



Newsletter

Issue 4 | November 2020



MAYORS REPORT

What a difference 12 months can make. At this time last year I was writing concerning the introduction of a statewide fire permit period. This Spring we are enjoying arguably the best season in a generation.

The countryside has not looked this good for decades, with prolific growth of grass, pasture and crops, and spilling water storages. The rainfall events have kept Council staff busy with damage to our road and drain assets, and I would like to thank community members for their patience while our teams assess and undertake repairs across the municipality.

I understand and share people's frustration when we have had some roads washed out three times in as many months. It has been an extraordinary season with remarkable weather events.

I welcome, with caution, the State Government's gradual relaxation of travel and COVID-19 restrictions. Our tourism businesses and those employed in the tourism and hospitality industries have experienced a difficult year. The return of interstate visitors and increased intrastate movement should assist their recovery. Many other industries and sectors have also been affected, and the pandemic is by no means over. Our fruit and grape producers are highly exposed to risks surrounding COVID-19 and have had to undertake extensive modifications to their processing facilities. An outbreak among their workforces would see their whole year's production lost. It remains up to all of us to continue good hygiene practices and maintain social distancing rules.

With regard to Councils activities, everyone has certainly been busy. Our extensive capital works program continues, with a number of projects having been completed. Recent completions include the new footbridges at Chauncy Vale (supported by funding from the Australian Government Community Development Grant), Mangalore Recreation Ground Twin Arenas (supported by funding from the State Government Major Sport and Recreation Program Grant) and the Kempton Medical and Community Centre (supported by funding from the State Government Community Development Grant).

The latter is an important project, involving the modification and upgrade of a former school residence at the Kempton Primary School, and Council is in negotiation with a number of providers regarding the

delivery of health and allied services from this centre.

I am also pleased to report that the recently completed Callington Park Playground (supported by funding from the Australian Government Community Development Grant) in Oatlands is now open to the public - it is to be officially opened in December.

Public tenders for the construction of the Oatlands Aquatic Centre closed in October and Council is currently working with the Project Manager & Architect to refine some optional design elements and finalise the tender submission analysis.

In closing, I recognise this is the last Newsletter for 2020. This has been a challenging year. Everyone has been disappointed by the necessary cancellation of a number of popular community events such as the Melton Mowbray Rodeo and the Oatlands Christmas Pageant. As we approach the coming year, and as restrictions ease, I anticipate the resumption of much of our pre-COVID lives.

I take this opportunity on behalf of Council to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are all looking forward to a safer, healthier and more prosperous 2021.



Clr Alex Green
MAYOR

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

OFFICE CLOSURE (OATLANDS & KEMPTON)

Oatlands & Kempton Municipal Offices will close on Thursday, 24th December 2020 at 2.00 pm & re-open on Monday, 4th January 2021 at 9.00 am.

WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS

Campania, Dysart & Oatlands will be closed on Christmas Day & New Years Day.

GARBAGE COLLECTION

Please note if there are any changes to household garbage collection dates during this period, residents will be notified accordingly.

OATLANDS SWIMMING POOL

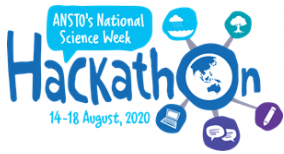
Closed on Christmas Day

~The Mayor, Councillors and Staff of the Southern Midlands Council wish all ratepayers & residents a happy and safe Christmas and New Year!~

Congratulations! to year 9 students from Oatlands District High School on recently winning the **National Science Week** award with their entry 'Oceans 8'. As part of National Science Week, more than 200 school students participated in ANSTO's first student Hackathon on a deep blue theme, which focussed on strategies to help sustain our oceans.

Students were invited to the September Council meeting to present their winning entry to Council.

Photo L-R: Kendylle Byers, Mackenzie Banks, Mayor Alex Green, Emily Sherburd, Jackson Roberts, Alicia Tatnell, Jordyn Banks and Miss Tarnith Kelly



Tunnack Streetscape Project

Council have recently planted a number of new trees and installed tree guards as part of the Tunnack Streetscape Project.

Members of the local Community have been pivotal in getting the project designed and completed, in support of Council with the overall project – we appreciate their significant contribution.



Southern Midlands Council Australia Day Award Nominations are now Open Southern Midlands Council Australia Day Awards recognize the outstanding achievement and excellence of members of our local community.

Being nominated for an Australia Day Award is great honour and is therefore a wonderful opportunity to pay tribute to someone who makes you proud to be an Australian.

All residents are invited to nominate a member of the community whose outstanding contribution is deserving of recognition. This could be a friend, family member, workmate or someone you have met while serving the community.

Awards Categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year.

Nomination forms: available from Council Offices or online at www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au/community-awards/

Nominations close: Monday, 30th November 2020 at 4.00 p.m.



