

## Honouring our community and welcoming new citizens at the Australia Day Awards

On Saturday, January 25th, Swansea Hall was filled with pride and celebration as we gathered to recognise some truly remarkable individuals at the Australia Day Awards. The event not only celebrated local achievements but also honoured the diversity that strengthens our community.

Congratulations to our 2025 award recipients:

**Citizen of the Year** – Sue Nettlefold

**Senior Citizen of the Year** – Colin Stevenson

**Young Citizen of the Year** – Laura Richardson

**Community Volunteer of the Year** – Cheryl Weily

**Emergency Volunteer of the Year** – Nola Cooke & Kelvin Jones

In addition to these inspiring awards, we welcomed three new Australian citizens from the Philippines and the USA, who officially joined our community. It was a special moment to celebrate their journey and the rich diversity they bring to our community.

We were also honoured to have Judi Adams as our Australia Day Ambassador for 2025. Judi provided a heartfelt address about her journey in community and the health sector, sharing her insights and experiences that have made a significant impact on our community.

The Citizenship Ceremony was presided over by Mayor Cheryl Arnol, marking an important milestone for our newest Australian citizens.



Councillors and new Australian citizens (L to R): Judi Adams (Ambassador), Armand Tanedo, Lyra Tanedo, Mayor Cheryl Arnol, David Blumenstein, Clr Jenny Walker.

A special thank you to Councillor Jenny Walker, who served as the Master of Ceremonies, ensuring the day ran smoothly and was memorable for all.

Thank you to everyone who attended and made this event so meaningful. Your continued dedication and service inspire us all, and together, we will continue to build a stronger, more connected community.



Councillors and Award recipients (L to R): Judi Adams (Ambassador), Kelvin Jones (Emergency Volunteer of the Year), Nola Cooke (Emergency Volunteer of the Year), Laura Richardson (Young Citizen of the Year) Cheryl Weily (Community Volunteer of the Year), Mayor Cheryl Arnol, Sue Nettlefold (Citizen of the Year) Colin Stevenson (Senior Citizen of the Year) Clr Jenny Walker



## Message from the Mayor

Welcome to this edition of Seaspeak. As Mayor, I am privileged to preside over citizenship ceremonies and the Australia Day commemorations were no exception this year. We welcomed three new Australian citizens ably assisted by our Australia Day Ambassador this year, Ms Judi Adams.

In a packed Swansea Hall, we presented our Australia Day Citizens of the year in several categories.

All awardees were nominated by community members and the nominator spoke of their achievements as each presentation was made. I am always in awe of the commitment our community members have to volunteering their time and expertise to their various interests.

This year, Council received a large number of entrants into each category that made it very difficult to determine a recipient. Every one of the nominees were worthy of recognition. Each nominee received a certificate of recognition for the enormous amount of work they do each day.

Council self-nominated a Young Citizen of the Year in Laura Richardson. Laura had undertaken a journey of discovery on the Windeward Bound and impressed Council with her commitment to that project.

Planning is underway for the 2025 Community Connect sessions. The Pop-Up Community Connect in each town proved to be very successful last year so we will continue that concept again this year. It will be an opportunity for community members to chat to elected members and staff in your area without committing 2 or 3 hours to sitting in the local hall.

Health continues to be in the news across Tasmania. Glamorgan Spring Bay is very fortunate that we have stable medical practices across the municipal area. I'm not going to sugar-coat it and say that everything is perfect. There are still gaps in some areas of care particularly in podiatry and optical; and other areas normally provided by private practitioners, but with a dedicated team of GP's we continue to benefit from medical care of the highest

standard. With increased population growth, it is becoming difficult for our GPs to see everyone in a timely manner. If your need to see a doctor is not urgent, please be tolerant of the wait for appointments. However, if you feel unwell and need to see a doctor urgently, tell the reception staff. Unlike other rural local government areas where medical practices appear to be closing every day, we are blessed to have medical practices with highly skilled medical and support staff.

