

SeaSpeak

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL NEWS
AUTUMN 2026



Bicheno Triangle Amphitheatre Now Open

On Saturday 7 February, Council joined community members, project partners and invited guests to officially open the new Bicheno Triangle Amphitheatre and Amenities in the heart of Bicheno. The occasion marked an important milestone for the township, with Federal Member for Lyons, Rebecca White, cutting the ribbon and formally declaring the precinct open.

The project was first envisioned by the Bicheno Community Development Association (BCDA). With strong support from Council and the broader community, the concept was developed into a welcoming amphitheatre and amenities hub that reflects Bicheno's character and coastal charm.

Constructed by East Coast Constructions, the new facility has transformed the Triangle into a versatile and accessible gathering place. Designed to host performances, community celebrations and informal get-togethers, the amphitheatre provides an inviting setting for both locals and visitors to come together. The upgraded amenities further enhance the site's usability, ensuring it can support events throughout the year.

Council extends its sincere thanks to everyone involved in delivering this long-awaited project and looks forward to seeing the Bicheno Triangle Amphitheatre become a well-used and much-loved focal point for the community life for years to come.



Councillor Mayor Arnol and Rebecca White MP

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Message from the Mayor

Welcome to this edition of SeaSpeak. Following the resignation of our CEO Greg Tory in early January for personal family reasons, Council will soon be commencing recruitment for the role. We were fortunate to attract a strong field of high-calibre candidates last year so we are hopeful that will be replicated this time. It is unlikely that we will have a permanent CEO until early July. The Acting CEO until 2 April 2026 is Dick Shaw, whose substantive role is Director Planning and Development. I have spoken about the various plans and strategic documents we are required to have under legislation. In preparation for the upcoming budget session, we recently discussed the long-term financial management plan. Many hours of work go into the budget and rates discussion between Councillors and senior staff. Our goal this year is to keep our rates income increase as low as possible whilst still generating sufficient income to deliver the Capital Works Program and operational budgets. It is important to continue to fund asset renewal at 100% and provide some funds for much needed new capital works whilst keeping the burden of rate increases as low as possible in this current tight economic climate. As I mentioned last year, I am not confident that we have

always delivered the correct message in relation to rates. When Council announces a rate increase of x%, it is assumed that is what will apply to all properties. As you know, that is often far from reality. It is important for our narrative around rate increases to be clear and concise. It is important for our narrative around rate increases to be clear and concise. When we talk about a percentage increase in rates, we are referring to the total increase in revenue needed to continue operating and delivering services – not the exact increase that an individual property owner will see on their rates notice.

Just a reminder 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. Our individual contact details are shown in this publication.

Until next time, stay safe as we head into Autumn and enjoy the wonderful events that occur across our area this time of the year.

Cheryl Arnol
MAYOR

Stay On Top Of Your Rates Payments

Instalment Dates 2026

3rd Instalment due date 28/02/2026

4th Instalment due date 30/04/2026

To make payments easier, you can set up **regular direct debit payments**. Forms are available for download from our website, or you can contact Council to have one sent to you. Payments can also be made **online via BPAY** or **in person at your local Council office**.

Please ensure your payment is made on time to avoid late fees. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, contact the

Rates Department to discuss available support options.

Pension Remission:

All eligible pension remission for 2025/26 must be submitted by 31st March 2026 to be accepted.

Please contact the Rates Department on 6256 4782 for more information if required.

If you received a remission last year, it should be applied automatically. New applicants or changes in ownership will need to apply.

Council Meetings for 2026

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates

Ordinary meetings of Council are held at the Triabunna Council Offices typically on the **fourth Tuesday of each month commencing at 2pm, unless otherwise stated below.**

Meetings are live streamed on Council's YouTube channel and members of the public are invited to register to attend the Council Meeting in person.

