

# SeaSpeak

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL NEWS  
SUMMER 2023/24



## Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the Summer edition of SeaSpeak.

It really is hard to believe that a year has passed since the last election. I have been privileged to be Mayor of a Council that has such committed elected members and staff. We are blessed to have an amazing group of people who have the welfare of our communities at heart.

The works team has been very productive coordinating the rather large capital works budget we have in place. It is pleasing to see the focus on renewal of sealed and unsealed roads, particularly given that some roads have not received any real attention for 3 or 4 decades. It is proving challenging now to give them a facelift in the constraints of a tight budget but the team is up to the task and we will see improvements across all of the municipal area.

We have had to make some, at times, unpopular decisions particularly around rate rises. One issue that is shaping up to impact us all next year is the likely massive increase in the fire levy. Council shares the concern of the broader local government sector that this will mean the current residential fire levy will likely double regardless of which option is used by the Government. The impact on businesses is worse. Please remember that Council only plays a collection agency role for the State Government when imposing the fire levy on your property and levies should not be considered an increase in your rates.

One of the privileges I have as Mayor is conducting citizenship ceremonies and I was very pleased to do so just recently. It was even more special when guests of one of the conferees

were the very first people I conferred Australian Citizenship on about 20 years ago.

The planning department continues to be busy, it is pleasing and a little surprising that in the midst of interest rate rises, rising cost of living and other challenging factors that impact on the community that there is ongoing development and growth within the community, despite these obstacles.

Those of you who watch the live streaming of Council meetings will be pleased to know that upgraded cameras and microphones are being trialed in coming weeks. The consistent feedback both from outside Council and within Council when doing electronic meetings is the poor quality of the audio and the lack of coverage in the chamber. Having said that, the offending pole that can be seen obscuring some Councillors is unlikely to be taken away as it has some significant cabling running down it. I know staff are going to investigate the cabling further so we just might lose the pole! The live streaming of meetings has been very successful and provides the opportunity to 'attend' a Council meeting without the tyranny of distance to meet in the Chamber.

Council supported the Freycinet Challenge this year and I was given the honour of presenting the winning trophies. I am in awe of the fitness and stamina of the athletes that take part in that event. It is a welcome boost to the economy of the Freycinet Peninsula with such a large group of competitors, family and friends descending on Coles Bay for the weekend.

*Continued page 3*

## Reviving the netball spirit: Glamorgan Spring Bay's grand return after a two year hiatus



After a hiatus of 2 years, Glamorgan Spring Bay Netball (GSBN) has made a triumphant return, bringing with it the joys of netball in a refreshing spring/summer season. This revival has brought together around 60 enthusiastic participants, spanning the age of 16 and beyond, all coming together for the love of the game and to have some fun. With Reclink, Council and volunteers support, GSBN is back and better than ever.

In the spirit of community involvement, Glamorgan Spring Bay Netball (GSBN) is actively seeking volunteers to assist in various capacities. Whether you have experience as an umpire, a knack for timekeeping, or a love for keeping score and watching the game, GSBN welcomes your participation and wants you to get involved! These exciting games take place every Monday night at 6:30 PM, providing the perfect opportunity for you to be part of this vibrant netball community.

If you are wishing to get involved, follow the Glamorgan Spring Bay Netball's Facebook page for more information.





## From the General Manager

**D**ear residents and ratepayers,  
Welcome to summer!

As we enter what promises to be a very busy holiday period for our municipality we reflect on another eventful and successful calendar year behind us.

Early in the year Council was delighted to advise that a Primary Care Rural Innovative Multidisciplinary Model (PRIMM) Grant had been granted to cohealth to work with Council and the community to co design a local, integrated multidisciplinary model of primary health care. In July the Grant outcome came to fruition when Council announced cohealth, a leading and well respected not for profit agency, as the preferred tenderer to operate its medical practices in Triabunna and Bicheno. Cohealth officially took over the medical practices in October.

This outcome represents a significant step forward in ensuring the sustainability and reliability of medical services in our community into the future.

