



Newsletter

Issue 2 | March 2022



MAYORS REPORT

Who would believe that we are two months into the new calendar year already?

Despite the challenges of COVID 19 and the direct impact that it has had on council's operations, a significant amount of capital work projects have been completed. However, there are a

number of projects which are reliant on external contactors and these contractors are fully committed at the present time. Every endeavour is being made to schedule remaining works at the earliest opportunity.

The road resealing program is scheduled to take place in March with preparatory works to be undertaken in advance. Road users are requested to take care through these work sites. The reseal program includes a number of roads across the municipality, including the Bagdad; Campania; Mangalore; Elderslie; Jericho; Oatlands, Tunbridge and Woodsdale areas.

Multi-Purpose Wheels Park Project – Kempton (Coming Soon)

Council has received confirmation from the designer/contractor that construction of the Wheels Park, to be located on the property adjoining the Kempton Recreation Ground (location of the star pickets) will commence late March 2022. Prior works will be undertaken by Council in terms of site excavation and preparation and levelling etc. Following completion of the park, construction the 'off-lead' dog areas, which are adjacent to the wheels park, will be progressed.

2019/20 Black Summer Bushfires Grants Program

As we know Australia is prone to natural disasters such as droughts, bushfires, floods, cyclones and storms. The science tells us that longer, hotter, drier summers, and more extreme weather are here to stay. We can never disaster-proof our patch but the Australian Government's, National Recovery and Resilience Agency is working alongside communities across Australia to ensure we are all better prepared for future disasters.

As part of its support to communities, the Agency sought submissions from organisations across Australia under the 2019/20 Black Summer Bushfires Grant Program. There were only five local government areas in Tasmania that were eligible to apply and Southern Midlands was one of those Council areas. Southern Midlands applied for a grant of \$300 to recycle and treat the water from the Oatlands Aquatic Centre through a recovery facility in William Street Oatlands. The backwash water from the Aquatic Centre equates to 32,000 litres every seven to ten days.

Additionally the Pool will be fully drained every eight years for maintenance. The water will be stored in six, 90,000

litre tanks, being constructed by Tassie Concrete Tanks, a local Southern Midlands based Company. The recycled water will be used for firefighting purposes and for road maintenance and construction purposes.

A second Grant application from within the southern midlands council area was submitted by the Broadmarsh Elderslie Progress Association Inc., in partnership with the Southern Midlands Council. This was for \$1.55M for the redevelopment of the Broadmarsh Community Hall, to become a recovery centre in the event of further bushfires in the area. It was an amazing effort by that community to be proactive and provide a detailed and robust application for the funds.

It was very pleasing to see the release of the successful grants list during the second week of February 2022. Both of the aforementioned Projects received their full grant allocation. Congratulations goes to the Broadmarsh Elderslie Progress Association and the Council officers who played a role in the development of these submissions. The support of the National Recovery and Resilience Agency is acknowledged in providing these funds for two very worthwhile projects.

Clr Alex Green
MAYOR

St Mary's Community Cemetery Kempton Inc.

The committee have been working very hard in the background to reach the purchase price target of \$90,000 by the 20th April, 2022. In order to complete the sale from the Anglican Church the committee are seeking donations from organisations, businesses and the wider community to help make this successful. Any support you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

'RING THE BELL' total fundraising appeal of \$160,000 is required to purchase the church, legal costs, future restoration and essential maintenance on the church building.

Donations may be made directly to:

*The St Mary's Community Cemetery Kempton Inc,
Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 Account No: 187372339*

Please don't hesitate to contact the Public Officer for any information or follow us on our Facebook page St Mary's Community Cemetery Kempton Inc. or Email: John Hay johnhay@bigpond.net.au or contact John by mobile 0407 526895.

Property & Rates

Would you like to receive your property & rates notice by email?



Simply email us your name and property details

to: mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

ATTENTION ALL CAT OWNERS!**Changes to the *Cat Management Act 2009***

will come into effect on
1st March 2022

**What does this mean for
cat owners?**

- ◆ All Cats over the age of four months must be micro-chipped and desexed (some exemptions will apply)
- ◆ A person must not keep more than four cats, over the age of four months, on their property without a permit (visit the DPIPWE website for more information on how to apply for a multiple cat permit)
- ◆ Only registered breeders are permitted to breed cats in Tasmania
- ◆ Any cat that is to be sold or given away must be at least eight weeks old, desexed, microchipped, wormed and vaccinated prior to sale

Council encourages responsible ownership which includes keeping your cat contained on your property to prevent your cat killing wildlife, birdlife and roaming onto other resident's properties.