This year will see movement on the Future of Local Government Review and the data collection for communities to make informed decisions about potential amalgamation or boundary adjustments across Sorell, Glamorgan Spring Bay and Break O'Day council areas. We are in preliminary discussions with the government about what that data collection should look like. Council will post progress updates on that data collection and next steps as we move through 2025 on our website and social media.

By the time you read this Council will have commenced a review of our long-term financial management plan and begin the process for the budget sessions. Our dedicated team of officers will provide robust data for us to consider but it is not easy in the current economic climate and cost of living pressures. Be assured that elected members will consider every avenue available to us to lessen the impact of the rates this year.

Something that I like to reiterate in this publication is that Councillors cannot direct staff on any operational matter, but we can raise whatever might be concerning you. All Councillors can be contacted by email [council@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@freycinet.tas.gov.au). Our individual contact details are shown in this publication.

Until next time, stay safe and enjoy living in the best part of Tasmania.

Cheryl Arnol  
Mayor

## Upcoming Rates Instalment Due Dates

A reminder to all ratepayers that the remaining 2025 rates instalments are due soon. Please ensure your payment is made by the due dates to avoid any late fees.

- **3rd Instalment Due:** 28th February 2025
- **4th Instalment Due:** 30th April 2025

Payments can be made via:

- **Direct Debit** – Set up a payment plan that suits you. Forms are available on our website.

- **BPAY** – Use the details on your rates notice to pay via online banking.
- **Online** – Visit our website for secure payment options.
- **In Person** – Pay at the Council office, 9 Melbourne Street, Triabunna.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our **Rates Officer** at [rates@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:rates@freycinet.tas.gov.au) or call us.



## From the General Manager's desk

As we turn the corner from summer into autumn we continue to enjoy marvellous weather, if not a little bit dry across much of the municipality.

With the revolving seasons, the business of Council continues its annual cycle, punctuated by workshops and meetings to chart progress towards strategic goals and to bring current issues to Council for determination.

Council's Annual Report was presented at the December 10<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. The report includes the audit report provided by the Tasmanian Audit Office which provides the community with an independent assessment of Council's performance against financial requirements, which was found compliant in all requirements.

Matters considered at workshops in the last quarter include:

- Reviews of numerous policies
- **Communication with community about Council's capital works budget formulation process\***
- Implementation of a new Stormwater Policy for New Developments
- **Review of Council's Strategic Plan priorities to guide a review of the next two years of budget considerations\***
- Consideration of a report on Fire Mitigation actions for Dolphin Sands
- **Review of Council's risk register and identification of key risks to Council\***
- Presentation from and discussions with Taswater representatives
- Work Health and Safety matters associated with Local Government Reform
- A report on Primary care Rural Innovative Multidisciplinary Models (PRiMM) conducted by cohealth
- Planning matters soon coming before Council meetings
- Australia Day Award nominations
- A presentation from May Shaw outlining their plans and grant success
- **The revised Strategic Asset Management Plan and how it informs financial strategy\***

The four activities marked with an \* are critical in time sequence to the annual program for development of budget and precede to inform programmed workshop agenda items within the next quarter.



Council is commencing its Annual Community Survey in March to contribute to its determination of community priorities and encourages all interested people to contribute to this important measurement of community sentiment.

Peter Porch  
Acting General Manager

### Another way to connect!



Follow Glamorgan Spring Bay Council on Facebook. We post local information, jobs vacant, bin collection weeks and much more.

Scan the QR Code and follow us on Facebook >



## Works Report

While the work progresses on the development of councils Walking and Cycling Strategy and Public Open Space Strategy, the works department has been busy improving existing walking infrastructure.



This track in between Orford and Triabunna provides important linkage to residents living across the headland above the Eastcoaster Resort.

