

SeaSpeak

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL NEWS
SPRING 2024



Record attendance at Bicheno Beams despite rain

The final night of Bicheno Beams on Saturday 20th July 2024, was a spectacular success, drawing a record crowd of 2,223 attendees despite the rain. This year's event, held during the quieter season, attracted a total of 12,255 people over 22 nights, surpassing last year's attendance.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council is proud to support such an amazing event. Lions Park, a key venue for Bicheno Beams, continues to be a fantastic asset for our community.

Bicheno Beams has once again demonstrated the community's resilience and enthusiasm, making it a memorable event for everyone involved. We look forward to supporting future events that bring our community together and showcase the vibrant spirit of Bicheno.

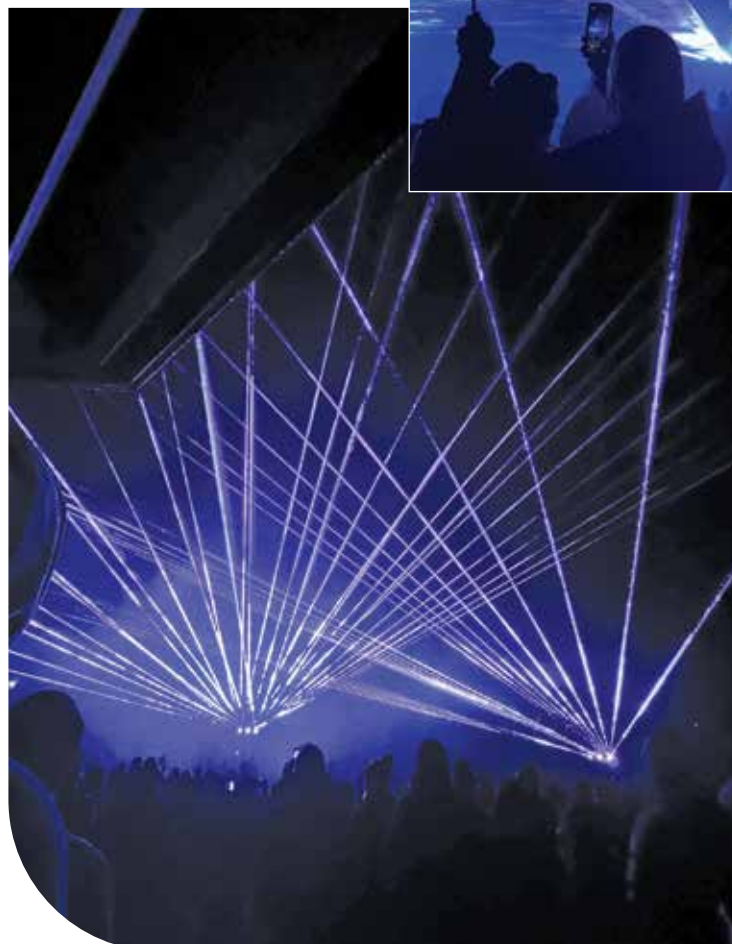


Photo credit
Kathleen
Poole

Spring Beach addition

Exciting news for beachgoers! The outdoor shower at Spring Beach is now installed and operational, providing a convenient amenity for all visitors. Whether you've enjoyed a swim, surfed the waves, or taken a sandy stroll along the shore, you can now freshen up right at the beach. This new addition reflects the Council's commitment to enhancing local amenities.

So next time you're at Spring Beach, be sure to check out the new shower and enjoy a cleaner, more refreshing visit.



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.





Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the Spring edition of Seaspeak
Throughout the year, Council receives applications for event funding and community grants. Our budget is not huge in those to line items but we do recognise that support for events brings economic benefit, not just to the area where the event is held, but to the broader municipal area.

Community grants are a way for Council to support local volunteers to continue the wonderful work they do. Our municipal area is blessed with committed volunteers who continue to provide support and assistance to a broad range of activities. Council is very pleased to offer financial assistance to fund those activities.

Council held a special meeting earlier in July to finalise the rates resolution and budget. The following are some dot points from that process that may assist in explaining how Council arrived at the recent rate increase.

- It was resolved to increase the general rate by 6%. Simplistically that is the amount of income yield we require from general rates revenue (linked to the AAV) to fund the budget to maintain a sustainable business entity.
- The fixed charge appears on rates notices as \$420 this year to include the medical levy.
- An increase in the waste levy is linked to increased costs

imposed by the Copping refuse centre for the disposal of waste as well as increased transport costs and is essentially a cost recovery exercise for this service to the community.

