

## A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents and Ratepayers of Glamorgan Spring Bay,

A big congratulations must go to all of our **2016 Tasmanian Tourism Award winners** from the East Coast. This is testament to the dedication and professionalism of our operators, including our very own East Coast Regional Tourism Organisation. The **Great Eastern Drive won gold** in the Destination Marketing category up against Spirit of Tasmania. A special mention should also go to Sandpiper Ocean Cottages in Bicheno who went into the Hall of Fame for winning their category 3 years in a row.

Our East Coast winners included:

- Major Tourist Attractions - *Freycinet National Park* (Gold)
- Ecotourism – *Tasmanian Walking Company* (Gold)
- Adventure Tourism – *The Maria Island Walk* (Gold)
- Destination Marketing – *Great Eastern Drive* (Gold)
- Caravan and Holiday Parks – *BIG4 St Helens Holiday Park* (Gold)
- Self Contained Accommodation – *Avalon Coastal Retreat* (Gold)
- Standard Accommodation – *Sandpiper Ocean Cottages* (Gold & Hall of Fame)
- Luxury Accommodation – *Saffire Freycinet* (Gold)
- Excellence in Food Tourism – *Freycinet Marine Farm* (Silver)

The Tasmanian Tourism Awards celebrate excellence within the Tasmanian tourism industry and I would like to wish all of our East Coast winners the best of luck in the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards in February next year.

KPMG recently released their report into the **feasibility of voluntary amalgamations** for the south eastern councils. Councils have been briefed on the report and are reflecting on the findings and considering the options. It is expected that community consultation will commence early in 2017 and I will keep you updated on progress.

As those of you who travel the Great Eastern Drive will have noticed, the **Triabunna Gatehouse** at the entrance to the town is progressing well and will be completed early in the new year. This architecturally designed building is the first project to be constructed from the *Triabunna Tomorrow Urban Design* work. It will include a display area to showcase the essence of Triabunna and Maria Island to visitors, as well as a satellite visitor information hub and local produce stall. It is designed to really illuminate to visitors that Triabunna is the gateway to Maria Island and to come in and find out more - directing people into town and down to the Triabunna Marina and Wharf Precinct, the main Visitor Information Centre and ferry departure point.

Construction work to extend the **Triabunna Wharf** between the existing wharf and the new commercial berths will commence shortly. Excavation work for this project has been completed. Tas Marine Construction will be doing the installation work and Bennett's Petroleum has been awarded the contract to supply the diesel fueling facility at the new wharf extension. They will be installing a 30,000 litre diesel holding tank above ground adjacent to the wharf extension.

*Continued >*



### DECEMBER 2016

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Excavation work to dredge Vicarys Inlet is continuing for **Stages 3 and 4 of the Triabunna Marina expansion**. These stages will provide an additional 35 berths to the marina when complete, as well as an additional 11 berths for small vessel casual berthing.

A list of other major projects that Council is currently involved with or that are in the pipeline is available on our new website [www.gsbc.tas.gov.au](http://www.gsbc.tas.gov.au) for those interested in what is happening in relation to economic development in our municipal area.

There are a range of great activities and events taking place over the summer months for locals and visitors to enjoy and these can be found via the events calendar on the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council or East Coast Tasmania website.

- The award winning **Bicheno Food and Wine Festival** will take place on **Saturday, 19th November 2016**. This is a highly successful and thoroughly enjoyable event on our beautiful East Coast.
- The **Track Art Exhibition at the Spring Bay Studio and Gallery** from **December 2** will run through December 2016 and January 2017.

Council's **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held in Swansea on the 13th of December at 7pm. A draft copy of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Annual Report 2015-16 will be available for residents and ratepayers to review on the Council website or a copy can be collected from the Council offices in Triabunna from 29th November, 2016. Electors of the municipal area are invited to make written submissions for discussion at the Annual General Meeting and submissions will be received by the General Manager up until the close of business on Friday 2 December, 2016. All submissions should be e-mailed to the General Manager [david@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:david@freycinet.tas.gov.au) or mailed to PO Box 6, Triabunna, 7190.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very safe, happy and restful festive season. I have no doubt that 2017 will hold many exciting opportunities for us all and I look forward to the new year ahead.

MAYOR MICHAEL KENT AM

## GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on Council's financial performance in the 2015-2016 financial year. Council has reported a surplus for the 2015/2016 financial year of \$374,000 against a budget of \$2,250,000 and a prior year surplus of \$1,183,000. The budget included approximately \$2,000,000 in property sales that did not eventuate for various reasons, including delays within Council. The result includes a depreciation expense of \$2,014,000. I am very pleased to inform the community that over the past eight years Council has exceeded every benchmark set by the Auditor General, including operating surplus over time, operating surplus ratio over time, asset sustainability ratio and road asset consumption ratio.

Employee costs are reported at \$3,869,000 against the 2015 figure of \$3,911,000 and a budget of \$4,059,000. This shows responsible management of our workforce and salary increases in line with community expectations.

Council is consistently looking at better ways of doing business. Overall expenses showed an increase of 3%

mainly related to an increase in materials/services and contractors due to the heavy flooding the municipal area experienced at the end of January 2016. Council continues to monitor expenses

and look for alternative methods of increasing revenue without the need to increase rates above CPI. Council continues to use set residential rates (Average Area Rates) for non-vacant residential properties. Rates debtors outstanding have been maintained at low levels, which is an excellent result considering the financial pressures within the municipal area.

The municipality needs residential, commercial and industrial growth. Council will be working strongly in 2016/2017 to try and attract these investments into our area. Council's investment in non-static infrastructure



such as marinas is starting to pay dividends and improving the bottom line, with positive results and positive cash flows as well as improving the economy and demographics of our municipal area.

The Council remains in a strong position to benefit from the many cost saving initiatives and our strong fiscal management. Council has set an aggressive capital works program that has been included in the 2016/2017 budget year, which should increase revenue and reduce costs.

If you would like to ask any questions regarding Council's finances please do not hesitate to contact me. The Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Annual Report 2015/2016 will be available for community review from 29th November 2016 on Council's website and from the Council office in Triabunna.

DAVID METCALF  
GENERAL MANAGER

## WORKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

### CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

#### BRIDGE STRUCTURES REPLACED

- Jack Gray Creek – Rheban Road, Rheban



- A number of timber structures and approaches were repaired as a result of this year's January and June floods.

Structures to be replaced this financial year include:

- Two Mile Creek – Rheban Road, Spring Beach
- Earlham Creek – Earlham Road, Earlham
- Unnamed Creek – Old Coach Road, Swansea

#### ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS

- Dolphin Sands Road (part), Dolphin Sands at the Bagot point end is currently being reconstructed under the 'Roads to Recovery' Programme.
- Reconstruction works are planned for Jetty Road, Orford and Rheban Road through the Spring Beach carpark area.
- Replacement kerb and footpath works completed at Garnet Avenue, Coles Bay.
- A large number of sealed road pavement failures are currently being repaired which have been caused by recent extended wet weather periods.

#### BITUMEN SEALING WORKS

- Works are currently underway preparing for this year's bitumen road resealing programme.

Works include: Old Spring Bay Road and Kennedia Place, Swansea; Foster Street, Bicheno; West Shelly Road; Rudd Avenue and Walters Drive, Orford; Buckland Road, Buckland.

- Staff prepared the front and rear car parking areas for bitumen sealing at the new SES development in Maria Street, Swansea.

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

#### KERBSIDE, WASTE & RECYCLING

All kerbside collected waste is transported to the Copping Landfill and kerbside recycling material goes to a processing plant in Launceston.

#### SCRAP METAL RECYCLING

Large volumes of scrap steel have recently been removed from all our 'waste transfer stations' for recycling. This has redirected many tonnes of scrap from going to landfill.

#### FREE GREENWASTE DISPOSAL

To assist residents in preparing for bushfire-risk periods, Council offers FREE greenwaste disposal at all WTS sites in January and October each year.

### PARKS, RESERVES & FORESHORES

#### OUR PARK ORFORD

Due to traffic concerns at "Our Park", Orford a section of car parking was reverted back to grass.

The car park area at the Gulch, Bicheno has been resurfaced with asphalt following recent storm damage. A monetary contribution was made from MAST.

## NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

### SERRATED TUSSOCK ON THE EAST COAST

A new infestation of serrated tussock (*Nasella trichotoma*) was recently discovered on the East Coast.

Serrated tussock is a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) and it is also a declared weed under the *Weed Management Act 1999*.

Serrated tussock is one of Australia's worst agricultural weeds. It is unpalatable to stock, and is capable of reducing pasture productivity by up to 95%. If stock graze pastures containing only serrated tussock, the leaves can form indigestible balls in the rumen (stomach), causing a loss of condition and eventual death.

This plant can be difficult to identify as it looks similar to native grasses. However, now is a good time of year for identification. It can be identified when in seed by its seed head and seed. The seed head is purple soon after flowering and then turns a golden brown when the seed has matured. Leaf bases of serrated tussock are always white and leaves roll like a needle between fingers. Serrated tussock plants are difficult to pull from the ground, even when small.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council's NRM staff have been supporting public and private land owners in managing their serrated tussock for many years. Awareness raising activities continue.

Contact Amanda Brooks at Council on 0488 573 175 for more information.



Photo credit: Serrated tussock National Best Practice Management Manual.

## JOIN US THIS SUMMER TO CELEBRATE WORLD WETLANDS DAY!

In 2017 we will be celebrating our local wetland of international importance, Moulting Lagoon Ramsar Wetland, at Devils Corner Vineyard.

Save the date: Saturday 28th January 2017 from 10:30am to 2:30pm at Devils Corner Vineyard overlooking Moulting Lagoon.

More details to come soon.

## SHOREBIRD BREEDING SEASON IS HERE!

The current shorebird breeding season began in September and will continue until March next year. Recently a new shorebird interpretation sign was installed beside the walking track to the Meredith River mouth at Dolphin Sands.



New interpretation sign at the Meredith River Bird Sanctuary

You can help our East Coast shorebirds on all of our beaches this breeding season by walking or riding on the wet sand to avoid the upper parts of the beach where the shorebirds nest. Follow the Dog Management Policy directions. Dogs off lead can chase shorebirds and squash their eggs. Cats also pose a threat to shorebirds; desex your cat and prevent it from roaming.

You may see some temporary fences on some beaches. These indicate a nesting bird so please keep clear of the fence and ensure that no dogs enter the fenced off area.

## 2017 MUNICIPAL REVALUATIONS

Glamorgan Spring Bay properties will be re-valued in 2017. The Office of the Valuer-General has appointed LG Valuation Services Pty Ltd to undertake this.

An explanation of the valuation process is available on the DPIPWE website under Land

Tasmania. Please be aware that valuers will be around the municipal area in early 2017 and the valuations will be issued by end of May 2017 at which time you can lodge an objection to the issued valuation if you need to.

## STEPPING INTO THE PAST

The Orford sandstone quarry operated from 1870 – 1890 supplying stone for a variety of projects including the Melbourne Post Office and Law Courts.

As the quarry was frequently visited by people interested in seeing the extent of the work carried out in the 1800's an unintentional track was soon established which soon began to erode.

This section of coastal reserve was, until recently, managed by the Crown. Council has now taken on the lease.

In August this year Council engaged renowned Tasmanian track designer, John 'Snapper' Hughes, to upgrade the track leading down to the floor of the quarry. Stone was purchased from Buckland to be used as steps to not only give a much better access to the quarry but also to help arrest the erosion.

An interpretation sign will be installed at a later date detailing the working of the quarry and flora to be found there.

The quarry can be found by either walking the Cliff Top track between Shelly Beach and Spring Beach or from the public access off the end of Manning Drive at Shelly Beach.



*New sandstone steps to the old Orford quarry*

## POSTCARDS

To promote our unique and stunning flora and natural landscapes on Tasmania's east coast, Catchments to Coast (a co-funded program with NRM South) have published two postcards: one depicting South Esk Pine and the other depicting Saltmarsh.

South Esk Pine occurs only in Tasmania in the central eastern region and most commonly in the riparian zone. It can be distinguished from the more common



Oyster Bay Pine (to which it is closely related) by its usually bushier, bluish-green foliage and longer fruits. It is listed under both National and State legislation as a threatened species. For more info visit: <http://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Callitris%20oblonga%20ssp.%20oblonga.pdf>

Saltmarshes are fascinating communities that occur predominantly around shallow coastal lagoons where they provide feeding and breeding habitat for many



animals. They support a diverse range of invertebrates such as crabs and other crustaceans, worms and shellfish, as well as high-tide visitors such as prawns and fish. These smaller animals in turn provide a rich food source for resident and migratory birds. Coastal Saltmarsh is listed as a threatened ecological community under National legislation. For more info visit: <http://www.nrmsouth.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Southern-Tasmanian-Coastal-Saltmarsh-Futures-Report-2013.pdf>

Thanks to NRM South for ongoing support and for funding the development and printing of the postcards!

# PADDLE SAFE

Mast and Surf Life Saving Tasmania are conducting FREE PADDLE SAFE SESSIONS in the Glamorgan Spring Bay area in 2017.

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!**

**ORFORD – Wed 4 Jan @ 10am - Raspins Beach**  
**SWANSEA – Wed 4 Jan @ 2pm - Jubilee Beach**  
**BICHENO – Wed 4 Jan @ 5pm - Waubs Beach**  
**ORFORD – Sat 11 Mar @ 10am - Raspins Beach**

**FOR BOOKINGS CALL MAST ON 6235 8829 For further info [www.mast.tas.gov.au](http://www.mast.tas.gov.au)**

## BUILDINGS AND MARINE

### Summary of recent Works

#### SWANSEA EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING

Construction of the new Emergency Services building in Maria Street, Swansea is complete. The building was officially opened by Minister Rene Hidding on 13th August, 2016. As well as being a new home for SES, Tasmania Fire Service and Ambulance Tasmania, the new facility has a training room, an emergency command room, toilet, shower and disabled accessible facilities and a small kitchen. The hard stand at the front of the building includes a wash down area.



#### COLES BAY HALL

Council has constructed a new storage room extension to the Coles Bay Hall.

The extra storage space will free up room in the main hall.

#### BICHENO MEDICAL CENTRE

Renovation work to optimise space at the Bicheno Medical Centre is complete.

The renovations provided an extra consultation room and storage area, along with new flooring and window tinting.

#### RASPINS BEACH

Construction has started on the sailing boat storage facility for Raspins Beach.

Once completed, this new facility will provide storage for sailing boats that students from the Triabunna District High School will use to learn to sail.

#### TRIABUNNA GATEHOUSE

Construction has commenced on one of the Triabunna Tomorrow projects.



*Triabunna Gatehouse under construction*

The concrete slab with exposed aggregate and the steel frame have been installed.

The Triabunna Gatehouse, which has been architecturally designed by Ross Brewin from the Triabunna Tomorrow team, will be the first project undertaken by Council. The Gatehouse will have a large glass display room, under cover seating and public toilets. The unique design will encourage travellers along the Tasman Highway to turn into Triabunna for a visit.

#### TRIABUNNA PORT

Work is continuing on Stages 3 and 4 of the Triabunna Marina complex and the Triabunna main wharf extension. The wharf extension will incorporate a diesel fuelling facility and extend the loading area.

Stages 3 & 4 of the Marina expansion will add approximately another 35 marina berths to the port when completed. Both projects are estimated to be complete by April 2017.

Council is also organising funding to straighten the boating channel into the Triabunna port.

Council has engaged a new Port Control Officer to oversee the running and security of the Triabunna Port. Gary Laredo is learning the ropes off Stan Berry who is retiring as the Triabunna Port Harbour Master. Stan has been the familiar face looking after the Port for many years and we thank him for his dedicated service and wish him well in his retirement.

#### MUNICIPAL BOAT RAMPS

Informative fish species signs have been installed at the main boat ramps in the Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipal Area. These signs were provided by the Recreational Fisheries Branch of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION WINNERS

The winner of the 2016 Glamorgan Spring Bay Photography Competition is David Lennon of South Hobart with his image titled "Milky Way over Hazards". There were a total of 117 entries.

Runners-up (in no particular order) are:-

Jim Lovell – "Sunset from Richardson's Beach, Freycinet".

Maree Woolley – "Cast of Colours", Spring Beach.

Stewart Bayles – "A Day in June", Kelvedon, Swansea.

Maurice Banks – "Morning Glow", Saltwater Creek, Swansea.

Maurice Banks – "Golden Rays", Schouten Beach, Swansea.

Ian Bresnehan – "Snowin' on the Thumbs", Orford.

Christopher Dick – "Twamley Homestead", Buckland.

Janet Hawkins – "Through Rose Coloured Glasses", Coles Bay.

Barbara Townsend – "Red Rock Lustre", Bicheno.

Olivia Martyn – "Ola Linda", Boltons Beach.

Geoff Swan – "Bicheno Wave Sunrise", Bicheno.

John Smith – "Diver and Jellyfish", Waubs Bay, Bicheno.

Independent judges Terry Pinfold and Jan Perkins had the difficult job of choosing the winning images and Council thanks them for again freely giving their time to undertake this task.

Thank you to everyone who entered the competition this year. The range of photographs certainly highlights the diversity and beauty of our municipal area.

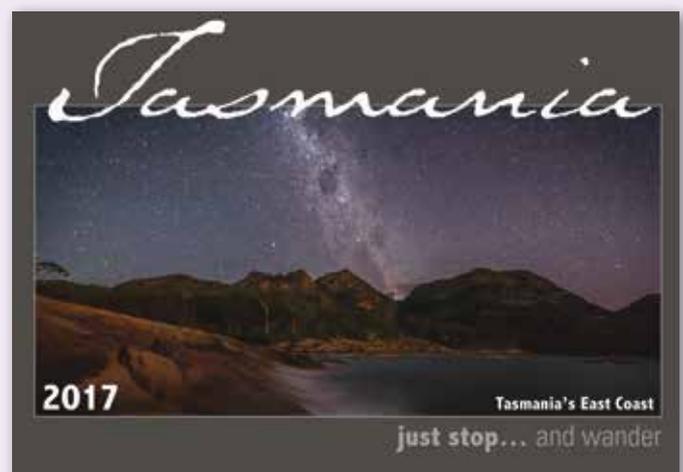


## 2017 CALENDAR

The 2017 calendar which has been produced from the winning images entered in our photography competition, is now available for sale at \$10 each.

The calendars are available from the following outlets:-

- Glamorgan Spring Bay Council office
- Visitor Information Centres at Triabunna, Swansea and Bicheno
- Orford Post Office
- Triabunna Post Office
- Gallery Art Spaces, Triabunna
- Spring Bay Pharmacy, Triabunna
- Bendigo Community Banks, Swansea and Bicheno
- Swansea Post Office
- Milton Vineyard, Cranbrook
- Kate's Berry Farm, Swansea
- Sea Life Centre, Bicheno
- Iluka Caravan Park, Coles Bay
- Bear Cottage, Swansea
- Bicheno Post Office at The Farm Shed



The calendars make great stocking fillers and gifts for friends and family both here and overseas and also help to promote our beautiful East Coast.

Proceeds from the sale of the calendar are used to support youth projects and activities in our municipal area.

## HEY EAST COAST RESIDENTS! SERVICE TASMANIA IS HERE TO STAY!

The Triabunna Service Centre, in Vicary Street, was one of the first rolled out when Service Tasmania commenced business in 1998, and has recently had a bit of a facelift to set it up for the next 18 years!

Starting out with a predominantly transport-related set of services, gradually over the years, the number of services available at the Service Centre has grown significantly, now numbered at more than 600, with services ranging from everything from parks passes and map sales to Centrelink services.

In fact one of the only things you can't do is your banking. Since the withdrawal of Westpac services in September, there has been some concerns raised on whether Service Tasmania would remain. A Government spokeswoman tells us that nothing is further from the truth, "The Tasmanian Government and Service Tasmania are committed to maintaining a presence in Triabunna. Recent renovations and new signage at our Vicary Street service centre should reassure the local community that we are here to stay and will continue to deliver government services to our East Coast customers".

Service Tasmania employs four Triabunna locals, and all are closely connected to the community. The four are well-known local faces, in fact Carol Castle has been working at the centre for almost as long as it has been open. Her sister-in-law Tania Castle joined later, as did Jean Weeding, and more recently Beth Wylie.

As you might imagine it takes a special sort of person to work for Service Tasmania, someone with not only great local knowledge but also with a real passion for customer service, and wanting to ensure that no matter what situation the customer presents with, they will find a way to help them.

So why not pop in to see Carol, Tania, Jean or Beth and let them assist you with your government payments, purchases, applications or information – or just say hello and pick up a showbag of Service Tasmania goodies!

The service centre is located at 17 Vicary Street in Triabunna and is open Monday to Friday from 10:00am until 4:00pm.

## CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR OFFICE CLOSURE & SERVICES

The Council Office will close on Friday, 16th December, 2016 and re-open on Tuesday 3rd of January, 2017.

### Waste Management Centres

ALL Waste Transfer Stations will be CLOSED on Christmas Day. All other days remain unchanged.

### Kerbside Collection

All collection days and times remain unchanged.

### FREE Greenwaste Disposal

To assist residents in preparing for the bushfire season Council is offering FREE greenwaste disposal at all WTS's between Monday 2nd – Sunday 8th January 2017.

## YOUR COUNCILLORS

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