

SeaSpeak

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL NEWS
SUMMER 2024



Open Space Strategy and Walking and Cycling Strategy

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council is developing a strategy that will provide strategic direction about the planning for open space, walking and cycling across the municipality.

An Open Space Strategy is a plan that will guide the planning, development, management, and enhancement of open spaces in the community. It will serve as a roadmap for the Council and the community to identify gaps in open space provision, plan for the creation of new and needed open spaces and improve the effectiveness and usage of existing open spaces.

The Walking and Cycling Strategy will consider the existing walking and cycling infrastructure and programs within the community and assess gaps and identify opportunities to support a more active community.

Opportunities for community members to provide input into both projects will be available in the coming months and further details and updates will follow as the projects develop.



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 >



For your diary! Events December 2024 to March 2025

- 1/12/24 The Unveiling of "The Pegg Changi Flag", Swansea RSL
- 7/12/24 Memorial Day, Spring Beach
- 8/12/24 Christmas Lunch for Seniors at 12.30pm for a 1pm start, Triabunna District School
- 10/12/24 Triabunna Tivoli
- 13/12/24 Triabunna Christmas Parade & Celebrations
- 14/12/24 Swansea Community Market
- 14/12/24 Elphinstone Engineering Christmas BBQ
- 15/12/24 Swansea Community Christmas
- 15/12/24 Triabunna Village Market
- 20/12/24 Maria Voices Carols, Our Park
- 21/12/24 Bicheno Santa Visit, Lions Park
- 21/12/24 Bicheno Community Market
- 11/12/25 Swansea Community Market
- 16 /1/25 Swansea Small Halls Festival
- 19/1/25 Bicheno Community Market
- 19/1/25 Triabunna Village Market
- 25/1/25 Australia Day Awards Ceremony, Swansea
- 8/2/25 Coles Bay Triathlon
- 8/2/25 Swansea Community Market
- 16/2/25 Bicheno Community Market
- 16/2/25 Triabunna Village Market
- 28/2 to 2/3/25 - Spoke Motorcycle Festival

Stay in the know with Council's Events Calendar on our website! From community gatherings to special events, find out what's happening around town.

If you have an event you'd like to share, please submit it through the Council website. If you would like more information regarding these events please scan the QR code.

Upcoming Events -
<https://gsbc.tas.gov.au/events/month/2024-07/>





Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Seaspeak
This year seems to have flown by! I cannot believe how fast Christmas is approaching.

Council in 2024 has been very busy for everyone. Every year we seem to kick more and more goals because of our incredible staff. We recognise that we don't always meet the expectations of the community due to various factors, but overall, we have had a successful year.

Supporting our community groups is high on Council's list each year. Earlier this year, a community member came to see me about establishing a community food hub as they were aware of rising food insecurity numbers in the Triabunna/Orford area. The Spring Bay Community Hub has been established in Triabunna as the outcome of a vision developed by a group of community volunteers. This vision was to provide affordable food hampers to anyone in the municipality. The group and the service has grown very quickly and in the 3 months since opening have expanded their range.

Through our Community Small Grants and Events Grants program we have supported a range of groups and events in 2024. One issue that comes across our desk on a regular basis is the cost of public liability insurance. It is an expensive hurdle for any community group whether they are an established group or a start-up like the community food hub. Some grant recipients are accessing the program to cover their insurance costs. Successful grants recipients to date in this financial year include:

- Festival Small Halls
- Bicheno Men's Shed - insurance
- Triabunna Tivoli Theatre – operational costs for filming screening
- East Coast Anglican – Youth Programs

- Donation to student to represent Tasmania in Youth Leadership Challenge
- Spring Bay RSL Sub-Branch – Contribution towards the permanent BBQ enclosure
- Coles Bay Triathlon

Tasmanian Seafarers Memorial 2024

The annual Seafarers Memorial service was held in October with another good attendance. The service is an opportunity for those who have lost loved ones to the sea to come together and celebrate their life as part of the seafaring community. If you have the opportunity to visit the Seafarers Memorial on the waterfront at Triabunna please have a look at the plaques for the various individual and family tragedies and take a moment to reflect on what they achieved as professional fishermen or mariners. The memorial provides a poignant reminder of the number of shipwrecks that dot our coastlines and the dangers that a life at sea entails.

Australia Day Awards 2025

The annual Citizenship and awards ceremony will be held in the Swansea Town Hall on Saturday the 25th January and will be open to the public. This event provides an opportunity to welcome new citizens within our municipality and to recognise wonderful people making a positive contribution to our community.