- This year has been a difficult one in the rating cycle with the Office of Valuer General (OVG) issuing new valuations for all properties in May. The revaluations happen in full every 6 years, and the 2024 revaluation has seen massive change across all rating classifications.
- The increase in AAV will likely impact on many ratepayers regardless of the rate struck (cents in the \$), although it may result in some ratepayers seeing a small reduction in their general rate.

A common misunderstanding is that the 'bottom line' on rates notices relates to the rates increase. As noted above levies are quite distinct from the general rate. If one compares the total amount of 'rates' payable that includes levies it will always come out at a higher percentage than what Council has announced. Please be assured that Council was cognisant of the community's ability to pay and all possible levers were explored to keep the rate rise and levies to the lowest possible.

Cheryl Arnol
Mayor

Mairreener beauty

The shell necklaces in the East Coast Heritage Museum were collected by the Amos family (The Amos brothers- Adam and John Amos arrived in Hobart town in March 1821 and settled at Cranbrook). The collection contains 10 necklaces in total of various materials including kelp (or mairreener) shells, rice and dove shells, but also necklaces of snake vertebrae and seed pods.

Tasmanian Aboriginal women have been making necklaces from shells, seeds, bones and quills back long before the European settlement. Making these items is an important cultural tradition and both men and women wore these ornaments around their necks, heads and arms. They were often seen on important individuals and leaders.

Necklace-making is one of the few traditions that have continued without interruption since before the European colonisation in 1803. While colonisation disrupted or destroyed so much of Tasmanian Aboriginal life and heritage, necklace-making has not only continued but evolved. It is still a significant tradition for Aboriginal women that is handed down through each generation. Contemporary makers include Palawa artists Lola Greeno and Jeanette James.

In 1966, archaeologist Rhys Jones reported that several pierced shells, exposed from a cremation site on the north-west coast of Tasmania, were more than 2600 years old.



This necklace is made of highly lustrous kelp shells. Each shell is of a similar size measuring 3mm. The shells, gathered nearly two hundred years ago, are still opalescent with highlights of green, yellow and purple. They are threaded on Kangaroo sinew (contemporary artists use cotton thread).

To make a necklace the shells must be collected while the tiny snail inside is still alive. Gathering shells is carried out in knee deep water during the day. Each shell has to be individually picked from the seaweed. Once the tide starts coming back into shore, the shells are out of reach and out of sight.

The museum displays these items to teach the community and raise awareness about what happened in the Aboriginal history of Tasmania. The necklaces help us talk about cultural practices, and about women's practices.

To see these necklaces and other items in our collection you can visit the **East Coast Heritage Museum** at 22 Franklin Street, Swansea, we are open 10 – 4 pm each weekday.



From the General Manager's desk

'Spring has Sprung!'.... and with it hopefully some warmer weather.

The July Ordinary Council Meeting agenda included 5 reports seeking Council financial and in-kind support for various community groups and events. There was unanimous Council support for the five requests, and it is pleasing that Council remains committed to providing ongoing support by way of event assistance to our community. The highly successful Bicheno Beams cover story in this Spring edition SeaSpeak is an example of event support that Council provides. I take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers in our community, without their dedication and support many events would not happen. Thank you.

Council has unanimously endorsed its 2024/25 budget and rates resolution. In a year when the Office of the Valuer General has re-assessed property valuations across our municipal area there is an inevitable impact on rates. While valuations do not determine the income of Council, they can vary the proportion of total rates levied to every individual property. When valuations go up, the rate of cents in the dollar goes down across rating groups to reduce the new valuation impact. There is further detail information on this in the Rates Notices. The good news is, that despite the economic climate, Councils rates revenue continues to trend downwards and for the 2024/25 financial year is a full 1.5% lower than the Long-Term Financial Management Plan forecast of 7.5%. With prudent financial management Council will continue to put downward pressure on rates in future years.

The 2024/25 budget includes what is most important to you according to community surveys – capital and renewals of infrastructure assets, including \$2.8m for roads and bridges; \$2.0m for buildings; \$1.8m for parks and recreation and \$0.5m for stormwater. The important best practice funding of renewals at 100% continues that will ensure an infrastructure backlog burden is not left for future generations.