SMC School Holiday Program

A fantastic group of young people recently joined in a range of scheduled, diverse activities as part of the Southern Midlands Council's School Holiday Program.



15-22 NOVEMBER 2020

LETTERS FROM KEMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Recently the principal of Kempton Primary School, Mrs Alison Williams, invited Deputy Mayor Edwin Batt to have a talk to the students at Kempton Primary about Council's role in the community and to think about what they would do if they were Councillors. The students were interested in asking about activities for children in the township and were then asked to write to Council with some of their ideas. Here are five great examples from the eyes of a young person in the Southern Midlands.

I am hoping to convince you to make a skate park in Kempton. There are lots of people that like to skate and ride bikes in Kempton and it could help people get fit. My first reason is skating and riding a bike is good for your health and it would help kids get outside and not be inside all day on their social media all day every day. Kids might even make more friends. It is a good idea because kids can be more social and will learn good life skills like starting conversations and helping people learn tricks. I do get that some people may disagree with this and believe that people would be irresponsible at the skate park and not do the right thing, but I believe that will not happen, as the kids in Kempton are well behaved.

Mya (Grade 5)

May we please have an inside pool at Kempton. It would be great because everyone would use one. I know someone will say no but I would be very HAPPY to hear if you say yes. My best friend and I would love a beautiful pool and an awesome baby pool too. It would be great to have a big water slide at one end. You are probably wondering why I am asking for a pool. It is because my mother said that in Kempton we are too far away from a pool and my dad said he can't pay for one at home. I hope this convinces you a pool would be very good for Kempton.

Phoebe (Grade 3)



I think it would be great for Kempton to have a trampoline park and it would look like this and it could go at the back of Mood Food because some people like trampolines I really want a trampoline park nearby and my sister will look after it, or one of her friends will.

Natasha (Grade 4)

I think we should get a new bike track because the track we have is small. It is just a figure 8. I think it's a good idea to have a new bike track which would be able to fit more people on it. Then we could use the smaller one for the younger kids and we could put the new track at the northern end of Kempton.

Caleb (Grade 4)

I am hoping that you can make a display or installation about the Aboriginal lands around Kempton, for the tourist to learn about this land, when they visit. I believe many people want to know and learn more about this in the area.

It would be nice if people knew more about the Aboriginal land and places. The Council could give out a map and a guide. You could also have guides to show people around. I am hoping I have convinced you. Local people would also learn more about Aboriginal special places. The Aboriginal community can help plan this with the Council.

Kiara (Grade 4)

Spring Landcare works



This is just a quick reminder to all tree planters in the Southern Midlands.

Trees planted in recent years have been enjoying the rain and are growing strongly.

A great job for spring is to check your trees and make sure they are not being 'strangled' by any tree guards! Removing the tree guards will ensure your larger trees continue to grow happily.

If you have questions, you can contact Helen Geard on 6254 5046 (Monday and Tuesday).

ATTENTION FARMERS: Southern Midlands Drought Weeds Project Grants are currently available

see website for details - www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Drought in recent years has affected the municipalities of Southern Midlands, Break O'Day, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Sorell and Tasman.

As part of the Tasmanian Government's Weed Action Fund *Drought and Weed Management Program*, farmers in these areas have

access to financial support to manage weed issues related to drought.

Southern Midlands Council will be facilitating a small grant program to assist farmers to undertake targeted weed management of species favoured by drought and post drought conditions that impact on agricultural production.

Applications will be considered on a case by case basis until funding is expended.





Callington Park Playground



Funding from the Australian Government's Community Development Grants Program allowed Council to develop an extensive playground in Oatlands. The playground at Callington Park was opened just in time for the September 2020 school holidays. Since it has opened, hundreds of people – young and old, have been enjoying it!

More works are required including installing additional seating and rubbish bins. The ground surrounding the playground will have an irrigation system installed and be completely re-sown to create a green lawn area for children to play. The lawn works have been delayed due to heavy rain but it is expected a green lawn will be ready

by the end of November 2020. The area around the playground will be 'fenced off' to protect the lawn. Everyone using the playground is being asked to park in the Barrack Street car park and follow directional signage. Unfortunately, the BBQ hut will be closed for a short period. The playground and surrounding lawn area will be 'officially' opened in mid-December 2020 after all works have been completed.

2020 SMC Community Small Grants Program

Council is once again pleased to be able to provide funds to various community organisations within the Southern Midlands to assist them with upgrades to their facilities.

The following organisations have applied for and were successful in obtaining a community small grant for 2020.