Upcoming Dates at the Triabunna Council Offices:

2pm	Tuesday 24 March 2026
2pm	Tuesday 28 April 2026
2pm	Tuesday 26 May 2026
2pm	Tuesday 23 June 2026
2pm	Tuesday 28 July 2026
2pm	Tuesday 25 August 2026
2pm	Tuesday 22 September 2026
2pm	Tuesday 27 October 2026
2pm	Tuesday 24 November 2026
3.30pm	Tuesday 8 December 2026
5.30pm	Tuesday 8 December 2026 Annual General Meeting



Scan this QR Code for Council's YouTube Channel.



From the Acting Chief Executive Officer's desk

I recently joined Glamorgan Spring Bay Council as the Director of Planning and Development, I have previously worked for State Government and have been serving as Acting Chief Executive Officer of Glamorgan Spring Bay Council since November 2025. This followed the resignation of Greg Tory on 2 January 2026 due to personal reasons. Greg made a significant impact during his time with Council, and while we were all sad to see him leave, we fully support his decision to focus on what matters most.

The recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer will commence soon. This will be a nationwide search to find the right person to lead Council into the future.

Council is pleased to announce the recent appointment of two highly experienced Directors, strengthening our leadership team as we look ahead to a productive and successful 2026.

Ron Sanderson has joined Council under contract as the Director of Works and Infrastructure. Ron brings decades of Tasmanian local government experience, having previously served as both Director and CEO at Derwent Valley Council and Brighton Council. His background in managing major projects and infrastructure operations will be a valuable asset to our organisation.

Craig Bennett has been appointed as the Director Corporate and Financial Services. Craig returns to Tasmania after many years working in senior roles across several mainland states, including extensive experience as both Director and CEO. His depth of knowledge in corporate governance, finance, and organisational leadership will support Council as we continue to grow and improve our services.

These appointments significantly enhance the skills, qualifications, and experience within our leadership team. With Ron and Craig on board, Council is well-positioned for a strong and successful 2026.

Australia Day Awards 2026

On Thursday 22 January 2026, the annual Australia Day Awards were held at the Triabunna Community Hall, celebrating the outstanding contributions of individuals within our community.

Councillor Jenny Walker served as Master of Ceremonies, with awards presented by Mayor Cheryl Arnol. We were also honoured to welcome John Kamara as our Australia Day Ambassador, who addressed attendees and provided a summary of his journey to becoming an Australian citizen and Tasmanian Australian of the Year. John spoke of the need to listen to stories, to share stories and the value

of unity – it was an inspiring and heart felt address that resonated with all present.

The following awards were presented:

Community Volunteer of the Year – Celia Ralston

Citizen of the Year – Steve Miller, Linda Miller & Sallie Brockman

Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year – John Ashlin

Senior Citizen of the Year – Rick Franklin

Young Citizen of the Year – Nikita Jamson

We congratulate all our Australia Day Award recipients.

In addition, the community celebrated one new Australian citizen, who was formally welcomed during the ceremony.

The Australia Day Awards provide an opportunity to recognise the dedication, service, and achievements of individuals who contribute significantly to the wellbeing and cohesion of our community.



(L to R): Steve Miller, Linda Miller, Celia Ralston, Sallie Brockman, Nikita Jamson, John Ashlin, Rick Franklin

APPLY NOW: Council Grants Program

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council is inviting **applications from incorporated bodies and not-for-profit organisations** for our Grants Program. The program supports projects that make a positive impact in our community across areas such as arts and culture, environment, health, recreation, and community development.

Applications are open year-round.

How to apply: Visit the Council website at <https://gsbc.tas.gov.au/community-projects/community-small-grants/> or contact the Community Services team on 6256 4777 for more information.

Council looks forward to supporting projects that strengthen and enrich our community.



Easter Operating Hours for Council Services

The Triabunna Council Office will close at 4:30pm on Thursday, 2 April 2026, and will reopen on Wednesday, 8 April 2026.

The Waste Transfer Station will be closed on Good Friday, 3 April 2026. All other operating days remain unchanged. **Kerbside collection will operate as normal over the Easter period.**

Food safety myth busting!

