

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

SELECTION OF NEW GENERAL MANAGER

As I wrote in the last Island News, we interviewed four people for the GM position on Wednesday, 4th December. Of the four, two were close – similar leadership knowledge and skills but very different persona. On 17th December, the Selection Panel makes its final decision, with Council confirming this decision. Directly following this decision, Council's Human Resources Consultant will make an offer of the GM position to the selected candidate. If the candidate accepts the offer, then we are home and dry. The next Island News in January will communicate his name. Council staff and Councillors will be so relieved to have the whole recruitment process completed. Watch this space.

FOOD BUSINESSES ON THE ISLAND ARE GIVING THE COMMUNITY SUCH A GOOD CHOICE

I think it is wonderful to be spoiled for choice for food retail outlets on the Island. I have promised that I will sample them all in the coming weeks! This week I sampled two – both take-away. At work one day I had a lunchbox from Cate Hardman's pop-up tucker box take-away. The chicken, brown rice and dressed coleslaw was absolutely beautiful. In fact, there was enough to give me two days' lunch. Then on Friday I sampled another take-away from the Bakery – pesto pasta with vegetables. That went home for dinner and was so delicious. I would highly recommend both these meals. Excellent choices – excellent tastes!

WHEN WALKING YOUR DOG...

Those of us who own dogs love them to bits. But please remember that not everyone loves our pets! Please walk your dog with the leash on – then it is fair to others. My dogs are not wonderful with other dogs, annoying but true. When I have them out on the leash and we meet a dog off the leash, my two bark and pull. I have to hold them steady until the other dog departs. Another issue is dog faeces on the footpath or nature strip. We all hate stepping in it! Please, when you walk your dog and it does what it is supposed to do, carry a bag to pick up the poo. Bunnings actually sells poo bags which

are bio-degradable. No excuse. Let's keep our pavements and nature strips clean for everyone to enjoy!

HAVEN'T OUR WONDERFUL COUNCIL WORKERS MADE THE SHOPPING CENTRE IN WHITEMARK GREAT FOR CHRISTMAS?

Walking to the office, I saw presents under a tree, and decorations hanging from another. There were pink and white giant candy sticks and a Xmas tree stall for Santa's elves. Christmas Joy and Happy Christmas signs welcomed me at the airport too. Thank you to the Council workers who seem to have been employed, on the side, by Santa. Thanks also to those all over the Island who will put lights and decorations up to make our Island home look exciting for the festive season.

FAREWELL TO LINDSAY LUDDINGTON

I and many others are saddened by the death of Lindsay Luddington. This lovely lady and her husband have been providing tourist experiences on Flinders Island for many years. On behalf of Council and Community, I thank you, Lindsay – and bid you a fond farewell.

AIR FLIGHTS IN FEBRUARY

Sharp Airlines will shortly publish changes of flight times in February during the long runway upgrade. Watch for this so that you can book.

HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON TO ALL OF FLINDERS COMMUNITY.

Annie Revie, Mayor Tel: 0477 557 338
annie.revie@flinders.tas.gov.au

MEDIA RELEASE - CAPE BARREN ISLAND TELSTRA TOWER TO BE CONSTRUCTED

Flinders Council has successfully brokered negotiations with Telstra, the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT) and the Building Better Regions Grant Funding (BBRF) body to ensure the final stage of the \$10.6 million Flinders and Cape Barren Islands Telecoms Transformation Project will be completed by June 2020.

The Telecoms Transformation Project was scheduled for completion in December

2019. By the end of June 2019, the four Flinders Island towers were complete on, with the final milestone of building the Cape Barren Island tower still outstanding. Acting General Manager, Heidi Marshall said, "That after working with our key stakeholders the BBRF, Telstra and ALCT, we identified a way forward to achieve the final completion stage. Flinders Council has agreed to invest an additional \$80k to achieve an outcome that is mutually beneficial to all parties." Mayor Annie Revie said, "Council is proud to make this commitment in recognition of the importance of completing this project."

This tower will not only benefit the community of Cape Barren Island/truwana but will complete the Telecoms upgrade for the whole of the Furneaux Group, from the northern areas of Palana and Killicrankie, to the southern areas of Lady Barron and Cape Barren. Mayor Revie said, "Without it, we would have missed a once in a lifetime opportunity, so we thank the BBRF, the Hon Minister Michael Ferguson (Minister of Science and Technology), Bridget Archer (Federal Member for Bass Tasmania) and Penny Finlay (Office of Aboriginal Affairs) for their support in facilitating progress towards achieving the final milestone."

The completion of this project is part of the Flinders Council's strategy to encourage people to live, work and invest on the islands, and improve livability for its residents. The Council is very keen and excited to see the final Tower built.