Local Government service delivery is not limited to the provision of infrastructure. Public health obligations are required of Council under the Public Health Act and the Food Act. As part of Glamorgan Spring Bay Councils public health goals and objectives we will seek to;

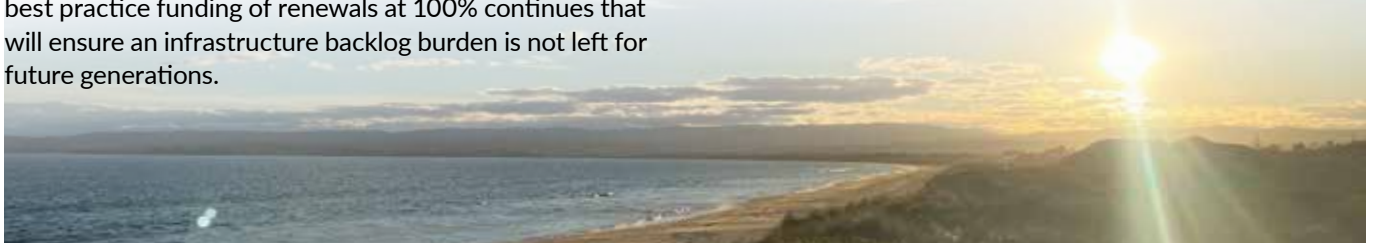
- Conduct annual school immunisation clinics to promote the importance of immunisation
- Ensure onsite waste disposal complies with relevant legislation
- Undertake inspections of food premises to ensure compliance with relevant legislation
- Promptly investigate public and environmental health complaints.

Council is working with stakeholders to seek funding for a Multi Purpose Service (MPS) in Spring Bay (Triabunna/ Orford) to deliver integrated health and aged care services to the east coasts largest, under serviced population. There will be further details on this as matters progress.

Social media interest in Council continues to grow with YouTube followers of live Ordinary Meetings each month and with over 1300 Facebook followers, impressive for our low population. We are attracting followers from outside of our municipality, with Melbourne and Hobart making up about 26% of overall followers. In addition to Facebook, Councils website is a wealth of information, and you are encouraged to visit our site www.gsbc.tas.gov.au.

By adopting new approaches, technology, and adapting to ever changing conditions, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council will implement strategies that maximise the sometimes-limited resources at our disposal and continue to deliver high quality services to our community.

Greg Ingham
General Manager



COUNCIL MEETINGS

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**.

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:

- Tuesday 27 August 2024
- Tuesday 24 September 2024
- Tuesday 22 October 2024
- Tuesday 26 November 2024
- Tuesday 10 December 2024



Scan this QR Code for Council's YouTube Channel.

Works Report

Parks & Reserves

The last stage of the Coles Bay Foreshore project is underway with leases resolved and contracts awarded. This will provide linkage from the wharf, past the end of Jetty Road to Garnet Avenue and Esplanade East. It is anticipated the track will be complete and open for the summer.

The Bicheno Gulch project stage 1 is soon to be completed with warm weather required to complete the pavement sealing in a few locations. In the meantime, track work is progressing to provide the off road pedestrian linkage from the distillery car park area to the north west.

Road and stormwater works



Subdivision developments are a vital means for the provision of infrastructure facilitating urban living. Through these developments stormwater systems are developed and installed and footpaths and kerbs implemented. Developer contributions are also a means for funding some stormwater and parks projects.



Our pit and pipe program is being used to good effect in many small projects. At the end of West Shelly Road Orford (top right image), to make the drainage work the seal around the cul-de-sac head has been formalised and the replacement pit integrated into the road formation to get water away and reduce flooding in the area.

Following the requisite heritage investigations a pit which went nowhere at the end of East Shelly Road has been joined to a new outfall pipe resolving long-standing flooding issues for local residents. Additional subsoil drainage has been placed behind the kerb to assist in dewatering the pavement in preparation for pavement rehabilitation and resealing.



Triabunna Tomorrow

Design for Vicary Street to Charles and down Charles to the Marina will commence this financial year with construction to follow as part of a grant provided by the State Government (see below). Public consultation will take place at stages of the design. The project picks up on concept design developed in 2016 and commenced a few years ago with the Gatehouse project and intersection upgrade at Esplanade West.