Finally, as we move towards Christmas and the summer holidays, please make sure that you have your bushfire plans ready and download the new Tas Alerts app that will provide real-time information in the event of an emergency situation.

On behalf of Councillors and staff, I wish all members of our communities a happy and safe festive season.

Cheryl Arnol
Mayor

2nd Rates Installment Due – Friday 29 November 2024

Just a reminder: the second installment of your rates for the 2024/2025 year is due on Friday, 29 November 2024.

To make payments easier, you can set up regular direct debit payments, forms can be downloaded from our website or contact council to have one sent out, pay online via BPAY, or in person at your local council office.

Pension Remission:

If you're eligible for pension remission, please apply before 31st March 2025.

To qualify, you must:

- You must be liable to pay the rates on the property for which you are claiming the remission, and it must be your principal place of residence.

- Hold a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC), Health Care Card (HCC), or a Veterans Affairs Gold Card (TPI or War Widow endorsed).
- The card must have been issued on or before 1 July this year.

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

Ensure your payment is made on time to avoid late fees. If you're facing financial difficulty, contact the council to discuss support options.



From the General Manager's desk

Summer on the East Coast, how enticing. We have the extraordinary good fortune to enjoy this marvellous corner of our planet and share it with neighbours, visitors and the unique and diverse flora and fauna endemic to the region. It is the hope of all at council that the summer season is an enjoyable time where all risks are adequately managed to ensure our individual and collective impacts on our environments are limited and manageable.

To help where things go awry, we rely heavily on volunteers associated with fire, ambulance, surf lifesaving and marine rescue, SES, and to a lesser but still important extent, teams managing and minimising weed growth in reserves to reduce fire hazards.

So thank you, to all our volunteers in our communities. We appreciate your time, your capabilities and your dedication.

In October the annual Seafarers' Memorial service was held with good attendance. We recall the good times and commemorate as a community, many individual and family tragedies where our deeper sadness may remain.

Council's work program over the next few months includes a concentrated review of the strategic plan to focus priorities for the next two budgets leading up to Local Government elections and longer term aspirations for

forward planning. Council will meet in Swansea to work through this process. The risks to community and council will also be examined to help inform the strategic priorities of the organisation and assist us to serve the public with good governance and appropriate stewardship of community resources and assets.

We continue to work with the State Government on the reform processes which are slowly progressing. Many of the recommendations adopted by government are being worked on at councillor and operational levels. While boundary adjustment discussions are likely to be the most engaging for the community they are only one part of the reform recommendations and will be raised with community in due course.

The annual Citizenship and awards ceremony will be held in the Swansea Town Hall on Saturday the 25th January and will be open to the public. This event provides an opportunity to welcome new citizens within our municipality and to recognise wonderful people making a positive contribution to our community.

Peter Porch
Acting General Manager



Seafarers' Memorial Service, Triabunna

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2025

Ordinary meetings of Council are held at the Triabunna Council offices typically on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

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.

MEETING DATE & TIME

- Tuesday 28 January 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 25 February 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 25 March 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 29 April 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 27 May 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 24 June 2025 2:00pm

- Tuesday 22 July 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 26 August 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 23 September 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 28 October 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 25 November 2025 2:00pm
- Tuesday 9 December 2025 3:30pm
- Tuesday 9 December 2025
(Annual General Meeting) 5:30pm



Scan this QR Code for Council's YouTube Channel.

Works Report

Infrastructure

Tis' the season for road maintenance and the annual pavement rehabilitation and resealing program should be almost complete by now. A major expense for our council is this annual program which targets the worst sections of road for renewal each year, progressively working across the municipal road system to ensure the overall road condition is not declining.

Stormwater improvement works have included the improvements to Bluff Court at Spring Beach where long standing stormwater issues have been resolved with the installation of kerb and channel.



Coles Bay Hall Annex project is progressing well with inground plumbing complete, slab down and framing well advanced. This exciting project is due for completion over the summer.



And what good is a building if those hidden facilities we all rely on aren't adequate? Not just a bark garden, under this unassuming exterior lies a new waste water treatment arrangement which replaces the disappointing raised beds, which have given community and council concern since their installation.



These facilities significantly improve the hall usability and level of service provided to the community.



Council is progressing with the water tank program in the Swansea and Dolphin Sands localities funded by the Black Summer grant program. 31 properties have taken the opportunity to improve their fire fighting capability with dedicated firefighting water tank installations. These are programmed to be complete by the end of Summer.

Caring for pets in an Emergency

Emergency planning for pets is an important part of emergency household preparations and greatly increases the likelihood of evacuating your pets to safety. There are many things pet owners can do to be prepared in the event of emergencies such as flood or bushfires.



