



## NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

### I AM AWARE THAT SOME OF THE ROADS NEED WORK

I am sorry that we are a bit behind on this right now. I wish it was not so. However, there are a few things I want to say:

- There has been a number of Council workers suffering ill health recently – the reason why the tip had to be closed temporarily for an extra day.
- Council management has had to do a fair bit of juggling to cover each service area, including roads.
- The Bowmans Creek Bridge collapse, followed by the washout of the detour has caused a big problem.
- Resealing of a few stretches of road had been started and had to be completed.

### THIS COUNCIL DOES NOT SWEEP DIFFICULT THINGS UNDER THE CARPET.

The above are genuine reasons – not excuses. We are a small Council with scarce resources. There will be times when things are problematic and cannot be fixed at once.

### PLEASE DRIVE TO THE CONDITIONS

Do not drive at speed: our roads are not made for speed. When the roads are under pressure, like now, it is vital that people drive even more carefully. Management is working hard to have things fixed as soon as possible.

### IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT – DO THIS

Council is working hard to be service-focused. When you have an important issue here is what to do:

- Ring Council reception and report your service request or complaint or;

- Submit your service request through the Council website.

Every request is recorded and followed up. Issues are prioritised and someone will get back to you to let you know when your issue has been dealt with.

### YESTERDAY I READ THE SERVICE REGISTER

You would think, with all the Facebook Community Notice Board negativity in the last week, there would be complaints on the service register. There were two only! Of course, some people may feel angry when we have a period of things not going so well. Public blaming on the Facebook Community Notice Board does not help! **Please, people, do the right thing.**

### OUR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Council publishes a lot of important information, this can be found on the Council Facebook Page or on the Council Web Site. Look in these two places first. If you can't find what you are looking for, then ring reception for guidance.

### THE VISITOR ECONOMY ON FLINDERS

In the last edition of Island News, I provided information about Council's preferred direction regarding the visitor economy. Basically, we want to begin a project as soon as possible to work with the Community on this. We want to create a visitor economy that is based on what our community values. We do not want to have tourism imposed on us. However, it will take time.

### MEANWHILE ...

People are anxious and wanting Council to put limits on the number of visitors. This is neither practical nor wise and would require a bylaw. Firstly, bylaws are an expensive exercise. Secondly, unless Council can afford to put resources into policing the regulations, bylaws will be totally ineffective. I am encouraging everyone to relax on this one. **Good change takes time.**

### I HAVE BEEN BLUNT IN MY WRITING THIS FORTNIGHT

Sometimes a little forthrightness is called for. Let's work together on challenging issues. Blaming adds drama – nothing good comes out of it. Even the complainers feel bad.

### ANNIE REVIE, MAYOR

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## FAREWELL & WELCOME

As many in the Community would be aware, February saw the retirement of Brian (Butch) Barnewall from Council with over 30 Years of service to this Municipality.

On behalf of Council and the community, I would like to thank Butch for his passion and absolute commitment to his duties and strong focus on all things Island. I am sure we all wish Butch, Judy and his family all the best now that he may have some time to himself.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to Chris Wilson, Councils new Infrastructure and Airport Manager. Chris' slightly revised role is largely in line with Butch's with the addition of airport management.

Chris comes to us from Ceduna Council in South Australia where he performed a similar role to his Flinders Island duties. Chris has worked in similar roles in remote communities in central Queensland and Western Australia as well as Wellington City Council in New Zealand.

Chris has connections to Tasmania from living as a young child on King Island where his sister was born. He later moved to Devonport, attending Primary School for a number of years.

He has also truly experienced remote living when his family moved to Papua New Guinea where his father worked in mining for ten years.

Chris is very keen to try his first meal of mutton bird and looks forward to contributing to the Island lifestyle.

Please join me in extending a warm island welcome to Chris.

## 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

## LADY BARRON TRANSFER STATION

The Lady Barron Transfer Station is now taking green waste.

## CAMPING & FACILITIES INFORMATION FOR VISITORS

In collaboration with Tas Parks, Flinders Council recently published a flyer with camping and day facilities information for visitors.

The flyer covers camping locations, BBQ & facilities, Dump Ezy station (effluent dump point) opening times for the Whitemark Tip and Transfer Stations and is being distributed to all visitors arriving on Furneaux Freight, available on the Council website and at the Visitor Information Centre.

A community information app has also been developed to complement the camping information flyer with links to essential services, visitor information and community groups on the island.

## VISITOR INFORMATION APP



**Scan the QR code with your smartphone to download the Visit Information App.**

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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

**Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 2:00pm.**

**Public Question Time will be held between 2:00pm – 2:30pm**

The Agenda will be available for perusal from Thursday 13 May 2021 on the Council Website [www.flinders.tas.gov.au](http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au).

Warren Groves | **GENERAL MANAGER**

## **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Applications for funding are now being sought from Community Groups.

**Applications received by C.O.B. 24<sup>th</sup> May** will be considered by Council as part of the budget process for the next financial year.

## **GUNN BEQUEST**

Applications for funding are now being sought from sporting organisations under the Gunn Bequest.

These funds are provided to suitable projects for the promotion or improvement of sporting facilities on the Island.

**Applications must be received by C.O.B. Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May.**

Written applications for both grants, using the forms available from the Council Office or the Council website <http://www.flinders.tas.gov.au/community-grants-and-awards> should be addressed to:

### **General Manager**

Flinders Council  
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