As part of Councils community engagement strategy, we conducted an extensive community Budget Survey with you during the 2023/24 annual budget development. The survey engagement exceeded all expectations – there were 452 respondents to the survey from a population of 5012, a significant sample of our community by any measure. It was evident from the survey results that the provision and maintenance of major infrastructure was very important to you with roads, public recreation areas and stormwater topping the spending priorities.

Your feedback to the Budget Survey was most valuable and will be used as a benchmark for future consultation to enable measurement against objectives set by Council in its strategic planning and statutory functions.

The survey also indicated that you prefer to receive information about Council activities via social media, especially Facebook and Councils website and SeaSpeak. All three platforms continue to grow with our website and Facebook now exceeding well over 1,000 followers each.

Major infrastructure projects progressed through the year despite the building industry material supply and other challenges. The Swansea Street Upgrade project was completed and is looking good for the holiday season. Three significant Bicheno projects, the Gulch upgrade, the Triangle project and the Skate Park have progressed with the latter due for completion in December 2023. The Coles Bay coastal walking track is also nearing completion and expected to be open for the holiday season.

In June Council unanimously adopted a 2023/24 budget and passed its rates resolution. This was a noteworthy achievement given a period of economic turmoil including the Hobart Consumer Price Index (CPI) Running at almost 7%. This CPI was more than double what was forecast at the start of the financial year. Council also had to

accommodate substantial increases to waste management costs outside of its control in the order of \$750k.

In addition, Council is now funding its asset renewal at 100%, for the first time in many years, and in accordance with best practice asset management. This means that an ongoing backlog of deferred infrastructure renewal works, building in dollar value every year, is halted. At the time of writing urban road renewal works were underway in towns across the municipality.

To be able to adopt a budget with a decreasing impact on general rates, in accordance with our Long Term Financial Management Plan, is an achievement that I am particularly proud of, and take this opportunity to thank the dedicated staff at Council involved in achieving this outcome and for the support of the elected members.

Emergency works to repair rain damaged roads were undertaken at various sites across the municipality. The major slip at Rheban Road was repaired with the road open to two way traffic in early November. At the time of writing another major slip repair was underway on Old Coach Road, which barring inclement weather, should be completed by the Xmas holiday season.

We live and work in an amazing municipality blessed with an abundance of natural values. There are many highlights of the year in the environmental space that we can all be proud of, two of which are the development and adoption of Glamorgan Spring Bay Natural Resource Management and Climate Change Resilience Strategy and the Orford Foreshore Management Plan. You are encouraged to learn more about these important plans on Councils website.

Tasmanian Local Government Reform was an ongoing topic of discussion during the year. The Local Government Minister has now received the Review Boards Report and it is expected that this Report with reform recommendations will be made public in late November 2023. GSBC remains committed to Local Government reform measures that clearly benefit our community in the long term.

On behalf of the team at Glamorgan Spring bay Council, we look forward to 2024 with much anticipation. There is still much good work to be done!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season.

Greg Ingham  
**General Manager**

## Message from the Mayor *continued from page 1*

As a Council, we were pleased to finalise the partnership with cohealth to operate the medical practices in Triabunna and Bicheno. By all reports, it has been a smooth transition and is testimony to the enormous amount of work that was undertaken by both cohealth (no, it does not have a capital C) and Council staff to ensure hand-over success.

During the last three months, and in fact since being elected as Mayor, I have taken the opportunity to meet with as many politicians as possible. It doesn't matter to me if they are State or Federal, Labor, Liberal, independent or Green or somewhere in between. As a Council, it is imperative that we establish good relationships with all political persuasions. It has paid dividends to this point, although it has cost me in that I receive 7.30am phone calls from Ministers asking for information or seeking clarification on

a myriad of matters. Thankfully, I am an earlier riser but all jokes aside, establishing a network of politicians is one of the critical parts of being a local government entity.

Finally, on behalf of the Councillors and staff, I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Please stay safe on the water and on the roads. In this tough economic time, I trust everyone has an amazing Christmas but please remember, it is not about the presents we do or don't get. It is about families, friends and those we love. Please treat everyone with kindness and we will see you in 2024!

