Rhodes is on the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee. This committee aims to support air access to and from Flinders. Living on an island, as we do, air access is vitally important. Councillor Rhodes is also very interested in Council’s engaging in ongoing improvement and innovation. If you have ideas that you think may support these topics, then Councillor Peter Rhodes is the one to talk with.

#### **IMPROVING HOW FLINDERS MANAGES TOURISM**

I am so looking forward to beginning our ‘Islander Way’ project. In the last ten days the formal brief and funding application have been submitted to the Department of State Growth. In the not-too-distant future, we hope to make a formal start to the project.

#### **WHY IS IT NAMED THE ISLANDER WAY?**

Not long ago, I included the Island Brand Story in the Island News. The story was crafted by Todd Babiak, CEO of Brand Tasmania, Todd did his work very cleverly and based the story on feedback from Islanders, using their words about how they value our island home. At the workshop when Todd first shared the story, Councillors, FIBI members and Islanders who had provided feedback, discussed a name for the story. Councillor Peter Rhodes had the inspiration to call it the ‘Islander Way’ and this was enthusiastically accepted. It is so called because the story describes how we value our island home, including:

- People live here because they truly want to be here;
- It is not always easy to live on a small island but we do it because we love it;
- Life on the islands is peaceful, safe, friendly;
- Even festivals celebrate Island values. In the case of the Furneaux Festival, for example, we celebrate the dynamic culture of these Islands – from the first aboriginal people, through to the sealers and straits men, and on to the people of today.
- We want to maintain and build our Island culture as well as value and protect our Islands’ scenic beauty.
- We are happy to share our islands with visitors but in ways that the community identifies.

## **THE BRAND STORY SHOWS THE WAY**

The Brand Story is easily remembered because stories in themselves are easy to remember. They help to paint pictures in the imagination. Here it is to read again -

### **THE ISLANDER WAY – OUR BRAND STORY**

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.

## **THE 'ISLANDER WAY' PROJECT**

The project will invite community members to come together and identify why and how they love and live on the Island/s. Using our Brand Story as a starting point, we will decide together how we can protect our island home. We will identify ways of protecting things about the island/s that we hold dear. We will invite visitors to share the beauty of the Islands while protecting them. We will identify how visitors can connect with the island/s and the community. We will encourage visitors and Islanders to work together and contribute to the health of our islands and their communities. In the near future, the 'Islander Way' will be voiced and implemented.

## **PEOPLE HAVE ALLUDED TO THE NEED TO CONTROL VISITOR NUMBERS**

We benefit from visitors in many ways – but we need to manage the visitor economy rather than allow it to manage us. People have talked about a need to put a cap on visitor numbers. I want to point out that our regular airline, Sharp Airlines, controls numbers – each plane carries a maximum of 19 people. The Furneaux Freight boat controls numbers. The number of beds available in visitor accommodation controls numbers. The one challenging issue is controlling the visitation of those who camp in tents and recreational vehicles. I am hopeful that the 'Islander Way' project will encourage islanders to work together, with Council and FIBI and with others, to find ways to manage this challenging issue so that our islands and Islander way of life are protected.

## **PEOPLE REFER TO MAKING COUNCIL BY-LAWS TO REGULATE TOURISM**

Are you aware that:

- To identify and enact a by-law costs over \$60,000.
- To enable by-laws to work, they must be policed.
- If you can't afford to police a by-law what is the point in having one?
- Council cannot afford a regulatory method of policing visitation.
- We will do it differently.
- Keep an eye on the start of the Islander Way and join in if you can – help / don't hinder; contribute and connect.

## **BOAT RAMP MEETING**

The next meeting for forming a boat ramp committee will be held in the carpet room at the FAEC in Whitemark **on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 5.30 pm.** Hopefully a Special Committee of Council will be formed to address the future maintenance / etc of Council-owned boat ramps. If you are interested in boating and boat ramps please come along.

## **WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD?**

For many years Council sponsored a Citizen of the Year Award. This award was changed to Volunteer of the Year Award a couple of years ago but, in the last few years, a couple of people who were nominated turned it down. In the last two years no one has been nominated for the award at all. Council is wondering if the award has lost its relevance.

If you wish this award to continue, please email to let us know what you think:  
[annie.revie@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:annie.revie@flinders.tas.gov.au)

## **STAY SAFE – GET VACCINATED!**

**ANNIE REVIE  
MAYOR**

**Tel: 0477 557 338**

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### **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**



## **2021 / 2022 DOG REGISTRATIONS**

In an effort to help save the planet and reduce paper waste, Council are running a paperless dog registration renewal system this year.

To renew your current dog registration simply call Reception on 6359 5001 to pay over the phone or visit Council front office at 4 Davies Street in Whitemark.

As Council have adopted the “tag for life” system, please let Cashier when you call, or visit, if you are in need of a new tag.

Please note- New registrations must be applied for at the Council Office by completing an ‘Application for Registration’ form.

## **COUNCIL’S CONSULTANT STRATEGIC PLANNER IS VISITING THE ISLAND AGAIN SOON!**

Flinders Council Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) and Zoning Strategy identified that extensive areas along the western coast of Flinders Island should be zoned Rural to accommodate a range of rural based activities and support diversification of the rural/agricultural economy on the Island.

This Strategy was established under the draft *Flinders Structure Plan 2016* and delivered through the zoning regime of the LPS. Detailed reports were adopted in early 2021 by Council supporting this zoning regime and include:

- *Flinders Structure Plan (draft 2016);*
- *LPS and Zoning Strategy (January 2021);*
- *FLI LPS Discussion Paper - Identifying Dwelling Demand paper Jan 21;*
- *FLI LPS Discussion Paper - truwana outer islands Jan 21;*
- *FLI LPS Discussion Paper – Identifying potential lot and dwelling yields Jan 21;*
- *FLI LPS Discussion Paper – Outcomes of RMCG review Jan 21.*

The notice issued by the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) under Section 35(5)(b) of LUPAA required modification of various parts of this document and the draft LPS.

In some cases, these changes depart from the Council strategies for the future of the Furneaux Group. Areas where the zoning was changed by the Commission include:

- Palana Road, Killiecrankie;
- Melrose Road, Woods Road, Palana Road, Fairhaven Road, Memana/Emita; and
- Palana Road, Blundstones Road, Memana Road, Lady Barron Road, Butter Factory Road and Lackrana Road, Whitemark/Lackrana.

In these areas, the Council Strategies and Reports have not been changed and continue to refer to provision of the Rural zone.

Council is likely to make its own representation on this issue but would be assisted by the affected landowners, also making representation, to support and retain the rural zone under the LPS.

We invite you to attend an information and consultation session with our strategic planning consultant Mick Purves on this issue to help understand the current situation and decide whether you would like to make a representation to the LPS.

**Two sessions will be held with a focus on the rural and agriculture zones:**

1. 20 July from 11am until 1pm in Carpet Room of FAEC; and
2. 21 July from 9am until 12 noon in Rose Garden Room of FAEC.

**Other community sessions will be:**

3. 21 July from 2pm until 4pm at Rose Garden Room of FAEC; and
4. 22 July from 9am until 11pm in Rose Garden Room of FAEC.

These sessions will include some tips for making a representation, including an explanation of the Guidelines that the TPC will be using to assess the representations that are submitted.

These sessions are open to the public to call in anytime and no appointments are necessary.

**FLINDERS DRAFT LPS**



**Scan the QR code with your smartphone to download.**