Options for Payments of Council Rates

Pay by Phone with Mastercard or Visa 03 6359 5010

In Person Mastercard, Visa or Cheque, 4 Davies Street Whitemark

By Post Cheque or Money Order, PO Box 40, Whitemark, 7255

By Internet - visit Flinders Council's website at www.flinders.tas.gov.au/make-a-payment and follow the links to pay with Mastercard or Visa. Ensure 'Payment Reference Number' found on Rates Notice (7, digit number found on your rates notice starting with nine) is quoted on payment.

Direct Debit Agreement – Funds deducted from the rate payers nominated bank account on a Fortnightly, Monthly, Standard Instalment Date, or Payment in Full on 1st

Instalment Date. Direct Debit Request Forms are available at Flinders Council Office or by email

accounts@flinders.tas.gov.au

If none of the above payment methods suit, please call 03 6359 5004 and speak with the Rates Officer or call at the Council Office to discuss a payment arrangement which suits.

What Waste?

Council is commencing the segregation of waste at the Whitemark tip. The aim is to ensure that all waste that does not need to go into landfill is redirected.

Ultimately, our goal is to divert our waste to either recycling or other initiatives and so we need to start somewhere! It's a slow process, so please assist where you can and do keep an eye out for updates to our island's 'war on waste.'

Please segregate the following waste when coming to the tip:

1. Aluminium cans

The local school children are actively trying to divert aluminium cans from landfill. Hydro Tasmania and The Wharf Shed are both kindly donating 1c per can collected. To assist with this project, please ensure that **only aluminium cans** are placed in the reciprocals and are as free of liquid as possible. Aluminium can waste does NOT INCLUDE food tins. Drink cans only. No need to crush.

Deposit at School or the tip

2. Glass

All glass items can be deposited at the tip. The glass will be crushed and one day used in the waste disposal process as a covering material.

3. Cardboard

Cardboard is a biodegradable product that is best diverted to composting. For this reason we ask that boxes are flat, with the sticky tape removed before being deposited in the cardboard area at the tip.

Household Waste

Household waste is to be bagged tightly and disposed of in the bin provided.

The tip attendant will be happy to show you where to deposit what. Also remember the tip shop if you have anything that may be repurposed!

Parramatta Grass Trial

Around 12 months ago Council commenced a trial of roadside spraying to tackle Parramatta grass. Two areas were sprayed:

- Memana Rd – The last 200m on the northern side before Lackrana Rd intersection. This section was chosen as it had been grazed and vegetation was short.
- Lackrana Rd— The first 1000m from the Memana Rd intersection both sides, to Trevor Nicholl's & Tim Wright's driveways. From Cameron's Inlet intersection travelling south, the first 200m on the western side ("Ben Werrin" driveway) and the first 600m on the eastern side (to Hydro Pole number 6319). In these areas the vegetation was all long.

The areas were treated with 2 litres of "Taskforce" and 150 litres of water per hectare in late February 2019. The trial will be ongoing as "Taskforce" stays in the soil for approximately 4 years and keeps killing the Parramatta grass as it tries to re-establish. However, after an inspection of the areas with Richard Mollineaux and agronomist Rob Winter, the trial looks very promising. There was an approximate 90% kill rate but this needs to be reviewed again in March 2020 and beyond. The treatment has also proven to be selective in that it is killing Parramatta grass whilst not affecting the other grasses in the plot areas. There does not yet seem to be much difference in the areas with short and long vegetation.

Policy Under Review

Council resolved at the 12 November 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting to adopt the **Furneaux Islands Festival Policy**.

The policy will lie on the table for public comment until 3 January 2020. It is available to download from the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au/policies and hardcopies are available from the Council Office.

Comments on the policy will be accepted up to COB 3 January 2020.

Heidi Marshall
Acting General Manager

Position Vacant Airport Operations Officer

Flinders Council is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced Airport Operations Officer to join our Airport team. The position will be permanent full time (76 hours per fortnight) and duties will include all functions required to ensure that the Flinders Island Airport is managed and maintained in accordance with regulatory compliance and Council's safety parameters.

It is essential that applicants possess a CASA approved Airport Reporting Officer/Works Safety Officer certificate, an Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC), an Aircraft Radio Operators Certificate and a current open manual class 'c' motor vehicle license.

It is desirable that applicants hold a Certificate III in Aircraft Operations or higher.

A three bedroom house, if required, is available for rent to the successful applicant.

A full description of this position can be viewed on Council's website at www.flinders.tas.gov.au/employment-and-business-opportunities

Further information can be sought by contacting Brian Barnewall on brian.barnewall@flinders.tas.gov.au Applications should be marked "Airport Operations Officer position" and addressed to:

General Manager
Flinders Council
PO Box 40
WHITEMARK TAS 7255

Applications are to be submitted to Flinders Council via email: office@flinders.tas.gov.au or post by COB 10 January 2020.