Cheryl Arnol  
Mayor



## 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:

- Tuesday 23 January 2024
- Tuesday 27 February 2024
- Tuesday 26 March 2024

- Tuesday 23 April 2024
- Tuesday 28 May 2024
- Tuesday 25 June 2024
- Tuesday 23 July 2024
- Tuesday 27 August 2024
- Tuesday 24 September 2024
- Tuesday 22 October 2024
- Tuesday 26 November 2024
- Tuesday 10 December 2024
- Tuesday 10 December 2024  
(Annual General Meeting) – 5:30pm



Scan this QR  
Code for Council's  
YouTube Channel.

## Rates Instalments

Mark your calendars! Your annual rates are payable in 4 instalments. Don't miss the remaining upcoming deadlines on, 3rd – 29th February 2024, 4th – 30th April 2024. Stay on top of your payments and avoid any late fees.

## eNotices

GO TO [GSBC.ENOTICES.COM.AU](https://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](https://gsbc.enotices.com.au)



### Postal address change

You can request a change of address online at [gsbc.tas.gov.au](https://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](https://gsbc.enotices.com.au)



## Works and Infrastructure Update

Summer brings visitors to our area and good weather for maintenance and construction in civil works. Our major renewal project for resealing and pavement rehabilitation is set to be complete before Christmas. This \$1M project takes place across the council area with roads in Orford, Triabunna, Coles Bay and Bicheno and Buckland making the list. These works incorporate some kerb & channel replacement where kerb, pavement and seal are best combined to do at the same time.

### Footpath, Disabled access & Kerb works

Funds previously spent on urban nature-strips were this year diverted into a capital allocation for renewal of failing and problematic footpaths and kerbs. The photo below shows 2 of 8 kerb ramps replaced and construction underway on improving the disabled parking at the supermarket in conjunction with kerb replacement ahead of resealing.



Other kerb replacement integrated with the reseal and pavement program.



Three road collapse projects related to last years rain events are coming to completion with Wielangta Road and Rheban Road now completed. Old Coach works are progressing and scheduled for completion before Christmas.

### Rheban Road completed works



### Bicheno Gulch

A Contractor has been appointed and preliminaries are being undertaken to prepare for construction at the end of the holiday season to avoid disruption to holiday makers and works.

### Coles Bay Foreshore Walk

Contracts issued are drawing to completion while a further elevated stage within the same project scope is being investigated for construction.



### Bicheno Triangle

Revised scope tenders are being assessed to see if the core elements of the project scope can be delivered.

### Amenities Upgrade Spring Beach

Works have been completed on the Amenities upgrade at Spring Beach as one of the projects in the LRCIP Phase 3 funding.

### Coles Bay Annex

The Coles Bay Annex building permit process is proving difficult with the building requiring a revised Bushfire Attack Level assessment. This incorporates the buildings alongside and will require additional clearing to achieve the required clear distance under building regulations and needs approval from the land owner to enable the permit to be issued.





## Swansea Christmas Parade

Swansea has had a long-standing tradition for its Christmas Parade, which is enjoyed by the local community and tourists.

Swansea Community Christmas Committee would like to extend a warm invitation to the entire community to participate in spreading the holiday cheer. Whether you're eager to showcase a dazzling float, decorate your windows with festive creativity, or simply wish to revel in the festivities, your presence is welcomed.

**When: Saturday 16 December 2023**

The parade will kick off behind Morris' store at 3:00pm, winding through the heart of Swansea, along Main Street, Wellington Street, past Mayshaw Aged Care, and finishing at the Swansea Recreational Ground for Christmas festivities.

There will be raffles, food vans, face painting, crazy bikes, teacup ride and balloon artist. TAS Fire, SES, Marine Rescue and Ambulance information tents and many more.

This event is proudly supported by the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, Bendigo Bank and many local businesses.



## Triabunna Christmas Parade & Celebrations

Roll out the red carpet, dust off your jingle bells and whip out your most festive attire - it's time to party!

Now is the time to get your community group, school, family, friends or business together to come up with your best float ideas!

**15 DECEMBER 2023**

**PARADE STARTS AT 5PM  
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS  
6 PM - 8.30PM**

The parade will commence at the Triabunna Football Oval travelling Charles St, Victoria St, Melbourne St, Vicary St & Charles St returning to the Triabunna Football Oval for festive celebrations.  
Plus a visit from Santa.