Marine Infrastructure

Freemans Jetty at Coles Bay has been extended by MAST. The planned works for the stage 4 extensions were held off until the quiet season to limit disruptions at the popular boat ramp.

The extended jetty can now accommodate a lot more boating activity at this popular location.



Waste Management Do's and Don'ts

When is recycling not recycling? Did you know that if you place your recycling inside any kind of bag before placing in your bin it becomes general waste. Please do not place recycling in any form of plastic bag. Place it loose in your recycling bin. Truck loads of recycling can be rejected by the recycling sorting operators because of some bagged waste which can't be confirmed as recycling without opening. In this event, the whole truck load has to be diverted to landfill.

When is green waste not green waste? As a guide, if it doesn't grow, it isn't green waste. The reason this is important is that we are now chipping our green waste with a view to providing it to the public and using it in our public reserves. Our transfer station operators can't keep an eye on everything at all times so please, do bring in green waste, but don't drop off any other material in the green waste piles. Place tyres, wiring, metal, general waste and any other form of waste in the designated locations. This will ensure when the green waste is loaded into the chipper with an excavator, hidden general waste isn't chipped and spoiling the product.



Winter is the time to inspect for Serrated tussock

Controlling serrated tussock before the plant goes to seed in spring is critical to prevent the spread of this aggressively invasive grass.

Serrated tussock is a declared weed under *Tasmania's Weed Management Act 1999*. It is your responsibility to control serrated tussock on your property. Failure to remove it from your property could result in legal action. Council will soon be undertaking property inspections for serrated tussock so now is the time to take action.

Let's control serrated tussock in Glamorgan Spring Bay before it gets out of control.



Glamorgan Spring Bay: A Bird Haven

Among the most precious inhabitants of Glamorgan Spring Bay are the myriad bird species that depend on our unique environment for survival. As well as resident birds, our region has a rich variety of migratory birds, many of which travel vast distances to breed on our shores in the spring and summer months. At this time of year, it is especially important to be mindful of birds and do our best to minimise disturbances to sensitive bird habitats.

Significant Species and their Habitats

Hooded Plover (*Thinornis cucullatus*)

The Hooded Plover relies heavily on the east coast's sandy beaches for nesting. These birds lay their eggs directly on the sand, making them particularly susceptible to trampling by beachgoers and off-leash dogs.

Little Penguin (*Eudyptula minor*)

The Little Penguin is a coastal nesting seabird and the world's smallest penguin species. These charming birds nest in burrows along the coast, often returning to the same sites year after year.

Bicheno is renowned for its little penguin colony,



Hooded Plover eggs (above)

Hooded Plover adult, Orford (left)

which is a significant drawcard for tourists. However, penguins are vulnerable to predation by dogs and domestic or feral cats as well as habitat destruction and uncontrolled viewing. Spring



Little Penguins, Bicheno

marks the start of the breeding season for Little Penguins, during which they are particularly vulnerable to disturbance.

Fairy Tern (*Sterna nereis*)

The Fairy Tern, a small seabird with striking white plumage and a yellow bill, is one of the east coast's most delicate inhabitants. Another species that nests on the sandy beaches of Glamorgan Spring Bay, it is particularly vulnerable to human disturbance and habitat loss. Ensuring beaches remain undisturbed during the spring and summer breeding season is crucial for the survival of their chicks.



Fairy Tern at Little Swanport

(Photos source: JJ Harrison)

The Vital Importance of Protecting Bird Habitats

The wetlands, dunes, and vegetation of Glamorgan Spring Bay provide critical shelter, food, and nesting sites for many bird species. However, human disturbance, habitat loss, and climate change, all pose significant threats to the delicate balance of these habitats. Luckily, there are steps we can all take to mitigate these impacts:

- **Respect dog management areas**, including those designated as dog-prohibited and dog-on-lead zones, to help minimise disturbances to nesting birds.
- **Keep beaches clean.** Reducing the use of pesticides and chemicals, properly disposing of waste, and avoiding littering, will help to keep

bird habitat free from pollution.

- **Educate yourself** about the specific needs of local bird species and the impact of human activities.
- **Share information about the importance of bird habitats** and conservation with friends and family.
- **Volunteer** with a local Landcare group and help rehabilitate critical bird habitat.