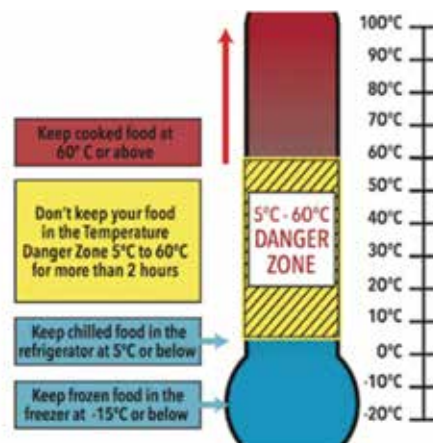


One of the most common food safety myths is that food borne disease is a minor illness, but it can actually leave you with long term effects such as reactive arthritis. There are an estimated 4.67 million cases of food poisoning in Australia each year that result in 47,900 hospitalisations, 38 deaths and cost to the economy of \$3 billion.

Here are a few more food safety myths:

- **Hand sanitiser:** hand sanitiser is great if handwashing facilities are not available (e.g. when bushwalking/ camping) but remember that sanitiser does not work on highly contagious viruses like Norovirus which is only removed from your hands with handwashing with soap and running water and then drying thoroughly. Food businesses must always have dedicated handwashing facilities that have been approved by Council, with warm running water, liquid soap and paper towel and must not rely on hand sanitiser alone.
- **If you drop food on the floor it is ok to eat up to 5 seconds:** Bacteria don't politely wait 5 seconds to contaminate food dropped on the floor. Your floor will be contaminated from dirty shoes, by pets walking through and general day-to-day life.
- **You need to throw out food after it's best before date:** Best before is only an indicator of quality and can still be eaten after that date but you should use (or freeze) food by its use by date.
- **Hamburgers can be served rare** Always cook minced meat products such as hamburgers and sausages until they are 75°C inside because bacteria on the outside of pieces of meat can be transferred throughout the meat when it is minced.
- **You can tell if food is contaminated because it smells or tastes 'off'.** You can get food poisoning from food that smells and tastes great. Bacteria can grow quickly in food that has been left in the temperature danger zone between 5°C and 65°C C with no change in the food's smell or appearance. When food smells "off" it is usually due to spoilage bacteria growing and they may not make you sick.
- **It's OK to cut mould off of food:** Even if there is only a small amount of mould some moulds make and release poisons, called mycotoxins, into the food that could, over time, make you very sick.

Learn more about food safety from the Food Safety Information Council website www.foodsafety.asn.au and visit Council's website for access to free online food handler training and other food safety resources.



Discover Triabunna's hidden gems!

Our local reserves showcase the stunning natural heritage of the region, from native forests to coastal heathlands and wetlands that provide essential habitat for diverse wildlife.

One of our treasures is the Tasmanian sea lavender (*Limonium australe* var. *baudinii*). This herb is found only in southeastern Tasmania. Listed as Vulnerable, fewer than 1,500 mature plants remain—and most are right here in Triabunna! Protecting these special species and their habitats is crucial for preserving our unique biodiversity.

Explore and cherish these natural wonders, and let's work together to ensure they thrive for generations to come.



Works and Infrastructure Report

Roads, Parks and everything in between

Council continues to deliver a range of important projects and maintenance works across Glamorgan Spring Bay, ensuring that our roads, parks, and facilities are safe, accessible, and enjoyable for the community.

Roads and Bridges

Work is underway on several key roads across the municipality, including kerb and channel installations, asphaltting, and drainage upgrades on Nailer Avenue, Bicheno, and a cul-de-sac upgrade on Morrison Street, Bicheno. Gravel resheeting is progressing on Woodsden Road and Sand River Road in Buckland, Okehampton Road in Triabunna, and Flacks Road in Coles Bay, helping to maintain safe and reliable travel for residents and visitors.



Nailer Avenue, Bicheno



Morrison Street cul-de-sac, Bicheno

Stormwater and Drainage

Maintenance of drains and culverts continues throughout the municipality. Eroded drains in Triabunna have been reshaped and rock-lined, and culverts on Okehampton Road have been replaced, supporting effective water management and infrastructure resilience.

