



# Council News

## Mayors Column

### **Community Achievements**

The first opening of the Gallery which is now in Council ownership, was a great success with many in attendance and several sales being made. Congratulations to the exhibitors and thank you to all who assisted with the opening and those that attended.

It was great to see Holloway Park come alive again as the first Lady Barron Festival attracted a good attendance, with good food, good music, beautifully prepared horses and riders to watch, car boot sales and other inviting activities. Congratulations to the organisers, the Pony and Riding Club and the Lady Barron Hall Committee coming together to provide this event with a difference.

### **November Meeting Decisions**

- Council will provide a free BBQ for an Australia Day weekend event.
- Council will continue to support interactions for Councillors with other Northern Region Councillors through the C8 Summit Group.
- Council will formalise a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Parks and Wildlife Service for the upkeep and general maintenance of Council owned public BBQ's. The proposed MOU will also see Council support the Parks and Wildlife at times of a genuine emergency until such time as assistance can be flown to the island. Other areas of interest include assistance on an as

needs basis with works on some Parks & Wildlife maintained tracks. While Council would assess any works on a project by project basis, there are times where staff and equipment may be in a given area and their assistance in delivering works would add value to both organisations and the community at large.

- Council received the Flinders Island Sports & RSL Club Project Redevelopment Brief and supports, in principle, the objectives of the Club outlined in the brief provided. Council has requested the General Manager continue working with the Flinders Island Sports & RSL Club to further explore opportunities relating to the development of a recreational, community facilities and housing hub at the site in the future.
- Council agreed to rescind the Private Tenancy Policy relating to the renting of Council houses and that decision is now open for public comment for 28 days.

### **Building Permits**

Across Tasmania property developers are experiencing delays in the issue of building permits from Building Surveyors. The introduction of the requirement for a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) for each new residential development has increased the amount of information required to be assessed prior to granting of a permit.



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I quote from a Workplace Standards Tasmania document updated to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013:-

“The National Construction Code performance requirements require residential buildings in a bushfire prone area to be protected from embers, radiant heat and flame contact; safeguard occupants from injury; assist fire fighting and occupant evacuation and ensure availability of water for fire fighting purposes. The Standard AS 3959 sets out construction requirements based on Bushfire Attack Levels (BAL). The BAL takes into consideration a number of factors including the Fire Danger Index (FDI), the slope of land, types of surrounding vegetation and its proximity to any building. The chart below describes the six bushfire attack levels that are used in the Standard.”

The full document can be found at:

[http://workplacestandards.tas.gov.au/resources/building\\_guides/building\\_in\\_special\\_areas/Guide\\_to\\_assessing\\_a\\_BAL\\_revised\\_28\\_May\\_2013.pdf](http://workplacestandards.tas.gov.au/resources/building_guides/building_in_special_areas/Guide_to_assessing_a_BAL_revised_28_May_2013.pdf)

### **Reduce Fuel Loads Now**

Now is the time residents and property owners should be reducing the fuel load around buildings. A concerted effort now, will benefit both you and your neighbours if the need arises during the coming bushfire season.

*Planning advertisements, Agendas, Minutes and much more information can be found on Councils website:*  
[www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au)

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**



**FLINDERS**  
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## **Annual General Meeting 2013**

The Annual General Meeting of the Flinders Council will be held at the Flinders Arts & Entertainment Centre on Friday 6th December 2013, commencing at 5.00pm.

*Submissions have now closed however the Annual Report of the Council is available for perusal during office hours at the Council Offices, 4 Davies Street, Whitemark, and also on the Council website*

[www.flinders.tas.gov.au/agendas](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/agendas)

Raoul Harper  
**General Manager**

### **WHITEMARK TIP**

Opening Hours

MON, FRI & SUN 1.30pm- 4.30pm

WED 8.30am– 11.30am



**CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**



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 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013 Ordinary Council Meeting to rescind the **Private Tenancy Policy**. This policy will lie on the table for public comment until the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013. A copy is available to download from the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies) or a hardcopy is available from the Council Office. Should you wish to make comment on this policy please do so by addressing relative correspondence to myself.

Raoul Harper  
**General Manager**

## **Did you know?**

### **Place of Assembly Licences**

If you are planning an event that is open to the public, a Place of Assembly licence is required. Although Council are very supportive of this type of activity, the required permits must still be in place. Please ensure that a request to Council is made **well in advance** of the event date.

### **Building and Plumbing Permits**

Generally all building and plumbing works require a permit. If a proposed development is deemed to be exempt you will receive an exemption for the work. All accredited personnel are reminded that it is their accreditation at

stake when illegal works are undertaken. Please ensure that you have sighted a permit and approved plans prior to any works.

If you, as a tradesperson or owner, have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Jacci Viney on 63 595005.

## **Community Development**

### **Whitemark Christmas Decorations**

Christine Wheatley and Joanna Klug are leading the fundraising activities and coordination of decorating Whitemark for this Christmas. If you would like to donate some Christmas decorations or lend a hand, please pop into Freckles. Council is happy to support this community driven activity. If you have an idea for an activity that will benefit the community in some way, please feel free to contact us.

### **Community Bus Volunteer Drivers Needed**

Can you spare any time to help as a driver for our community bus? Costs for licensing will be provided. For more information, please contact us.

### **Christmas Trees - Free to Giveaway**

The Council Works and Services Department will be cutting down a few small pines on Council owned land and they would like to donate to the community for Christmas. Trees will be available for pickup from the driveway at the Furneaux Arts & Entertainment Centre, Whitemark from Thursday 12 December. If you would like a tree for Christmas, please pop by and pick one up.