Go to www.rspcatas.org.au in the search bar type **Ready Pet Go**, this will take you to a downloadable brochure.

**"READY,
PET GO"**
Ensuring Safety for
You and YOUR PETS
in Emergencies



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.

The current Policy is available on Council's website by searching "Dog Management Policy 2014-2019" Council has signage installed in these areas to let you know if your dog can be on or off-lead or your dog may even be prohibited, you must obey this signage.

In certain public areas your dog must be on a lead at all times these include:

- Pedestrian Walking Tracks
- Roads

- Footpaths
- 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.



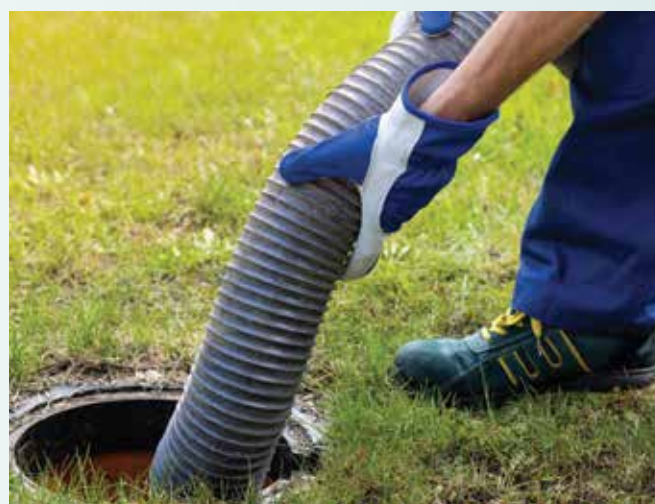
Maintaining your septic tank for a healthy environment!

Regular checks and maintenance can prevent leaks and contamination, protecting our precious water sources and ecosystems.

If your property isn't serviced by TasWater sewer mains, you likely use an onsite waste-water management system (OWMS). For the OWMS to work effectively and avoid environmental harm or health risks, it needs regular maintenance. This ensures it treats wastewater properly and helps you avoid costly repairs or replacements.

Maintaining an OWMS is not only good for the environment, but a mandatory responsibility of property owners under the *Building Act 2016*.

Contact Council to find out more about the OWMS on your property and its maintenance requirements.



Staying Safe Around Swimming Pools & Spas/Hot Tubs

We are nearing Summer and hopefully the warm weather too, lets talk about backyard swimming pools and your responsibilities.

Pool, Spa & Hot Tub owners have a legal responsibility to install a safety barrier (fencing) if your swimming pool or spa holds a depth of water of 300mm (30cm) or more.

This includes:

- In-ground, indoor (excluding bathroom spa baths), above ground, inflatable & relocatable pools.
- Wading pools holding 300mm (30cm) of water.
- Hot tubs, spas.

An owner may install the pool only after a safety barrier is

A pool or spa/hot-tub cover IS NOT a compliant barrier

installed and certified by a licensed building surveyor.

In Tasmania, installation of pool safety barriers must be performed by a licensed builder and overseen by a licensed building surveyor.

For more information visit the Consumer, Building and Occupational Services (CBOS) website, Pool safety barriers. www.cbos.tas.gov.au

In the words of Laurie Lawrence's Kids Alive, Do the Five.



"Fence the pool, shut the gate, teach your kids to swim, supervise, watch your mate, learn how to resuscitate".

Bushfire season: Preparing for the heat and the threat

As we move into bushfire season, the risk of fires affecting our communities, homes, and local environment becomes a growing concern. While bushfires are a natural part of the Australian landscape, climate change is making this season longer, more intense, and harder to predict. Rising temperatures, stronger winds, and more frequent droughts are all contributing to a greater fire risk.

The Importance of Being Prepared

Being prepared is more important than ever. Here's how you can protect your home and family:

- Create a bushfire plan: Know what to do if a fire threatens your area. Decide on evacuation routes, where you'll go, and how you'll stay in touch with family members.
- Prepare your property: Clear gutters, trim overhanging trees, and create defensible space around your home. Make sure hoses and firefighting equipment are ready to go.
- Stay informed: Download the TASALERT App (<https://alert.tas.gov.au/>) to keep informed of any current emergency warnings and incidents.
- Have an emergency kit ready: Keep supplies like food, water, medications, and important documents in an easily accessible place.

Bushfires are a harsh reminder of the impact of climate change on our daily lives. But by being prepared and taking steps to protect ourselves and our homes, we can better manage the risk and help safeguard our communities.