For more information please email:  
[triabunnachristmascrew@outlook.com](mailto:triabunnachristmascrew@outlook.com)



## Where can I have my dog off-lead?

All Councils are required to develop a *Dog Management Policy* in accordance with the *Dog Control Act 2000*. This Policy outlines where you can have your dogs off lead. Council's current *Dog Management Policy* is under review and community consultation on the new draft will begin shortly.

In certain public areas your dog must be on a lead at all times these include pedestrian walking tracks, roads, footpaths and cycleways.

Please remember that you must still have control of your dog in an off-lead area. Your dog must be close to you and in your sight at all times. Your dog must be able to respond to your commands. For example, if you call your dog to come back to you it should come back. If your dog isn't good with responding to your commands, then it should stay on a lead.





## Tongerlongeter (Tukalunginta say: Tu kah lung een tah)

**B**orn in 1790, Aboriginal leader and resistance fighter, Tongerlongeter early life was free from serious conflict. Moving with his tribe between the sheltered fresh waters of the river we call the Derwent to the productive East Coast of Tasmania. His family lived well and had unimpeded access to the shellfish of Mouldings Lagoon and the Little Swan Port Estuary, the fish, and birds of the Freycinet Peninsular, as well as the plains for kangaroo, wallaby, and possum.

It took less than a year from the establishment of a new British settlement in September 1803 for the first significant clash between new settlers and the tribes that called this island their home. On May 4, 1804, the colony's records show about three hundred Aboriginals, men, women, and children, approached the new settlement at Risdon Cove. Lt. Moore, the commanding officer at the time, was overwhelmed by the sight of such a large group and ordered his soldiers to fire a 12-pounder carronade (a short-barrel, heavy calibre naval cannon) and muskets to disperse the group. Firing commenced at 11:00 in the morning and the final shot of the carronade was heard in Hobart 3 hours later.

The outcome of this clash is still debated; the numbers of Aboriginals killed have been reported from as little as two to over a hundred. What is not contested is that the events at Risdon Cove put the new colony on a trajectory that in one lifetime would see the destruction of the tribal life that Tongerlongeter knew.

By the 1820's Tongerlongeter was in his thirties and the leader of the Oyster Bay nation and settlers for the first time were starting to receive land grants on the east coast of Tasmania. As George Meredith and the Amos brothers were establishing whaling, sealing, and farming operations around Oyster Bay, the opportunity for conflict was increasing.

Although little mention is made of the lives of Aboriginal people, who fought to defend their land or of the history of provocation which led to deaths on both sides. The *Hobart Gazette* on 11 Nov 1926 reported that "No one disputes that many, very many, needless acts of cruelty have been committed upon this originally harmless race. Travellers have needlessly shot at and murdered them in the woods—stockkeepers have pursued and carried off their women — (and) the Commandant of the very first English settlers, who set their foot on the shores at Risdon, by a fire of muskets brought several to the ground; and these, and other enormities, have brought things to their present irremediable (impasse)".

Most colonists were unprepared to face real conflict. They were at a loss when convicts refused to work alone, or unarmed. The government seemed powerless to suppress the growing hostilities but supported a military outpost at Waterloo Point, Swansea in 1827, to protect the town from escaped convicts, bush rangers and the warriors from Oyster Bay Nation.



*Sketch of Tongerlongeter by Thomas Bock 1832 (Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery)*



*Oyster Bay Tribe territory. L. Ryan (The Aboriginal Tasmanians 1996)*

In 1828, with the violence still increasing, Lieutenant Governor George Arthur declared martial law. Tongerlongeter and his allies, the neighbouring Big River nation, intensified their raids, making 137 documented attacks in 1828, 152 in 1829, and 204 in 1830.

By 1830 a virtual state of war existed, and many settlers were demanding that something decisive be done. In response, Lieutenant-Governor George Arthur ordered thousands of able-bodied settlers to form what became known as the 'Black Line,' a human chain that crossed the settled districts of Tasmania.

The line moved south over many weeks to intimidate, capture, displace and relocate the remaining Aboriginal people. The plan failed in the short-term, but in the end allowed Europeans to take control of the region and forced Tongerlongeter's people to head to the relative safety of the Central Plateau, suffering further injuries on the way.