Residents are reminded of their responsibilities regarding stormwater runoff:

- If you are building a new home, ensure surface and subsoil drains are installed to protect below-ground rooms and garages.
- Surface drains and paths should divert stormwater away from your building, including doorways, driveways, and pathways.

- Driveways must not concentrate water towards your house; if they do, ensure adequate drainage is provided.
- Implement soil and water management principles on construction sites to protect neighbouring properties and waterways from silt runoff. NRM South's factsheets, 'Soil and Water Management on Building & Construction Sites', are a useful resource.
- For any doubts, discuss plans with Council's Plumbing and Building staff before starting paving or landscaping.

Legal Points of Discharge

Stormwater must discharge only to points approved by Council, including underground drains, kerbs and channels, open drains, and culverts. Connections should be made via:

- Pipes conveying roof and surface water to the stormwater main, kerb and channel, or open drain, or
- Council-approved drainage systems in accordance with AS/NZ 3500.3.

If neither option is available, a stormwater absorption or dispersion trench may be installed with Council approval. A Building and Plumbing Application, plans, and fees are required. Stormwater must not be discharged to the sewer; fines may apply.

Landscaping and Neighbourhood Considerations

Landscaping can affect water flow. Run-off should ideally be directed toward a drainage system to prevent flooding or property damage. Disputes with neighbours regarding overland flow are generally civil matters and should be resolved amicably. Council can investigate sources of stormwater but has limited powers to intervene.

Localised Flooding

During flash flooding, temporary water flow from higher properties may occur. Flash floods happen when heavy rainfall falls over a small area in a short period and can exceed the capacity of drainage systems.

Marina Berths Available

Looking for a place to moor your boat?

Council currently has a few berths available at the Marina for boats and yachts up to 12 metres. Whether you're seeking a short-term lease over summer or a longer-term arrangement, we would be pleased to assist.

For more information or to secure a berth, please contact our Harbour Master on 0422 808 166.



Waste Management

The Bag Muster recycling program will soon be available at the Swansea Waste Transfer Station, complementing our ongoing Drum Muster program and tyre recycling services at the Orford Waste Transfer Station. These initiatives support responsible waste disposal and help keep our municipality clean and sustainable.

Winter Operating Hours for all Waste Transfer Stations (Orford, Swansea, Coles Bay, and Bicheno) will apply from Monday 13 April 2026 to November 2026:

- **Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2.30pm – 4.30pm**
- **Sunday: 10.00am – 2.00pm**
- **Closed: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday**

Normal operating hours apply on all public holidays except Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Council encourages residents to keep bin lids closed and help keep our streets tidy. Bin springs are available to help stop rubbish from blowing out, reduce spills, and protect bins from wind, birds, and animals. They are \$20 each and can be purchased by contacting Council via email at admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au, by phone on (03) 6256 4777, or in person at the Council office during business hours. Please note that bin springs cannot be shipped and must be collected in person.

If your bin, lid, or wheels are damaged, Council can provide replacements at no cost. Residents can submit a bin request online via the Council website or by calling Council to arrange a replacement.

Recycling Rewards – Now at Triabunna

Residents can return eligible drink containers for a 10-cent refund at the new Recycling Rewards location in Triabunna.

What can you return? Still unsure? Use RecycleRewards.com.au or our app to check

Eligible

- Aluminium cans
- Plastic bottles
- Glass bottles
- Cartons (under 1L)
- Steel bottles/cans

Most drink containers between 150ml and 3L are eligible.

Look for the 10¢ Mark on your containers

10¢ REFUND AT COLLECTION DEPOSITPOINTS IN PARTICIPATING STATES/TERRITORY OF PURCHASE

Ineligible

- Wine/spirit glass bottles
- Plain milk containers
- Cartons (1L and over)
- Cordial bottles
- Plastic containers (under 150mL)

Many of these containers can still be recycled in your kerbside bins.

Recycle REWARDS

The service operates from Astron Triabunna Roadhouse, 34 Tasman Hwy, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Recycling Rewards has also been available in Swansea at the Bark Mill Tavern and Bakery, 96 Tasman Hwy, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. We're excited to see this program now supporting residents in both towns!