Please Note:

Council does not have an active role under the *Cat Management Act 2009* in managing and controlling cats in the Southern Midlands Local Government Area.

Information relating to responsible cat ownership is available from the following websites:

www.tassiecat.com

<https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/cat-management-in-tasmania/>

SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL



Media Release

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

New completion date for the Oatlands Aquatic Centre

There is a revised completion date of around the end of July for the new Oatlands Aquatic Centre.

The General Manager, Tim Kirkwood, says the extra time is needed as a result of impacts from COVID 19 as well as a minor issue to do with the concrete finish in the main pool.

The community will be updated on the official opening date as soon as critical milestones are reached in coming weeks.

"It has been well publicised that the impact of a booming building sector in Tasmania has put a strain on getting labour as well as building supplies, and we have been caught up in this," Mr Kirkwood said.

"Our award-winning Tasmanian building contractor Vos Constructions says it needs more time to complete the job to the high standard that it and the community expects," he said.

Brent Wilcox, Vos Constructions Northern Construction Manager, says the delays resulting from the resource shortage across the industry have been a real challenge and had the greatest impact on program for this project.

"This has been an issue across all of our jobs in the last 12 months," Mr Wilcox said.

Construction started February last year. When completed, the Aquatic Centre will open year round.

Mayor Alex Green says he understands the valid reasons behind the delay and thanked the community for its patience.

"This is a short delay in tough times brought about by COVID principally and I ask the community to wait that bit longer for their aquatic centre. It will certainly be worth the wait," he said.

Further information phone:

Tim Kirkwood, SMC

M 62545000 or

Brent Wilcox, Vos Constructions

M 0400 992 314

Oatlands Underground Power Project



Clr Alex Green, Mayor & Senator Claire Chandler

The latest underground power project at Oatlands has come to a completion. It has been constructed in three stages, including the Esplanade, Barrack Street and part of Mason Street.

The undergrounding of power such as this project, represents a major drawcard for potential Developers in harnessing their energies and resources to invest in Oatlands and more generally the Southern Midlands.

This project would not have been possible without the \$250,000.00 funding made available by the Australian Government. Council has provided in the order of \$115,000 towards the project which has enabled the extension of the original project scope.

The Southcentral Workforce Network Is proudly supported by



ABOUT The Southerncentral Workforce Network

Providing workforce opportunities and solutions to the community throughout the Southern Central Subregion.

The Southcentral Workforce Network (SWN) is a workforce development project operating in the Derwent Valley, Brighton, Southern Midlands and Central Highlands council areas.

Our aim is to:

1. Increase the workforce participation of local people through access to meaningful and appropriate qualifications.
2. Help local businesses better connect with employment services as well as training systems.
3. Improve productivity and business growth across the region.

We work closely with employers, industry groups, registered training organisations, local job seekers, and educators to support, train and encourage local employment from within the region. We are proudly supported by the Tasmanian Community Fund until the 30th of June 2023 and more recently the Tasmanian State Government.

The project revolves around the implementation of the strategies and initiatives recommended in the Southern Central Subregion Regional Workforce Planning Report undertaken by KPMG on behalf of the four subregion councils (Brighton, Central Highlands, Derwent Valley and Southern Midlands) and released at the end of 2017.

It encouraged greater collaboration between the region's councils, education providers training organisations, Job Actives and Industry leaders to collaborate collectively and innovatively address shared regional workforce issues. It recommended an employer services model, matching job seekers with vacancies via appropriate training.

Given the region's low socio economic profile (three of the four council areas are in the bottom five SEIFA * rankings for Tasmania, and all four in the bottom 25% in Australia), The Report concluded there is a significant potential in the region, because of social and educational disadvantage, have been unable to take advantage of the growing employment opportunities in the region.

Conversely, the report found that employers in existing and emerging industries are frustrated at not being able to find enough suitably trained and qualified local employees.

The project commenced on the 7th of September 2020 and in its first 12 months of operation assisted 138 people find employment in the region (19 traineeships / apprenticeships), held 22 training courses for community members or students in the subregion. It connected subregion schools to industry held 19 information sessions for students covering Construction, Early Learning, Career Planning, Civil Construction Trades, Agriculture / Horticulture. The project also held forty two pre-employment sessions with



Official Opening of the Southcentral Jobs Hub, Pontville

jobseekers aligned to Transition to Work, Job Active and Disability Employment Service providers.