Through mindful behaviour and proactive conservation efforts, we can ensure that Glamorgan Spring Bay remains a thriving haven for birds for generations to come. To find out more about bird species in our area and how you can help, email us at tegan.jux@freycinet.tas.gov.au or phone us on (03) 6256 4777.

Kikatapula (Kickerterpoller)

Kikatapula, also known as Black Tom or Tom Birch, lived a life that reflects the complex and conflicting experiences of Tasmanian Aboriginals during the early stages of European settlement. Kikatapula belonged to the *Paredarererme* clan of the East Coast of Tasmania. He was a warrior who went from being a feared and hated figure to becoming a significant and influential person in the history of Tasmania's colonisation.

Despite being separated from his clan at a young age and educated and baptised by colonists, Kikatapula maintained his connection to his heritage and later fought to resist colonial expansion. From 1823 to 1828, he actively opposed British settlers and their encroachment on Aboriginal territories.

Kikatapula's reputation was so intimidating that a Hobart newspaper in 1826 called for him to be hanged upon capture. However, despite being imprisoned twice for allegedly leading assaults on settlers, Kikatapula was never brought to trial.

In 1827, he was captured by the colonial authorities. As he spoke English and had been baptised, there was concern that he could testify in court about the widespread killings of Aboriginal people by the colonists, which would embarrass and bring legal charges against those in authority. As a result, colonial Governor Arthur was hesitant to charge him with any crime, fearing the consequences of doing so, and he was released.

In late 1827, Kikatapula was again captured in New Norfolk and held without charge. In July 1828, he was formally discharged from custody, but he refused to leave the jail because the community of Hobart was openly hostile to his presence. Kikatapula petitioned Governor Arthur to send him to England, where he would be safe from colonial retribution, but Arthur kept him locked up.

While in custody, Kikatapula was implicated in a number of raids on settlers – a number of times, the Hobart press had to print retractions when it was revealed he had indeed been in goal and could not have committed these crimes.

During this period, Kikatapula was introduced to George Augustus Robinson, an English builder and evangelical Christian who regularly ministered to prisoners. Robinson helped Kikatapula reconcile with British rule.

Governor Arthur met with Kikatapula and asked him to mediate between

the remaining Aboriginal Tasmanians and the colonists. Kikatapula agreed and acted as a guide for the government's 'roving party' for much of 1829. However, he was reluctant to track down and capture his own people, often leading soldiers away rather than guiding them to hideouts of the Oyster Bay tribes. As a result, the 'roving party' failed to capture a single Aborigine in 1829, and Kikatapula was removed from his role in December of that year.

Governor Arthur promised Kikatapula a boat if he continued to assist the government, but he never received it. In 1832, while on an expedition with Augustus Robinson, Kikatapula fell ill and was taken to a colonial outpost at Emu Bay, where he died from acute dysentery on May 16 of the same year. He was 32 years old.

Robinson was later informed that Kikatapula had been given a Christian burial due to his childhood baptism. However, his burial did not consider his clan's cultural and spiritual customs. As a member of the Oyster Bay nation, his body should have been cremated, and his ashes should have been either covered over or collected for ritual use.

For more of the story of Kikatapula's complex life, see Lyndall Ryan's *Tasmanian Aborigines: A History since 1803* (2012), Allen & Unwin, and Robert Cox's *Broken Spear: The Untold Story of Black Tom Birch, the Man who Sparked Australia's bloodiest war* (2021), Wakefield Publishing.

Kikatapula maintained his connection to his heritage and later fought to resist colonial expansion



Painting of Kikatapula by Thomas Bock

YOUR COUNCIL



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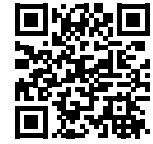
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Alternatively, if you are wishing to communicate with all Councillors please email: council@freycinet.tas.gov.au

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Postal address change



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.

Waste Transfer Station Winter Hours April 2024

All four Waste Transfer Stations across the municipality are operating on winter hours from 29th April 2024 till November 2024.

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

Open: Sunday 10.00am – 2.00pm

Closed: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Closed: Christmas Day & Good Friday

*Normal operating hours apply on all public holidays.

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

Eftpos is available at all 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
- Community Groups
- The Business Community
- 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 our databases please email: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au and advise which databases you would like to join.

Contacting Council

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

☎ (03) 6256 4777

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@ admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

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📺 **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.