Council has replaced its ageing grader with a machine that will serve the community for at least ten years. Timely machinery renewal ensures council has equipment that is fit for purpose and compliant with its work health and safety duties to staff. Considerations for plant replacement include the amount of use the item will get annually, alternative hire accessibility and cost and lease offerings. For core plant and equipment direct purchase provides the most cost-effective outcomes for the community.



The reseal and pavement renewal program has been carried out across the summer period. We appreciate this may provide some minimal annoyance for residents however the bitumen application process is much more successful carried out in the warmer weather. Officers are dependent on contractors being able to fit our program in with other competing Council programs and we do our best to minimise disruptions to residents while completing this important asset renewal activity.

Two major projects have been completed marking the finalisation of the Federal Government funding



commitments and project completion. An official opening and ribbon cutting were held for the events to fulfil grant requirements.

Coles Bay Foreshore Walk is open for business!

Bicheno Gulch open for business! While this event marks completion of the funded works to date, a second stage of works to complete the design scope is required to complete the project aims. Funds are being sought for this stage.



## Dogs –looking after our best friends while keeping our community and wildlife safe

It is estimated that as many as one in five Tasmanians own a dog. Considered as man's best friend, research indicates that dogs are not only good for our physical health by getting us out and about, but also for our mental health providing companionship, emotional support and stimulating our "feel-good" hormones to help relieve stress and anxiety.

Some dogs have an important working role providing personal assistance, working with farmers and detecting weeds and diseases, and others are important family members.

What can be a problem however, is when one of our furry friends escape from home or roam uncontrolled in public areas, in reserves, and on beaches. In most cases there are rules around what's OK and what's not.

From a public places point of view, dogs can also provide a risk to wildlife, birds and other species.



Glamorgan Spring Bay is home to some remarkable birds and mammals. Many of these species are already facing climate change pressures, and if allowed to roam free a single dog can have significant impacts on wildlife species. When two or more dogs get together it can be devastating.

Nesting and moulting penguins and shorebirds are particularly vulnerable. Dogs, even little friendly ones, are perceived as predators and their scent and movement can disturb nesting birds leading them to abandon their eggs. If the eggs are left for only a short period, temporary exposure to high and low temperatures can reduce the chances of the eggs' success.

The survival of many of our threatened species relies on us all doing the right thing. Keeping our dogs away for sensitive wildlife areas, particularly beaches and foreshores is critical.

### So, what can you do? There are several easy ways you can help.

1. First, **desex your dog** to lessen the likelihood of them roaming.
2. Secondly, ensure your **dogs are registered with your local Council** and microchipped in accordance with the *Dog Control Act 2000* and **safely contained within your property**. Some dogs are incredible escape artists so it's important to know your dog, its character and capabilities. Design an effective enclosure that will prevent your dog from going over, under or through your fence or gate without you!
3. Keep your **dog immunised and healthy** and make sure they have plenty of water and shade in hot weather.
4. In a public place, always **keep your dog on-lead**, unless Council's Dog Management Policy signage indicates otherwise.
5. In an area where your dog is not required to be on a lead, you must have your dog **under effective control**. This means your dog must be kept within sight and close to you, and that you must be able to demonstrate that your dog is **immediately** responsive to your commands. For some excitable dogs this will mean keeping them on-lead. Different rules apply for greyhounds, dangerous dogs and restricted breeds.
6. Find out more about the **birds on our beaches**. Understanding them will help you play a role in protecting them. This includes avoiding nesting areas and keep your dog on a leash in sensitive areas.
7. **Follow signage directions** – public safety, wildlife protection and recreation are considered when working out restrictions and prohibited areas. It may mean that some areas where you used to walk your dog off lead, are now on-lead or no-go zones. As our population grows and the number of dogs increases, these changes are important to keep people, dogs and wildlife safe.
8. Lastly, find out more about **dog zones in Glamorgan Spring Bay** on Council's website [www.gsbc.tas.gov.au](http://www.gsbc.tas.gov.au) / *Animal Control / Dog Management Policy 2014-2019 & Declared Areas*. Council's dog policy is currently under review and will go out to public consultation in the near future.

