



# Council News

## Mayors Column

### **Annual Report**

The Flinders Council 2012-13 Annual Report was accepted at the Annual General Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December and can be accessed on the Council's website or a hard copy obtained from the Council Office. I commend Staff on the report's professional presentation and very readable format.

### **Steam Weeder**

Council is now using a Steam Weed machine to manage weeds in town areas. There are no chemicals involved with this process and mist will not damage garden plants. The Steam Weeder has been used for a year now and whilst not as efficient as using spray, the extra cost is considered worthwhile for use in the town areas.

### **TasWater**

TasWater is the new single entity that is responsible for servicing Tasmanian communities with water and sewerage and is responsible for the non-potable water supplies to Whitemark and Lady Barron. As reported by the Editor in the last edition of Island News, TasWater is investigating ways to upgrade these to potable supplies. Whilst services throughout Tasmania are not currently charged at the same rates (result of the different rates previously charged by the 29 Councils that now own TasWater) there is a transition process in place to postage stamp pricing which will see consistent pricing across the State in the years ahead.

### **Community Rose Garden**

I recommend a visit to the Rose Garden beside the Library, the display is magnificent and an absolute credit to the community members and staff who tend it.

### **Summer Residents - Visitors**

A reminder to visitors that registration on the Electoral Roll is used as a proof of Tasmanian residency for the Tasmanian Ambulance service that is funded by the State Government for Tasmanian residents and for eligibility for the Patient Transport Assistance Scheme (PTAS) should you be referred to Launceston for medical reasons.

### **Dogs**

Reminder to dog owners you must be in control of your dog when it is in a public area. **Dogs are not allowed inside any business premises or areas where food is being served, even if on a leash.** Reports of dogs roaming at will, may trigger a visit to the island from the Dog Control Officer, a cost to you and your fellow ratepayers. Fines are also applicable.

Your enjoyment of your dog should not be at someone else's expense or discomfort.

### **Reduce Fuel Loads Now!**

Now is the time that residents and property owners should be reducing the fuel load around buildings. A concerted effort now, will benefit both you and your neighbours.



## Community

I recently presented an outline on Flinders life to a city centric audience and was approached by a university professor who wished to impress on me that the resilience of the island, its strength, was its people, their ability and willingness to step in and do the things that needed doing. A strength that is not always evident in city communities. I have been reminded of that often lately and especially by two recent community activities, the Christmas decorations in Whitemark. Congratulations in having this initiative and making it happen. Similarly the community wish to have a Passenger Lifter at the Essendon airport. At latest report over \$14,900 of the estimated \$20,000 cost has been raised by the community for the purchase of a Lifter.

I am proud to be in a position to serve our wonderful community and on behalf of all Councillors and Staff I wish you all a safe and peaceful festive season.

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**

### WHITEMARK TIP

Opening Hours

MON, FRI & SUN 1.30pm- 4.30pm

WED 8.30am- 11.30am



CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS



## 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**

## Community Development

### Free to Giveaway - Christmas Trees

The Council Works Department have cut down a few small pines on Council land that they would like to donate to the community for Christmas Trees. Trees are available for pickup from behind the Furneaux Arts & Entertainment Centre, Whitemark by using the driveway located to the left of the hall. If you would like a tree for Christmas, please pop by and pick one up.

### Register Now - 2014 School Holiday Programs

Community Development Staff have released the new and improved School



Holiday Program for 2014. To register simply contact Flinders Council on 63 595 001 or download forms from the website, located under the Community Development tab. The program will be offered to both primary (prep - 6) and secondary groups/youth (grade 7 and over) and will include our ever popular Surf School, Snorkeling Lessons, Youth Nights, Photography Workshops, Movie Matinees and much, much more!

#### **Whitemark Christmas Decorations**

Thank you to all who have donated or volunteered their time to decorate Whitemark this year. Big thanks also to Jo and Christine for organising! Looks very festive!

#### **Emita Sports Day 2014 Saturday 4th January - 3 - 8pm**

Council is proud to support the Emita, twilight on the lawn, Sports Day. Entry is by donation and all money raised will go towards table tennis and other sporting equipment for the Emita Hall. The event is licensed and wood-fired pizzas will be available for purchase. BYO picnic, shade and chairs. There will be some of your old favourite sports games and some new. Come along for a fun, family day!

#### **Celebrate Furneaux Islands Festival 24th – 27th January 2014**

Council, the Furneaux Museum and the Flinders Island Lions Club have teamed up for a celebration of our Islands and our people to bring you a suite of events this January including a free BBQ with healthy food options to be held on the Australia Day weekend. Council passed a motion at the November Council meeting to support an event to encourage residents and visitors to come together, recognising the wonderful community that we live in. In the past this has been held as purely the Australia Day celebration. Keep an eye out for publicity for the Festival detailing all events, which will be out soon.

#### **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.

#### **Online Furneaux Business, Services & Community Organisation Directory**

Flinders Council is currently upgrading its website, which is due to be launched in January 2014. As part of the upgrade, we wish to introduce an online Furneaux Business, Services and Community Organisation Directory.

So far we have identified over 250 organisations that service the Furneaux Region. The information we intend to include in the directory is:

- business/service/organisation type;
- contact name (if applicable);
- trading name;
- town;
- phone number and mobile number; and
- email and website addresses.

Please go to this link [www.flinders.s1.walkerdesigns.com.au/furneaux-directory](http://www.flinders.s1.walkerdesigns.com.au/furneaux-directory) to check the details we have listed for your business and / or organisation that we intend to include in the directory, or if you don't have internet access, simply visit the Council Office. If you require the details to be changed, would like to be included and your details are not listed, or nor are not supportive of being included, please contact the Council Front Office on (03) 6359 5001.

We look forward to being able to help keep local residents and visitors connected with the businesses, services and community organisations in the Furneaux Region and would appreciate your support.



### **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<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and 31<sup>st</sup> 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<sup>th</sup> 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. Local Sporting Champions**

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

The Local Sporting Champions Program is an Australian Government initiative designed to provide financial assistance for young people aged 12-18 towards the cost of travel, accommodation, uniforms or equipment when competing, coaching or officiating at an official National



Sporting Organisation (NSO) endorsed state, national or international sporting championships or a School Sport Australia state or national championships. Closes 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

**8. 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

**9. National/International Sport Championships Program**

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

The National/International Sport Championships Program provides grants of up to \$3,000 for national or international sport championships being held in Tasmania. Funding is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to organisations meeting the eligibility criteria. To be eligible for funding, the championship event must be held between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Closes 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

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**

**CALL FOR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

Nominations from the public are called for the position of Community Representative on the Furneaux Group Aviation Special Committee of Council. The purpose of the Aviation Special Committee is to provide advice to Flinders Council on aviation matters and matters relating to the airport and associated infrastructure where these matters apply to and affect aviation matters.

Nominations can be sent to the Committee Chair:

Carol Cox, Mayor  
Flinders Council  
PO Box 40  
Whitemark TAS 7255  
Or via email to Executive Assistant Vicki Warden at:  
[executive.assistant@flinders.tas.gov.au](mailto:executive.assistant@flinders.tas.gov.au)

Carol Cox  
**Mayor**