Let's stay vigilant, stay informed, and be ready to act when needed.

For more information on how to prepare visit the Tasmania Fire Service website (www.fire.tas.gov.au).

Celebrating and caring for Triabunna's reserves

Triabunna is not only the gateway to Maria Island – it is home to a collection of local reserves that embody the region's rich natural heritage. From native forests to coastal heathlands and wetlands, these reserves provide habitat for a wide range of species, some of which, are found nowhere else on earth. The birdlife alone is extraordinary, with vibrant species like the endangered swift parrot, and the beautiful eastern rosella frequently spotted.

The Ecological Importance of Our Reserves

As we witness changes in our environment due to climate change and other environmental pressures, the role of these reserves becomes even more important in ensuring the resilience of both the local wildlife and the community. Their continued protection is crucial, not only for the wildlife that inhabits them but for the future wellbeing of all our community.

Tasmanian sea lavender (*Limonium australe var. baudinii*) is a short-lived perennial herb endemic to southeastern Tasmania. The species is listed



as Vulnerable with fewer than 1,500 mature plants remaining, most of which are in Triabunna.

How you can help

Next time you're out in one of our local reserves, take a moment to appreciate how lucky we are to have these spaces right on our doorstep. And if you're interested in getting involved, reach out to Council (03 6256 4777) or Friends of Triabunna Reserves (0417 342 031) to find out about how you can help care for the reserves that make Triabunna such a special place to live.



Albert Morris's Telescope

Albert Morris took over the running of the Swansea General Store from his father, James Morris, in 1899. From the top storey of his impressive three-storey store in Swansea, he oversaw the safety and efficiency of his business operations with the help of his trusty telescope.

A telescope is not a usual management tool today. However, in the late 1800s, transport to farms on the east coast of Tasmania still relied on the sea and occasionally the beach. Only a coach road connected the region south to Hobart and an dirt road linked Swansea to Campbell Town and then further north via the "Old Coach Road" to Avoca.

Since the turn of the century, the Morris Store had been expanding its services to the towns of Little Swanport, Bicheno, and Coles Bay, which had sizeable populations of miners and trappers. Grocery deliveries to these areas were made using a horse and cart. As there were no roads, deliveries to Coles Bay involved driving the cart along

Nine Mile Beach; if the tides were favourable, the horses could be led through the shallow Swan River. If the tide was unsuitable, goods were ferried across in small boats.

The younger family members responsible for making these home deliveries tended to rush their tasks. Albert Morris strictly maintained standards and insisted on checking the horses upon their return. To prevent the delivery drivers from racing on the beach and cooling the horses in the surf on the way back, he would watch them using a telescope from the store's top floor. He was always prepared to take appropriate action if he discovered the horses had been driven too hard.

Albert Morris's telescope is part of the Morris Collection, a treasure trove of family history, past stock items, images, and shop fittings generously donated to the East Coast Heritage Museum.



The Morris General Store – a family legacy exhibition will have an official launch in January 2025 and can be viewed at the East Coast Heritage Museum in Swansea.

Albert Morris's telescope was manufactured between 1856 and 1858. It is made of wood (oak), brass, and glass lenses and is about 80cm long (about the length of a cricket bat) when extended. The telescope is marked as 'Improved' which means it has a tapering barrel. This style of telescope was easy to use, allowing for a more stable grip. Because of its long length, the telescope provided good, stable magnification for general use.

The telescope was made by Somalvico, a large family of English instrument makers whose craftsmanship was always of the highest standard. The Somalvico family traded 1820-1901 in London, England – the Telescope used by Albert Morris was made by Vincent Somalvico.



Need a New Bin or bin lid?

1. **Visit the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Website:** gsbc.tas.gov.au
2. **Navigate to Payments and Online Requests:** Click on this section.
3. **Find the 'Bin Requests' Form:** Scroll down until you see the form named 'Bin Requests'.
4. **Fill Out Your Details:** Complete the form with your information.
5. **Submit the Form:** Once submitted, the council will process your request.
6. **Wait for Replacement:** Allow up to 14 days for your bin to be replaced.

This form can also be used if you've just moved into a new house and need a new set of bins.



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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

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.



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 – Summer operating hours

From October 21, 2024, to May 2025, the following summer operating hours will be in effect at the Orford, Swansea, Coles Bay, and Bicheno Waste Transfer Stations:

Operating Hours:

- Monday to Friday: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
- Sunday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Closed:

- Saturday

To stay updated on any changes to these hours or closures, please visit the council website or scan the QR code.



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

📠 (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.