### **Emita Hall Refurbishment**

There has been a little bit of confusion around the funding allocation for the



Emita Hall renovations. The funding allocation from Council to do the required works has not been affected by Council not receiving the Regional Development Fund Grant Round 5 funding. To be clear, it is still full steam ahead! The extra funding from the grant would have contributed to the kitchen upgrade; it will not affect the required works that are planned to be undertaken.

#### **School Holiday Programs for 2014**

Community Development Staff are about to release our new and improved School Holiday Program for 2014. The program will be offered to both primary and secondary groups and will include our ever popular Surf School, Snorkeling Lessons, Youth Nights, Photography Workshops, Movie Matinees and much much more! Information will be sent out to families in early December; this year we will require only one registration and permission form for the annual program. If you have family and friends visiting they are more than welcome to join in the program however registrations will be required.

#### **Online Community Calendar**

Do you have a community event that you would like to add to our online Community Calendar? It's easy! Please visit the Council website to download the forms or alternatively, please pop into Council for a hard copy: [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au)

#### **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. Aboriginal Benefits Foundation**

[www.aboriginal.org.au/grants](http://www.aboriginal.org.au/grants)

Grant Applications are considered by the board of the foundation at each directors meeting. The board currently meets approximately 6-8 times per year.

#### **2. First Home Owners Grant (FHOG) and First Home Builder Boost (FHBB)**

[www.sro.tas.gov.au](http://www.sro.tas.gov.au)  
Applicants can receive \$7,000 for the FHOG for a new or established dwelling including a house, flat, unit, townhouse or apartment anywhere in Tasmania that meets local planning standards. The existing \$8,000 First Home Builder Boost (the Boost) has been increased to \$23,000. The new Boost applies to eligible applicants with contracts entered into between these dates 7 November 2013 and 31 December 2014.

#### **3. Sport and Rec 2013-14 Minor Grants Program**

[www.development.tas.gov.au](http://www.development.tas.gov.au)

Through the Minor Grants Program (MGP), Sport and Recreation Tasmania (SRT) provides financial assistance to organisations towards equipment purchases and the development/improvement of facilities or playing surfaces that directly benefit sport and active recreation clubs. Round Two - Applications close Wednesday 15 January 2014.

#### **4. Arts Tasmania Offers Funding Programs**

[www.arts.tas.gov.au](http://www.arts.tas.gov.au)  
There are a range of grant opportunities available through Arts Tasmania at different times throughout the year.

#### **5. 26 TEN Grants Program**

[www.skills.tas.gov.au](http://www.skills.tas.gov.au)

The Program supports employers and peak bodies to increase the literacy and numeracy skills of Tasmanian workers (paid and voluntary). Applicants can apply for a grant of up to \$50,000.



There are two levels of funding: Tier 1 \$5,000 - \$20,000 and Tier 2 \$20,001 - \$50,000. Applications for 2013/2014 funding round are open and closes on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

#### **6. The No Interest Micro-Business Loan program**

[www.business.tas.gov.au](http://www.business.tas.gov.au)

The Program provides small, interest-free loans of up to \$3,000 to people on low incomes. The program is delivered in Tasmania by the No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS).

#### **7. Inspiring Australia Grants 2014**

[www.whysci.org.au](http://www.whysci.org.au)

Inspiring Australia is a Federal Government initiative that supports the Australian science sector and aims to improve science engagement and awareness in the Australian community. Individuals or organisations can apply for \$2000. Examples of 'Science Events' might include a public workshop, an exhibition, a performance, a lecture or talk, a competition, a film night, a concert, a fair, a tour- pretty much anything you can think of!

#### **8. Department of Veterans' Affairs – Grant Program**

[www.dva.gov.au](http://www.dva.gov.au)

The *Saluting Their Service* commemorations grants program supports projects and activities which directly commemorate Australia's servicemen and women who served in wars, conflicts and peace operations. The grants also promote appreciation and understanding of the role those who have served have played in shaping the nation.

#### **9. Elite Indigenous Travel and Accommodation Assistance Program (EITAAP)**

[www.ausport.gov.au](http://www.ausport.gov.au)

The Elite Indigenous Travel and Accommodation Assistance Program (EITAAP) provides funding to assist with travel costs in the form of petrol

costs or air travel and accommodation expenses only:

- up to a maximum of \$1,500 per financial year for eligible national championships; and/or
- up to a maximum of \$4,000 per financial year for eligible international competitions

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

1. [cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au) or

2. [healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:healthpromotion.north@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

Alternatively check out grants information online, here are some suggestions:

1. [www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list](http://www.australia.gov.au/directories/australia/regional/web-resources-list)

2.

[www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx](http://www.business.gov.au/Grantfinder/Grantfinder.aspx)

Thank you,

Dolly Wheatley & Jana Harper  
**Community Development**



### **Christmas Opening Hours**

We wish to advise that both the Council and Depot Offices will close Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December and reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

The Council Office will be opened for **Visitor Information and Reception Services ONLY** on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January between the hours 10.00am - 2.00pm. All other services and staff will not be available on these days.

On behalf of the Mayor, Councillors and Staff, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas and look forward to assisting you in 2014.

Raoul Harper  
**General Manager**



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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 19th December 2013,  
commencing at 1.00pm.**

The Agenda will be available for perusal on our Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au) or at the Council Office as from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

Public Question Time will be held between 1.00pm – 1.30pm.

Members of the public are invited to attend.

Raoul Harper  
**General Manager**