



# Newsletter

Issue 4 | November 2023



## *From the Mayor's Desk*

On September 15<sup>th</sup> we were pleased to have the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, accompanied by Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO, make an official visit to the Southern Midlands municipality. In the morning at Mangalore, the Governor and Professor Chalmers commenced their official visit to the municipality, which included visits to Shene Estate and Lark Distillery; Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary; Kempton Primary School; a heritage tour of Oatlands, prior to attending a Civic Reception at the Oatlands Ex-Services and Community Club; then on to the Midlands Multi-Purpose Health Centre; and then finally to Lowdina Orchard, Campania.

Whilst some do question the relevancy of Monarchy in the contemporary Australia, as Tasmania's representative of His Majesty, King Charles III, Barbara Baker does a great deal of good work, and she sees support for young people at the centre of her community role, in emphasising education, including food education and food security and we were delighted to host the Governor.

Her Excellency was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) 2021 for her eminent service to the people of Tasmania through leading contributions to the law, to the judiciary and to the administration of justice, particularly in the area of family law, to professional legal organisations, and as a mentor and role model for young women.



The Community Small Grants Program 2023 again gave council the opportunity to fund a number of small projects from community groups who are active in making our district a great place to live.

Council received notification from the state government that it intends to build a facility to detain young persons at its 20ha site in Pontville. This proposal will no doubt attract much interest.

Council's role will be to act as a Planning Authority to scrutinize the Development Application once it is lodged, at this stage Council has received no specifics about the dimensions of the planned building nor its actual location on the site. Once Council has received the Development Application and is satisfied with its format the DA will be advertised and adjoining land holders specifically notified. Thereafter there will be 14 days in which you can make representations for council to consider.

The Manager Heritage Projects, Brad Williams has developed a concept plan to see the expanded use of 73 High Street Oatlands to include a space for Performing Residencies in Southern Midlands (PRISM). This would extend the highly successful Artist in Residence space (AiRSpace) at 79 High Street. The old Oatlands School site also known as Roche Hall, which is owned by council should become an exciting performance space and foster the performing arts in Southern Midlands. The objectives of PRISM are:

- To encourage the pursuit of the performing arts in the area;
- To foster emerging performing arts;
- To utilise Council owned heritage sites;
- To promote the depiction of the area as artistic subject matter;
- To promote the arts, heritage and culture of the Southern Midlands; and
- To maximise public engagement in the performing arts.

Council is in the process of appointing a suitably qualified consultant to prepare the *Southern Midlands Community Infrastructure Plan*, which in the first instance would be the undertaking of a desk top review of the *Southern Midlands Recreation Plan 2006*. Then identify the gaps and needs for community infrastructure provision across the municipality to 2042. The *Southern Midlands Community Infrastructure Plan* will research and provide a comprehensive analysis, leading to a list of actions that Council should implement, or advocate for, on behalf of its community.

There will be a number of Community forums as well as electronic surveys over the next four months and the Community are encouraged to attend these forums and respond to electronic surveys, sharing their respective views and providing input to the Consultants during this project. For further information please refer to the Council website.

**Clr E Batt, Mayor**

## Campania Engineering Works



Following public consultation, which started last year in respect to the proposed footpaths and kerbs in Campania, works at the junction of Reeve Street and Climie Street, have been progressed, through the construction phase, to the near completion phase of this particular section, with pavement stabilisation and sealing in Climie Street yet to be completed. We are scheduling more works in respect of the carpark and also footpaths further towards the southern entrance to Campania. The Bus Stop in front of the Campania Hall will be completed hopefully over the next three to six months, depending on a State Government Grant that is pending.



## Fire Hazards – Prepare Bushfire- Ready Neighborhoods

Owners & occupiers of properties in the Southern Midlands Municipality are reminded with the fire season fast approaching **it is now time to assess your property and clear any potential fire hazards.**

Inspections of properties are underway, and where considered necessary, Fire Abatement Notices will be issued for the clearing of the fire hazards in accordance with the *Local Government 1993*.

Failure to comply with a Fire Hazard Abatement Notice may result in council undertaking the work at the property owner's expense and fines may apply. Council seeks the co-operation of residents in ensuring that their property does not constitute a fire risk during the coming months.

For further information: contact Council on 6254 5050 or email [mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](mailto:mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au) or Tasmania Fire Service

Prepare your home – create a defensible space <https://www.fire.tas.gov.au/Show?pageId=colPrepare>

Bushfire Why Risk It ? Do your 5 MINUTE Bushfire Plan now <https://www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/>



## Construction Works in Campania

Council received a grant through the Tasmania Government of \$200,000 under the Vulnerable Road Users Program, with the scope of design and construction of kerb/channel and footpaths at the junction of Reeve Street, and Climie Street. These works are designed to link up on the Western side to the footpath from the railway line to Water Lane. The footpath crossing at the railway is a missing link at this point in time and we are waiting on TasRail to provide details of their requirements for footpaths crossing rail corridors. We understand that these works will cost in the order of \$40,000 and will be subject to a grant application. Heading South from the Reeve Street and Climie Street junction the current project stops at the northern end of Flour Mill Park. The next stages of the project were detailed in the August 2023 Council newsletter. These projects rely on grant funding which are targeted for the first part of 2024.

