

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

We Miss Dan at Council Already

I cannot speak highly enough of Dan Pitcher. I first met Dan when he worked with Jo Klug, Aimee Wheatley and me on the committee that organised and ran the Food Feast for the 2018 Food and Crayfish Festival. From the very first meeting of the group, Dan was full of ideas and, at the same time, full of practicalities. His work at Council as one of the Community Development Officers has been nothing short of excellent. I have this pleasant task of thanking Dan publicly for the quality of his work and for wishing him well in his new career as apprentice electrician for Hydro.

And a Very Special Welcome To

Debbie Steer and Ryan Lees who join Council in Community Development. We feel very lucky to have gained their expertise and skills at this time. I hope they will find the work rewarding. Welcome aboard Debbie and Ryan.

Flinders "War on Waste"

The first meeting of the War on Waste working party will be over when you read this – Wednesday 13 February at the Hydro Building. Of course the ABC came up with the title! The ABC program of the same name has had a big effect on how people all over Australia manage the amazing quantities of waste produced as part of life. We can't see the need to invent another title – A War on Waste it will be.

We will be starting small but growing as we proceed. Crs Vanessa Grace and Sharon Blyth join Hydro's Aronn Daw, Flinders High School science teacher, Helen Carnell, and Council's Butch Barnewall to nut out an action plan. Involving students in this authentic learning venture will mean they will bring families and friends into line – their enthusiasm will bring success! All of the above, with the Mayor as encourager, have passion, knowledge and skill to make this great for Flinders Island.

Being an Island makes it extraordinarily challenging, especially when you consider all the plastic containers, aluminium cans and glass that are shipped here each time any of us makes a purchase!

Once we have got the first projects up and running, we will be looking for ideas for more – and we will be inviting interested community members to join in.

Why is Lady Barron Transfer Station Closed to Green Waste?

I was asked this question almost as soon as I was elected as Mayor. And yes - I have only recently found the answer. On a recent bus tour round the 'council hot spots' I visited the Lady Barron and the Killiecrankie waste transfer stations for the first time.

If every single Islander could be trusted to manage the transfer stations well, there would not be a problem. Sadly, that is not the case. Somehow, I expect more of Flinders Islanders. But, as is often the case, a few spoil things for the majority.

During the fire season it is not practical to drop off green waste at the unmanned transfer stations. A few years ago a major fire was lit among the green waste at the Lady Barron Station. Council simply cannot risk such a thing again. A fire running out of control is unthinkable. So, during the fire season, green waste must be transported from Lady Barron and Killiecrankie to the manned tip at Whitemark.

I wish it didn't need to be the case – but it is. So, help each other out: Do something in return for the friendly neighbour who is willing to bring green waste to Whitemark. When the Fire season is over, things will return to normal.

We just cannot afford a repeat of the fires that put our community in danger a few years ago!

Whitemark, Lady Barron, Emita and Killiecrankie are Leashed Dog Areas

Being a community is much more than being friendly and giving the Flinders wave when you are driving. These things help of course. But big characteristics of community include:

- Imagining yourself in the shoes of others; and
- Understanding that none of us can get what we want all the time!

So, **if you love your dog and you are community-minded**, you will make sure your dog is leashed in the township areas. You will also use a plastic bag to pick up the dog faeces after your lovely pet has toileted. Are you community-minded? Or are you one of those who shows that you do not care about the needs of others?

Annie Revie | **Mayor**

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Productivity Commission: new study Remote area tax concessions and payments

The Productivity Commission invites interested parties to register their interest in a study into Remote area tax concessions and payments.

Why the study?

The study will examine the operation and impacts of the zone tax offset and related remote area fringe benefits tax concessions and remote area allowance payments and provide recommendations on the appropriate form and function of such assistance into the future.

The Commission will be consulting widely, including in regional and remote Australia. The full terms of reference that guide the study are available from the Commission's website:

www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/remotetax

Community Gyms

Council wishes to remind all community members that they must first undertake an induction before using the Lady Barron and Whitemark Community Gyms. This is a requirement of council's insurance cover. If you wish to book in for a gym induction, please call council on 6359 5010.

Emita Hall

Emita Hall construction of new bar and kitchen has commenced! Unfortunately access to the site and the playground area will be prohibited during the building phase. We thank you for your patience and apologise for any inconvenience.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of Flinders Council for 2019 will be held at the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark, Flinders Island on:

Tuesday 19 February 2019 commencing at 9.00am.

Public Question Time will be held between 9.00 – 9.30am. Members of the public are invited to attend. The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday, 14 February 2019 on the Council Website www.flinders.tas.gov.au and at the Council Office.

WHITEMARK TIP OPENING HOURS
SUN, MON, FRI 1.30pm - 4.30pm
TUES +THURS 7.00am - 10.00am
WEDNESDAYS 8.30am - 11.30am

CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS