

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY

Community Development staff organised a seniors' bus trip to Woodsdale and Oatlands on Thursday, 21st January 2021 which was attended by 30 seniors from Bicheno to Buckland.

First stop was the Woodsdale Museum which is situated at 2278 Woodsdale Road. The Woodsdale Museum was formerly the Woodsdale State School which was built in 1884 and closed down in 1965. The Levendale and Woodsdale History Room group restored the building to museum standard and it was officially opened in November 2006. The Sheep Shearing Interpretation Shed and Mens/Farm Shed were officially opened in 2009.

On arrival, participants were greeted by volunteer members of the museum, who have a vast knowledge of the history of the area and after being divided into three groups they were given a very interesting and informative tour.

The old Principal's residence section holds artefacts dating from 1860 to 1920 and the school room is a multi-function room showing changing displays every two months.

The Shearing Interpretation Shed has a range of objects dating from the mid-1800s, including a thylacine trap, a range of farming tools and machinery and numerous photographs.

The next stop was just down the road at the Woodsdale Community Hall where the Woodsdale Hall Committee had prepared a delicious lunch of cold meats, hot new potatoes and salads.

After devouring lunch, everyone boarded the bus for Oatlands.

On arrival at Oatlands, participants were driven past Lake Dulverton, the Carrington Mill, which is the only operating mill of its type in the Southern Hemisphere and the new Carrington Whisky Distillery that is almost reaching completion.

Once in the main street, everyone alighted and took the opportunity to wander around this enchanting town which boasts the largest number of colonial sandstone buildings (150 in total) in Australia. Many of these sandstone buildings now operate as stores, cafes and accommodation.

The meeting place was at the Pancake and Crepe Shop where everyone enjoyed a delicious pancake for afternoon tea before boarding the bus for the trip home.

By all accounts everyone thoroughly enjoyed their trip, with many people not having travelled to Oatlands via the Buckland Woodsdale Road before. One lady from Swansea commented that the trip was fantastic and probably the best she has ever been on.



Message from the General Manager

Dear Residents and Ratepayers,

Welcome to the first SeaSpeak edition for 2021!

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council has implemented a range of initiatives to support its communities and to mitigate the risk of COVID-19. These include deferral of rates payments, suspending department recovery actions, developing and implementing community and organisation COVID plans and providing updated COVID information on its website.

Council, through the Local Government Association Tasmanian (LGAT), continues to work closely with the Tasmanian State Government to provide strategic advice and to ensure Council and community issues are considered. Council is in a unique position of partnering with the State Government and other stakeholders to drive regional reconstruction and deliver a prosperous and resilient Tasmania.

Asset management planning is an ongoing and long-term process that allows municipalities to make the best possible investment decisions for their infrastructure assets. Responsible stewardship of assets is critical to provision of fit-for-purpose services in our community. This includes the construction, maintenance, renewal and replacement of various assets.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council has made significant progress with the development of strategic asset management plans in recent months and has four AMPs adopted at the time of writing this. The fifth and final plan is expected to be adopted in March 2021. The five AMPs include:

- Transport
- Stormwater
- Parks and Gardens
- Buildings
- Maritime facilities

Transport infrastructure accounts for nearly \$100 million of Council's fixed assets which puts into perspective the need for good practice asset management planning. Having a sound asset management system strategy will ensure that decisions in terms of prioritising maintenance, renewal and replacement works are evidence based and that annual and long-term budgets are accurately informed. Please see Council's website www.gsbc.tas.gov.au for updates.

The COVID-19 restrictions on interstate and international travel has caused Tasmanians to explore their own beautiful island more than they might have. This is great for Tasmania in these tough times but also bodes well for our future. There is a renewed awareness and appreciation of our State and what it has to offer,

in particular our natural environment.

Here in the Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality we have natural wonders in abundance.

It's not just the iconic wonders such as Maria Island, Bicheno Blowhole and Freycinet National Park that exist in the place we call home. We have a multitude of lesser known, but nonetheless spectacular, natural wonders spread throughout the municipality, free and easily accessible. Here are just some:

Tasmanian Bushland Garden – near Buckland. An easily accessible 20 hectare bushland reserve, it includes what was a weed infested, disused quarry, now converted to a landscape devoted entirely to Tasmanian native plants. A sculpture trail completes the scene.

Sand River Conservation Area – near Buckland. Easy to difficult range of walks. Also attractive to rock climbers. Impressive sandstone cliffs dominate the landscape.

Wielangta Rain Forest Walk – near Orford. Wielangta is Aboriginal for 'tall trees', a very apt name for this place. Our very own rain forest complete with crystal clear creeks and magnificent remnant trees.

Orford Bird Sanctuary – at Orford. At the mouth of the Prosser River. A very important site for threatened bird species to forage and breed. **NO Humans or Dogs** within the sanctuary area which is clearly demarcated. Respect the environment by observing several bird species on any given day with or without binoculars. Maria Island provides a fitting backdrop.

Triabunna Foreshore Walk – at Triabunna. Take in views of Dead Isle a short distance away with the headstones of early settlers visible from the shore. An interpretive board gives one some interesting history of the burials on the isle. Wonderful native plantings along the walk bear testament to Council and community efforts in revegetating the area. Grab a coffee and stroll along the marina area; you may find a fisher boat returning with its catch of fresh seafood.

loontitetermairrelehoiner – in the heart of Swansea. Named after the local Aboriginal people, a coastal track that can be walked in either direction, takes you between Waterloo Beach and Schouten Beach. Spectacular coastal scenery, loontitetermairrelehoiner is one of Tasmania's 60 Great Walks.

Saltworks – Little Swanport. The remains of the Lisdillon Saltworks nestled on a secluded white sand and turquoise water beach. Established in the late



1830's using convict labour. Expansive views over Great Oyster Bay and Freycinet Peninsula beyond.

Lost Falls and Meetus Falls – near Lake Leake. Two seasonal waterfalls on our western boundary of Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality, off Lake Leake Road. Worth seeing in flow.

Moulting Lagoon – between Swansea and Coles Bay. Designated a World Heritage site for its outstanding wetland value, this is a bird watcher's nirvana and a biodiversity hotspot. One of only 10 Ramsar (wetlands of international importance) sites in Tasmania.

Whalers Lookout – in the heart of Bicheno. A steepish walk to two safe viewing platforms, one facing east towards the ocean and the other overlooking the town. This is a spectacular short walk, one of several great walking options around Bicheno.

Easily accessible, generally free and with various degrees of walks from easy to challenging, there is never a dull moment in Glamorgan Spring Bay. I encourage you to get googling and to get out and explore your place.

Greg Ingham
General Manager

Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Our world is changing! In January our municipality received its first Electric Vehicle charging station when a facility was installed in Swansea.

The Electric Highway Tasmania program will eventually have a network of public chargers that will allow people in an EV to conveniently travel around Tasmania. The Swansea facility is well located on the east coast tourism route and will allow a new green tourism industry to develop: Travel Tasmania emissions free. Further stations within the Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality are being planned.

For further information contact the Tasmanian Climate Change Office on email climatechange@dpac.tas.gov.au or by telephone (03) 6332 7162.

Also check out the Australian Electric Vehicle Association – <https://aeva.asn.au/>



Works Department Update

Gravel Road Maintenance

- Wielangta Road partial re-sheeting – works to recommence March 2021.
- Maintenance grade of Nugent Road completed.
- Grading/re-sheeting of Old Coach Road Cranbrook – currently underway.

Annual gravel road maintenance starting at Springs Road, then moving south in the municipality.

Resheeting completed on Rosedale and Ferndale Roads.

Bridge Works

- Orford Rivulet Bridge 90% completed along with footpaths.
- New pre-fabricated bridges that are due for delivery early March will replace two (2) old pedestrian bridges at Bicheno on the Tasman

Highway, south of Seascapes Avenue. Site works have already started, with temporary relocation of the timber bridges to keep the footpath open during construction and pouring of new concrete footings.



Fire Abatements

Council's Fire Abatement Officers have been conducting their inspections since spring 2020, in the lead up to summer, in an attempt to reduce the potential risk of fire in our residential areas. This season has seen our officers continuing to conduct these inspections well into the summer months and are likely to be ongoing into autumn.

Fire Abatement Notices are issued in accordance with *Section 200 of the Local Government Act 1993*, to those owners or occupiers whose properties they believe is, or is likely to be, a fire risk. Failure to comply with abatement notices will result in the land being compulsorily cleared at the owner's expense.

We ask that all owners or occupiers be proactive in identifying the potential fire risks on their own property

and take steps to minimise these risks by removing potential fuel sources. Fuel sources can include, long dry grass, dead trees, dry limbs, bark and dead leaf litter, etc. Long green grass has the potential to dry out quickly, becoming a risk. Vacant blocks of land within residential areas should be regularly monitored and maintained by landowners so as not to become a fire risk to themselves and other property owners.

Green waste can be deposited at Council's Waste Transfer Stations for FREE (limits do apply). Please refer to our website or phone (03) 62564 777 for further information. Please refer to the Tasmania Fire Service website www.fire.tas.gov.au or phone 1800 000 699 for further information on Fire Bans, Fire Permits and Registered Burns.

FIRE PERMIT PERIOD OR TOTAL FIRE BAN, DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

WHAT DOES A FIRE PERMIT PERIOD MEAN?

The Tasmania Fire Service may declare a Fire Permit Period for all or parts of the State when the danger of bushfire is considered high. During this time, if you wish to burn off on your property, you must obtain a fire permit from Tasmania Fire Service.

Getting a permit is important because:

- It ensures you are complying with the current conditions to make sure your burn is safe.
- It provides certain protections for the person lighting the fire.

During the Fire Permit Period, fires are not banned. They are allowed where there are good opportunities to safely use fire for land management purposes.

What's in a fire permit?

Your permit will contain conditions to increase the safety of the fire such as:-

- the specified weather conditions allowed.
- the requirement for certain equipment.
- who you need to notify before you light.

How do I contact my local fire permit officer?

Call the Tasmania Fire Service on: 1800 000 699

WHAT DOES A TOTAL FIRE BAN MEAN?

The Tasmania Fire Service can declare a Total Fire

Ban on days when the danger of fire is extremely high and when fires would be expected to develop rapidly and to be extremely difficult to control. Usually a Total Fire Ban lasts for 24 hours. Days of Total Fire Ban are advertised in daily newspapers, on television and radio and on the TFS website.

On Days of Total Fire Ban, all outdoor fires are banned except electric stoves and barbecues and gas stoves and barbecues, provided they are cleared of flammable material for at least one metre. All barbecues, portable stoves, pizza ovens, etc. that use wood, charcoal, heat beads or other solid or liquid fuel are banned.

Bush walkers are advised that the only cooking appliance that can be used on Total Fire Ban Days are LPG (Butane or Propane) cookers or stoves, providing that they are clear of any flammable material for a distance of 1 metre.

Work practices such as grinding, welding and cutting metal in the open ARE NOT PERMITTED. The use of machinery may be subject to restrictions or prohibited on the declaration of a total fire ban. All fire permits are automatically suspended.

Remember

- Your fire is your responsibility
- Fires must not be left unattended at any time of year
- To report a fire dial triple zero 000

Further information can be obtained at www.fire.tas.gov.au

Sunflower Celebration At Spring Bay Mill

Glamorgan Spring Bay Mayor, Robert Young, attended the Spring Bay Mill Sunflower Celebration on 30th January, 2021. This is the second year the event has been held and again proved a great success.

Some of the highlights of the Sunflower Celebration included organic garden tours, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery scientist discovery expeditions and honey tasting and Gardening Australia's Tino Carnevale and Angus Stewart sharing their expertise and filming a segment for the popular ABC program.

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania and Mr Warner recently visited Spring Bay Mill and are photographed at the dramatic outdoor semi-circular amphitheatre which was up-cycled from the former slew wall that once formed part of the woodchip distribution system. At its centre sits one of the country's largest sundials.



Pictured from left: Joe Pickett, General Manager Spring Bay Mill, Anna Cerneaz, Director Spring Bay Mill, Her Excellency and Mr Warner and Head Horticulturalist, Marcus Ragus.

Community Small Grants Program

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Community Small Grants Program provides small grants to individuals and community organisations and groups to assist them to undertake programmes and activities within the Glamorgan Spring Bay municipal area.

The majority of grants are restricted to no more than \$1,000, however, in exceptional circumstances, Council may consider increasing the allocation.

Applications for funding assistance shall be considered by Council throughout the year until such time as the budgeted funding has been expended.

Further information and an application form can be obtained at www.gsbc.tas.gov.au

Apply Now!

Weed Warning

Due to the good rainfall events we have experienced over the last 12 months across the municipality, we have seen an increased occurrence in the germination of Zone A weeds.

Now is the time to check your property for the presence of Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) and Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*). Both these weeds are re-appearing in previously known areas. Council Weed Officers are inspecting and notifying ratepayers of the presence of these weeds and their obligation under the Tasmanian Weed Management Act 1999 to eradicate them from their property.

For more information, or if you are



concerned you may have an infestation, please call Council Weed Officer, Amanda Brooks, or Terry Higgs on 6256 4777.

A Life Well Lived

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Council learned with great sadness of the recent passing of much loved and respected former resident and Councillor of the former Spring Bay Council, Elisabeth (Beth) Bennett. Beth was aged 97.

Beth was born in 1923 in Hobart. She married Harry Bennet in 1947 and they made a home at Geeveston before moving to Orford in 1974 where she remained until relocating to Victoria in 2016 to be closer to her daughters.

From the time Beth arrived in Orford she totally immersed herself in the community and became actively involved on many committees, as well as becoming a Councillor on the former Spring Bay Council from 1980–1990.

Below are some of the many organisations and committees that Beth served on:

- Chair, East Coast Branch, War Widows Guild of Australia, Tasmania, 1986–2011 and Member, State Committee, 1986–1991 and Member, since 1984 and Life Member.
- Vice Chair, Prosser House Board, Founding Member.
- Chair, Board of Management, Prosser House, 1995–2003.
- District Commissioner, East Coast Tasmania, Girl Guides.
- Member, Positive Ageing Consultative Committee, 2004–2012.
- Member, Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipal Health Advisory Committee.
- Member, Orford Hall Committee.
- Spring Bay Council representative, Regional Library Board.
- Member, Spring Bay Council 125th Anniversary Committee.
- Member, Spring Bay Suicide Prevention Network.

Beth received a number of awards in recognition of her community service:

- Spring Bay Citizen of the Year, 1990.
- Honouree, Tasmanian Honour Roll for Women, 2007.
- Tasmanian State Finalist, Senior Australian of the Year, 2008.



- Included in *Who's Who of Australian Women*, 2009–2016.
- Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division Australia Day 2017.

Beth was truly inspirational and made a significant contribution to our community. She will be lovingly remembered by all her knew her.



Beth Bennett with the Governor of Victoria 2017

BUILDING AND MARINE

SUMMARY OF RECENT WORKS

Drought Communities Grant Program Round II

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Council had secured grant funding from the Federal Government's Drought Communities Programme Round 2. The Council focused their list of projects mainly on new footpaths across the municipality. They have also included new stairs to the Buckland Hall and cricket practice nets at both Buckland and Triabunna. These projects are being completed.

Local Roads Community Infrastructure Program Phase 1 & Phase 2

The Council has also secured Community Grant funding from the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 1 & Phase 2. The list of projects funded by these grants across the municipality include the following:

Bicheno

- Funding to renovate the treatment room at the Bicheno Medical Centre.
- A new culvert bridge for walking and cyclists.

Buckland

- The Community infrastructure grant will fund a disability access ramp in conjunction with the new stairs being built under the Drought Relief grant program at the Buckland Hall.



Coles Bay

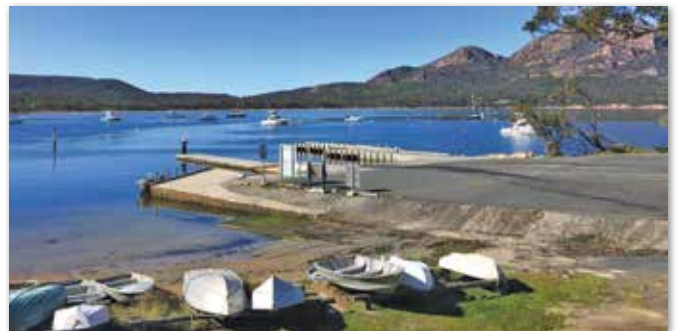
- Funding to re-surface the tennis courts and provide an additional root barrier at the Coles Bay Hall tennis courts has been included.
- A section of the Friendly Beaches access road has been sealed.

Swansea

- Improvements to the Swansea Child Care Centre under the grant allocation will include a new fence on the eastern side and repairs to the paving in the children's play area.
- Work at the Swansea Court House on the western side of the building to address the ground stormwater drainage problems.
- The Swansea Community Hall will have the toilets re-furbished, which will include a new disabled accessible toilet, and a baby change table.

Coles Bay Boat Ramp

Marine and Safety Tasmania are funding a new fendering system to be installed on the floating pontoon at the Coles Bay boat ramp. The existing plastic D section fendering has broken away and this new fendering system will protect vessels as they dock.



Get involved with the Swansea Heritage Festival 1821–2021!

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society and the East Coast Heritage Museum are busy organising the Swansea Heritage Festival for November 2021.

The Swansea Heritage Festival will run concurrently with the Amos Family Bicentennial (amos200.com) on the first weekend in November.

This festival looks to be an exciting journey into the rich heritage of the greater Swansea area.

We would like to invite the community and local businesses to join in with the celebrations, as many in

the Swansea area have so much to share. Even if your business or community group doesn't have a long history, we welcome you to become involved!



**Dates: Friday, Saturday and Sunday
5th, 6th and 7th November 2021.**

More details will follow in the coming months.

For further info, please contact Maureen Martin Ferris, Curator and Historian of the East Coast Heritage Museum on 6256 5066 or email maureen@freycinet.tas.gov.au



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General Manager

SERDA assists with a local approach

Keen to develop your workforce through training, recruitment or leveraging leading network opportunities? Want to start your own business idea, or improve your existing business?

South East Regional Development Association (SERDA) covers the Sorell, Clarence, Glamorgan Spring Bay, and Tasman Local Government Areas, and can help.



To date, through their Workforce Development and Enterprise Centre Programs, SERDA have placed more than 320 local people in local employment and assisted 64 local businesses to start or grow – and counting...

SERDA's Workforce Development Program is a regional solution, created to help businesses to connect Local People for Local Jobs. SERDA can help you with your local workforce development needs, finding trained and capable staff, niche recruitment services, and leading network opportunities.

SERDA also offers business advice to start ups and existing small businesses (employing less than 20 people) through their Enterprise Centre Program.

Enterprise Centres Tasmania (ECT) is a state-wide network of business advisors and mentors, created to help small businesses and their owners to reach their potential. SERDA can provide up to 2 hours free advice for new businesses, and up to 5 hours free advice for established businesses that have been in operation for 12 months or more.

SERDA offers a flexible approach to your workforce, training, and business advisory needs. They are happy to meet with you at your business, their offices at Sorell Council, or anywhere in between.

To access the Workforce Development Program, contact Andrew Hyatt: 0488 667 898 or andrew.hyatt@serda.tas.gov.au

To access the Enterprise Centre Program, contact Oliver Strickland: 0417 294 598 or oliver.strickland@serda.tas.gov.au

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Please note:

As a Local Government Authority, Councils are required under the *Archives Act* and the *Local Government Act* to keep accurate records of council business. Any records created, received or sent in an official capacity as a Councillor are part of Council's public record and hence a State record. Any email or other correspondence to Councillors may be viewed, copied and retained by Council.