To look after our best friends, it is important to work together so we can enjoy our dogs, ensure the survival of our wildlife and make sure our community stays safe.

For any queries relating to Dog Management in the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Municipal area, please contact Council's Compliance team on (03) 6256 4777.

## Driving Community Spirit

On Friday the 24th of January, May Shaw Health Centre staff, residents and family members officially unveiled their new bus and celebrated with a BBQ lunch and ice-cream to follow.

Community Bank Swansea and Bicheno were major donors towards the bus and May Shaw thank them for their significant donation.

This new bus will greatly enhance the ability to provide comfortable and convenient transportation for all residents and clients, ensuring they can participate in a variety of outings and activities.

May Shaw are excited to embark on adventures in their new bus and encourage you to give him a big wave if you see them out and about in the community!



## Weed Management Plan for Glamorgan Spring Bay

Spring rains and warmer weather are great for growing feed but unfortunately also mean ideal growing conditions for weeds, especially here on the east coast.

To manage this issue, the Council (GSBC) is working with the Landscape Recovery Foundation (LRF) to develop a Weed Management Plan for our municipality.

The weed plan provides a strategic framework to plan, prioritise and action weed control efforts in the municipality. The plan has a focus on coordinating efforts between landholders, government agencies and industries.

The LRF is engaging with key stakeholders and land authorities to discuss weed management, better understand the distribution of weeds, appreciate current and past projects, and drive improvements across the municipality.

In late winter and early spring 2024, weed distribution in the municipality was mapped using information collected in a roadside survey, together with data from the Natural Values Atlas.

By using multiple sources of data and collaborating with stakeholders and land authorities, we can get the best outcomes for our efforts. This supports the Council's strategic approach to the weed management issue by helping identify key priorities, what actions will work best

and where to implement control zones.

The plan is a working document that can be updated as new information becomes available.

This ensures our efforts at weed control are well-organised and there is an effective way to manage priority weeds in the region.



Environmental weed, Bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*)



### Easter Operating Hours for Council Services

The Triabunna Council Office will close 4:30pm Thursday 17 April 2025 and will re-open Wednesday 23 April 2025 at 9.00am.

**WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS: CLOSED** – Good Friday (Friday 18 April 2025)  
All other days remain unchanged.

**KERBSIDE COLLECTION** will operate as normal over the Easter period.

## Together, we build a brighter future for our community!

### Celebrating the Completion of the Coles Bay Foreshore Project

On January 21, 2025, Council was pleased to officially open the newly upgraded Coles Bay Foreshore Walkway, with the event marked by a special ribbon-cutting ceremony officiated by Mr. Brian Mitchell MP. This important milestone has transformed one of our most beloved areas, making it even more accessible and sustainable for the community and visitors alike.

The project was made possible through generous funding from the Commonwealth Government, and Council is incredibly proud of the enhancements it brings to the foreshore. The initiative began as a vision from the Freycinet Association back in 2015, and after years of dedicated planning and collaboration, it has become a reality. We thank the Freycinet Association for their tireless efforts and significant partnership throughout this journey.

With the completion of the project, pedestrians can now easily walk from Iluka/Muir's Beach to the Esplanade East Boat ramp, enjoying uninterrupted views of the stunning foreshore. The Freycinet Association has also contributed by installing interpretive signage showcasing the Hazards Sculpture and featuring handrails with images of local wildlife—birds, animals, and fish native to our region.

The foreshore is now more beautiful and accessible than ever before, with improved walking paths, new public spaces, and environmental enhancements that protect the natural beauty of the area. Erosion-prone areas have been stabilised, stormwater management has been improved,



and wildlife habitats have been safeguarded. These upgrades ensure that Coles Bay remains a special place for generations to come.