This project is funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund for three years of the Workforce Planning Coordinator role and also the Jobs Tasmania Funding of \$1.625 for the further development of this Jobs Hub along with the very valuable service to our sub region. The four Councils are also contributing to the funding of this project, consolidating an energetic partnership that is focused on 'local jobs for local people' and 'building the capacity of the sub region'

Full Contact details : www.swntas.org

The growing threat of cumbungi

This is the best time of the year for everyone to see if the weedy introduced cumbungi has popped up on or near your property. Plants on roadsides and other public land can be reported through the Council's "Report a Weed" page on the Southern Midlands Council website, or you can phone the Landcare Office on 6254 5046 (Mondays and Tuesdays). If you've noticed any cumbungi at your place, please cut seed heads off, bag and dispose of safely. Plants can be sprayed with Roundup Biactive at 13ml/litre. More information can be found through the State Government website <https://nre.tas.gov.au>

Lake Dulverton is a priority area for cumbungi eradication and the NRM team has been hard at work removing seed heads and treating plants. Considering that all known cumbungi around the lake was controlled by February last year, it is sobering to report that a considerable number of plants have been found this year. It just goes to show how quickly weeds can invade a cleared area: dedicated efforts to keep on top of them are essential.



The Southern Midlands of Tasmania is where a blend of good old fashioned values and modern ideas co-exist. The Southern Midlands Council is a rural local government authority with approximately 3800 rateable properties and 6000 persons scattered throughout the districts.

Towns & localities include *Mangalore, Pontville, Bagdad, Broadmarsh, Elderslie, Dysart, Kempton, Melton Mowbray, Oatlands, Tunbridge, Tunnack, Parattah, Mt Seymour, Woodsdale, Levendale, Runnymede, Colebrook, Campania & Rekuna.*

CONTACT US

OATLANDS OFFICE 71 High Street, Oatlands 7120
General Managers Unit; Corporate Services, Infrastructure & Works,
Natural Resource Management, Heritage Projects.

Customer Service Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday - 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Phone: 03 6254 5000 (*Mon-Fri 8.30am - 5.00pm*)

Fax: 03 6254 5014

Email: mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Web: www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

KEMPTON OFFICE 85 Main Street, Kempton 7030

*Development & Environmental Services and
Community & Corporate Development*

Customer Service Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday - 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Phone: 03 6254 5050

Fax: 03 6254 5014

Email: mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary

345 Chauncy Vale Road, Bagdad

Phone: 03 6254 5050

Web: www.chauncyvale.com

Email: mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

WASTE TRANSFER STATION OPENING HOURS

**OATLANDS
WASTE TRANSFER STATION**

Inglewood Road, Andover
(Via Tunnack Main Road, Oatlands)

Tuesday 8.00 am - 12.00 noon

Friday 11.00 am - 3.00 pm

Saturday 8.00 am - 12.00 noon

Sunday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

**CAMPANIA
WASTE TRANSFER STATION**

Brown Mountain Road, Campania

Tuesday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Thursday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Saturday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am - 12.00 pm

**DYSART
WASTE TRANSFER STATION**

Huntingdon Tier Road, Dysart

Tuesday 1.00 pm - 5.00pm

Saturday 1.00 pm - 5.00pm

Sunday 1.00 pm - 5.00pm

Service Tasmania 71 High Street, Oatlands
Monday to Friday **11.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.**
Phone 1300 13 55 13

Southcentral Workforce Network - www.swntas.org
Part of the Tasmanian Government's Jobs Tasmania network of Regional Jobs Hubs.



Address	Phone	Email	Opening hours
Old Brighton Council Chambers 371 Brighton Rd Pontville, TAS 7030	0418 365 541	anthony.mccannon@brighton.tas.gov.au	Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm appointments preferred

COUNCILLORS

Mayor & Councillor enquiries can be directed to
Jemma Crosswell (Executive Assistant) - 6254 5004
or via contact details below

Mayor Alex Green	0429 604 153	agreen@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Deputy Mayor Edwin Batt	0400 009 471	ebatt@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Clr Tony Bantick	0419 340 157	abantick@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Clr Tony Bisdee OAM	0418 355 158	abisdee@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Clr Karen Dudgeon	0428 361 807	kdudgeon@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Clr Don Fish	6255 5157	mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au
Clr Rowena McDougall	0466 816 882	rmcdougall@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

AFTER HOURS

Council emergencies
please phone
0419 325 405

For all after hours
Water & Sewerage TasWater
emergencies
please phone **136 992**

For all after hours
Tasmanian Gas Pipeline
emergencies
please phone **1800 195 666**

For all road issues relating to
the **Midland Highway,**
Mudwalls Road or Tunnack
Main Road please phone
Dept. of State Growth
on **1300 139 933**