According to Tongerlongeter, who told of his wartime experiences years, "he [...] was with his tribe in the neighbourhood of the Den Hill and that there were men cutting wood. The men were frightened and ran away. At night they came back with plenty of white men (it was moonlight), and they looked and saw our fires. Then they shot at us, shot my arm, killed two men and three women. The women they beat on the head and killed them; they then burnt them in the fire. A musket ball almost severed Tongerlongeter's arm just below the elbow. As his comrades sliced off what remained of his limb and to stop the bleeding, Tongerlongeter simply said they "burnt the end."

He survived the injury, but resistance slowed. Oyster Bay and Big River bands made only fifty-seven attacks in 1831.

In the spring of 1831, Tongerlongeter's people made one last foray to the east coast finding themselves trapped on the Freycinet Peninsula by more than one hundred armed men they were able to slip past the muskets at night.

On New Year's Eve 1831, Tongerlongeter's group now just twenty-six in number, were approached by a small Aboriginal party. They were envoys of George Augustus Robinson's "friendly mission," set out to conciliate with the hostile tribes.

Robinson's terms were: if Tongerlongeter's people laid down their arms they could, once order was restored, remain on their Country with the government's protection. When Tongerlongeter's small band of survivors entered Hobart a week later, the whole town came to watch. They proceeded to Government House, where the governor invited them in. There are no records of what was said at this meeting, but promises were undoubtedly made and ten days later Tongerlongeter and his party set sail for Flinders Island.

Despite the loss of his family (his infant son Parperermanener died on the voyage) his arm, his country, his way of life and almost all his tribe, Tongerlongeter never stopped advocating for the promised return to Country. When that failed, he supported Robinson's plan for their relocation to Victoria, anywhere to get away from Flinders Island.

Some eventually made that journey back to Tasmania, but Tongerlongeter was not among them – he died June 20, 1837, and was buried in an unmarked grave on Flinders Island.

Governor Arthur later wrote it had been "a great oversight that a treaty was not [...] made with the natives." New Zealand's Treaty of Waitangi, signed 6 February 1840, was due in no small part to Tongerlongeter and his warriors, who taught the British Empire the full cost of "free land".

## Community survey reveals crucial insights into local healthcare needs

A survey of people living in Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Region has found that wait time for appointments is the greatest barrier to accessing health care, followed by cost, both of which lead many people to seek health services outside of their local area.

A lack of transport was the third most reported barrier to accessing healthcare for residents of GSBC.

cohealth, the not-for-profit health service that recently took over management of the Triabunna and Bicheno medical practices, conducted the survey to better understand what health services locals currently access, what's missing and how health services could be improved.

Key takeouts of the survey of Glamorgan Spring Bay residents:

- 44% of respondents: Timeliness of appointment was frequently or very frequently a barrier to accessing health services
- 21% of respondents: Cost of appointment was frequently or very frequently a barrier to accessing health services
- 16% of respondents: Transport was frequently or very

frequently a barrier to accessing health services

- 95% of respondents see a GP locally, but only 49% see a nurse locally
- 86% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that "the Government needs to act to improve health services"

Learn more about how cohealth is improving primary healthcare on the East Coast of Tasmania: <https://www.cohealth.org.au/about-us/what-we-do/improving-primary-healthcare-in-tasmanias-east-coast/>

**cohealth**  
care for all





## YOUR COUNCIL



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

## LOCAL MARKETS

## Triabunna

Third Sunday in each month, from 10:00am to 1:00pm

## Bicheno

16 December 3:00pm to 7:00pm  
28 January 2024 9:00am to 1:00pm

## Swansea

Second Saturday in each month from 9:30am to 1:00pm starting in September



## Summer 2023/24 Waste Transfer Station Hours

## October till April Operating Hours (see Council's website)

The following opening hours will apply from Monday 30th October 2023 to Sunday 28th April 2024 at Orford, Swansea, Coles Bay, and Bicheno:

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

**Open:** Sunday 10.00am – 2.00pm

**Closed:** Saturday

**Closed:** Christmas Day and Good Friday

\*Normal operating hours apply on all public holidays

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 now 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
- 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](mailto: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

📠 (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.