Organisation	Project	Grant amount
Campania Halls Management Committee	Commercial dishwasher for Hall	\$2404.00
Parattah Progress Association	Community BBQ at Recreation Ground	\$4847.37
Brighton Green Ponds RSL Sub-Branch	New flooring and blinds at Kempton Hall	\$3936.37
Jericho Volunteer Fire Brigade	Re-roofing project for Jericho Hall	\$5000.00
Green Ponds Progress Association	Purchase of PA/Audio equipment	\$2923.69
Tunnack Community Club	Dining Room upgrade	\$5000.00
Bagdad Community Golf Club	Mower purchase	\$4694.74
Colebrook Volunteer Fire Brigade	Fencing/flood mitigation project	\$4631.83
Bagdad Cricket Club	Storage, canteen & scoring area	\$5000.00
Campania Volunteer Fire Brigade	Installation of Raspberry Pi/Bart comms	\$1562.00

CAPEWEED

The past dry has kept many weed species at bay. Current conditions are seeing these weeds reappear with vengeance. Now is the time to look at your property and see what weeds you need to be managing. Capeweed is one of these many are having difficulty with.

- Capeweed is distributed throughout Tasmania, particularly on light sandy soils.
- Capeweed competes with pasture grass and clover, and in the home garden with herbaceous and lawn plants. Capeweed is nutritious to stock and is valued by some graziers. However, capeweed does not provide continuous ground cover over summer and leaves the ground open to erosion during this period.
- Capeweed can accumulate toxic levels of nitrate on high fertility sites (such as stock camps and stock yards), while milk from dairy cattle may also become tainted when stock eat capeweed.
- Capeweed is not declared in Tasmania.
- For information on managing capeweed visit <https://dpiwwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds/weeds-index/non-declared-weeds-index/capeweed>

Oatlands Christmas Pageant 2020

The Oatlands Bowls Club and Oatlands Christmas Pageant Committee are disappointed to advise that due to current restrictions and regulations in place for large events and gatherings relating to COVID-19, a decision has been made to **cancel** the Oatlands Christmas Pageant for 2020.

This decision was not made lightly, due to the ongoing support of all our participants and community members in previous years.

The committee thanks you for your understanding in these very challenging times and wishes everyone a Safe and Merry Christmas.





Expressions of Interest

Are invited for the use of

79 High Street, Oatlands and the Commissariat Oven



Southern Midlands Council are seeking expressions of interest for the use of the shop at 79 High Street Oatlands, with the possibility of also using the Commissariat wood-fired oven.

Expressions of interest will close at 5pm on the 16th of November 2020.

For a copy of the guideline document, please email Council at: mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

For enquiries and site inspection please contact: Brad Williams 0418 303 184

Mangalore Bus Shelter

Council, along with community members have been lobbying the Dept. of State Growth for a bus shelter to be erected on the Midland Highway at Mangalore (south of Blackbrush Road).

The Department has confirmed that a grant will be provided to Council to fabricate & erect a bus shelter at this location. This is anticipated for completion in the coming months.



Campania Bush Reserve Shared Pathway



Council will begin works for widening the 650m walking track within the Campania Bush Reserve in the coming weeks. This will also be an area for off-lead dog exercise.

The upgrade to the walking track has been made possible by the Australian Government Community Development Grants Program.

Mangalore Recreation Ground

Mangalore Twin Arenas at the Mangalore Recreation Ground project has been completed by Council (other than some minor tidy ups once the rain abates and allows equipment onto the grounds). The Clubs are yet to complete their works with the placing of the perimeter barriers around each arena.

Council acknowledges the significant contribution by the State Government under the Major Sport & Recreation Program and also VEC Engineering Pty Ltd during the upgrading of the Midland Highway through Mangalore and Bagdad. A true joint effort by Council, Government, the Community and Private Enterprise – well done to all involved.

OATLANDS SWIMMING POOL

8 Campbell Street, Oatlands

OPENING DATE
Monday, 30th November 2020
at 3.00 p.m.

Opening Hours:
During School Terms (Monday-Friday)
3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

School Holidays / Weekends /
Public Holidays
11.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Note: Pool closed on Christmas Day

COUNCIL MEETINGS

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 25th November 2020	Oatlands Ex-Services & Community Club 1 Albert Street, Oatlands	10.00 a.m. Public Question Time – 10.30 a.m
Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 9 th December 2020	Oatlands Ex-Services & Community Club 1 Albert Street, Oatlands	2.00 p.m. Public Question Time – 2.30 p.m
Annual General Meeting Wednesday, 9 th December 2020	Oatlands Ex-Services & Community Club 1 Albert Street, Oatlands	5.00 p.m.

Note: Public Copy Agenda's and Minutes can be located on Council's website

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

Service Tasmania 71 High Street, Oatlands

Monday to Friday **11.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.**

Phone 1300 13 55 13

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

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

To place items on the Community Notice Board,
contact IT Officer Nick Wilson or email
webmaster@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

COUNCILLORS

Mayor & Councillor enquiries can be directed to
Elisa Lang (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**