Parks, Playgrounds and Facilities

Several upgrades have been completed or are underway to improve community spaces. Orford Cricket Pitch received a new pitch cover, while Duck Park in Swansea and Our Park in Orford will soon have new exercise equipment to replace aging existing equipment and a basketball hoop. Bicheno Cemetery now features new footpaths and pram ramps, and Jubilee Beach has an accessible BBQ for community use.

Capital Works and Projects

Pavement rehabilitation and reseals are nearing completion. New BBQ shelters are planned for Spring Beach and Harold Street Reserve, and grant-funded flood resilience projects are progressing under the Australian Government's Disaster Ready Fund.

A reminder to the community: high use of public toilets and bins during January kept crews busy, so please help us keep these facilities clean and accessible for everyone.

Council Building and Facilities Update

Bicheno Skatepark

Work is underway to provide new public toilets at the skatepark. This important facility will improve convenience for visitors and families.

Marina and Wharf Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance is happening at our marina and wharves to ensure safe access for boats and visitors. Some improvements are scheduled for the coming year.

Bicheno and Cranbrook Hall

Maintenance and upgrades have been completed, including new gutters and protective flashing to keep the hall safe and functional.



Cranbrook Hall

Jubilee Beach Park

A new accessible BBQ has been installed, and the existing BBQ has been relocated under shelter for continued use.



Accessible double BBQ installed at Jubilee Park

Triabunna and Swansea Sports Clubs

Repairs and upgrades are underway to improve club facilities, including safer electrical systems, updated kitchen areas, and better weather protection.



Swansea Boardwalk

Check for Weeds to Eradicate

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.



BONESEED



SPANISH HEATH

remove weeds now!

Spring Bay Community Food Hub

Need affordable, quality food?
The Spring Bay Community Food Hub at 17 Vicary Street, Triabunna is here to help!

They offer:

- Groceries & frozen foods
- Personal care & cleaning products

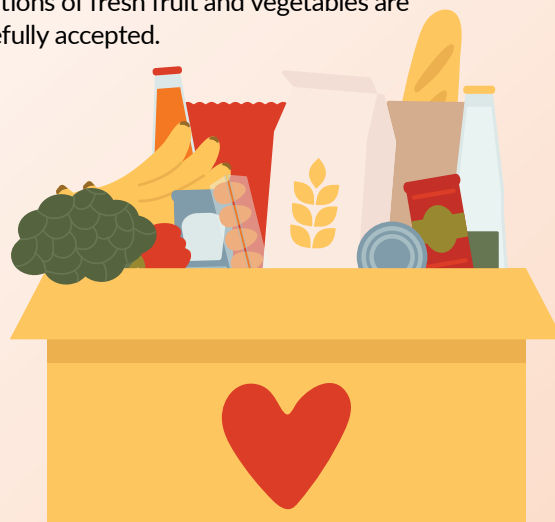
Basic Food Hampers: \$20 each (includes a bag of fresh vegetables & a loaf of bread)

Opening Hours:

Thursday - 9:30am to 3pm

Saturday - 9:30am to 12pm

Everyone is welcome! If you have a garden, donations of fresh fruit and vegetables are gratefully accepted.



YOUR COUNCIL



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Acting Chief Executive Officer

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

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You can request a change of address online at gsbc.tas.gov.au, by emailing 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



Waste Transfer Stations – Winter Operating Hours

The following operating hours will apply from 29th April 2026 – November 2026 at Orford, Swansea, Coles Bay, and Bicheno:

Open: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 2.30pm – 4.30pm

Open: Sunday 10.00am – 2.00pm

Closed: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Closed: Christmas Day and Good Friday

*Normal operating hours apply on all public holidays.

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.

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 for you to know what is happening in our area. If you would like to join one of our databases please email: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au and advise which database you would like to join.

Contacting Council

📍 9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6), Triabunna, TAS 7190

☎ (03) 6256 4777

📠 (03) 6256 4774

@ admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

🌐 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.