None of this would have been possible without the support of the Commonwealth Government, whose funding has been crucial in bringing this project to life. Council and our community extends our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Brian Mitchell MP for officially opening the walkway and to all those who contributed to this project, including the Freycinet Association, Council staff, local contractors, and the community for their ongoing support.

## Stay informed on issues you care about

**Did you know?** that Council regularly uses email databases to directly communicate with our communities on a variety of issues. We have databases for:

- Various Townships
- The Business Community
- Community Groups
- A Newsletter Database

We use these to share information about Council activities relevant to you and is one of the easiest ways to know what is happening in our area. To join one our databases please email: [community@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:community@freycinet.tas.gov.au) and advise which databases you would like to join.

## Set Up Direct Debit for Easy Rate Payments

Did you know you can pay your Council rates quickly and hassle-free with **Direct Debit**? This convenient option allows payments to be made **weekly, fortnightly, monthly, by instalments, or annually**—whichever suits you best!

Remaining 2025 Instalment Due Dates: **3rd Instalment: 28th February 2025, 4th Instalment: 30th April 2025**

### How to Set Up Direct Debit:

1. **Complete a Direct Debit Request Form** (available on our website)
  - Post: PO Box 6, Triabunna, TAS 7190
  - In person: 9 Melbourne Street, Triabunna
2. **Submit it to Council via:**
  - Email: [rates@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:rates@freycinet.tas.gov.au)

Need assistance? Our **Rates Officer** is happy to help! Visit our website to get started today.

**YOUR COUNCIL**



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General Manager

Alternatively, if you are wishing to communicate with all Councillors please email: [council@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@freycinet.tas.gov.au)

**eNotices >>> GO TO [GSBC.ENOTICES.COM.AU](http://GSBC.ENOTICES.COM.AU)**

SEE FRONT OF NOTICE FOR YOUR ENOTICE REFERENCE NUMBER



**Schedule a payment**

Schedule a date between today and the due date to pay your notice. Use a Visa, Mastercard, or EFT from your bank account and go to [gsbc.enotices.com.au](http://gsbc.enotices.com.au)

**Postal address change**



You can request a change of address online at [gsbc.tas.gov.au](http://gsbc.tas.gov.au), by emailing [admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au) or by mailing Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, PO Box 6 Triabunna.



**Rates notice reprints**

Charges may apply for re-issuing of notices for previous financial years, please keep your notices for your records. To view and download your rates notice from 2019/20 onwards free of charge, sign up for eNotices at: [gsbc.enotices.com.au](http://gsbc.enotices.com.au)



**Waste and Recycling Information**

**ENSURE HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING BINS ARE OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE, PRIOR TO COLLECTION THE NEXT DAY.**

There may be days where your bins are not collected on time (truck breakdown or running late due to heavy workload). If this happens, please leave your bins out as they will be collected within the next 24hrs.

Waste Transfer Stations –

**Summer Operating Hours/Days apply from 21st October 2024 to May 2025**

The following operating hours now apply from Monday 21st October 2024 – May 2025 at Orford, Swansea, Coles Bay, and Bicheno:

**Open: Monday to Friday 2.30pm – 4.30pm**

**Open: Sunday 10.00am – 2.00pm**

**Closed: Saturday**

Eftpos is available at all Waste Transfer Stations.

The Orford Waste Transfer Station and others may close with limited notice due to adverse weather conditions (such as excessive wind gusts), for the safety of customers.

**BUILDERS WASTE IS NOT ACCEPTED AT ANY OF GLAMORGAN SPRING BAYS WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS.**



For more information go to the council website or scan the QR code above.

**Easter operating hours**

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**Contacting Council**

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☎ (03) 6256 4777

📠 (03) 6256 4774

@ [admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au)

🌐 [www.gsbc.tas.gov.au](http://www.gsbc.tas.gov.au)

📺 **Glamorgan Spring Bay Council**

**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.