## Keep your children safe - safety barriers save lives!

Pools and spas which MUST have a barrier

The requirement to install pool safety barriers applies to:

- Pools which are:
- in-ground
- indoor (excluding bathroom spa-baths)
- above ground
- inflatable and relocatable
- Wading pools holding 300mm (30cm) of water
- Hot tubs/spas



## Inflatable and relocatable pools

Inflatable and relocatable pools which hold a depth of water of 300mm (30cm) or



more **must be enclosed by a compliant barrier.**

An owner may install the pool only **after** a safety barrier is installed and checked by a licensed building surveyor.

- Maintaining a pool safety barrier is the owner's responsibility.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au/topics/products-services/safety/pool-safety-barriers>

## ***The Telstra 3G network is closing!***

Telstra is evolving its mobile network to meet the demand for mobile data and future innovation, so they are switching off their 3G network on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 with 4G and 5G (where active) available instead. Here are some commonly asked questions about the 3G closure:

### ***Why is Telstra closing its network?***

When 3G launched in 2006, people used mobile phones for calls, texting and accessing basic information online.

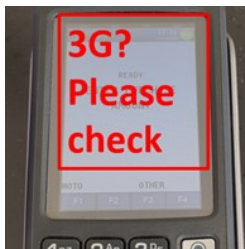
Today, demand for mobile data is growing around 30 percent each year. As Telstra's technology and use cases change, you need a network that's fit for today and the future.

Once Telstra has closed the 3G network, it will repurpose the spectrum to expand the 5G network. By making this change, Telstra customers will enjoy a much better overall experience.

Telstra started saying goodbye to 3G back in October 2019 – almost 5 years ago – to make sure customers had enough time to understand what changes they need to make. Telstra is upgrading areas that only have 3G coverage to ensure these areas have the same or better 4G coverage available by 30 June 2024.

### ***Will you match existing 3G coverage with 4G before you switch off 3G?***

Yes. Telstra is working hard to upgrade areas to ensure you will have the same or better 4G coverage before the 3G network is switched off.



### ***What do I need to do?***

If you have a device that is only able to connect to 3G, that device will no longer be able to connect after the closure date. This includes customers using 3G mobile, IoT (internet of things), and network extension devices, some EFTPOS machines and antenna's that operate on the 3G network only.

If you're using a device to monitor health such as medical alarms, securing or other remote safety situations and they're currently using the 3G 2100MHz layer, they will stop working on 30 June 2024.

### ***What does that mean for the Southern Midlands community?***

Improving connectivity is a priority for the Southern Midlands Council and we are working with Telstra to ensure ongoing investment is made in our community. There are 17 Telstra towers in the Southern Midlands with Mangalore tower benefiting from 5G. Please reach out to Telstra if you have any questions relating to the closure of the 3G network via [telstra.com/3g-closure](http://telstra.com/3g-closure), calling us on 13 22 00 (consumer), 132 000 (business) via the MyTelstra app or in store.

## **People Ask**

### **How big of a shed can I build without a permit in Tasmania?**

There is a fact sheet available: Building a Shed in Tasmania on the CBOS web site Fact Sheet– Sheds-and similar structures.

### **Building Work**

You can build small structures no bigger than 18m<sup>2</sup>, or erect a prefabricated shed **up to 36m<sup>2</sup>** (this means factory-made components or units are transported and assembled on-site to form the complete building) without a Building Permit. (conditions apply)

### **Planning**

There is no connection between building approvals and planning approvals. Owners are to ensure that the proposed Low Risk Work, and other type either does not require a Planning Approval, or that they have been granted a planning permit before construction.

## **Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program Round Two 2023**



The community is advised that Council's Community Small Grants Program in September 2023 was undersubscribed and Council has decided to run a Round Two which opens on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and closes at 4.00pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The Community Grants program recognises the important role our community groups and sporting clubs play in connecting people and positively shaping our region. The program has been established to support projects, programs and activities that benefit the residents of the Southern Midlands local government area.

Grant application forms and guidelines will be available on Council's website

[www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](http://www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au) or hard copies can be obtained by calling into the Council's Oatlands (71 High Street) or Kempton (85 Main Street) offices during business hours from the 4 October 2023. For further information contact Andrew Benson on 62545050 or via email [abenson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](mailto:abenson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au).

- **Congratulations to the successful Applicants in Round One (September 2023).**
- Bagdad Cricket Club for club rooms building refurbishment \$3,000.
- Bagdad Ladies Friendship Group for craft sessions \$3,000.
- Families Tasmania for Creative expression sessions \$2,450.
- Oatlands Community Association for wicker planting system kits \$2,947.
- ReGeneration for group session furniture \$2,543.
- Tunnack Community Club for upgrading staff work area \$3,000.
- Tunnack Volunteer Fire Brigade for water tank on site \$2,671
- Woodsdale Hall Committee for Hall maintenance \$3,000.

**Please Note that successful Applicants from the September 2023 Program will not be eligible to apply in Round Two 2023**

From an historical perspective it is interesting to note that since the inception of the Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program in 2007, **Council have paid out to Community Groups through this Program \$427,697.00, supporting \$1,326,534.00 worth of Community Projects.**

It is acknowledged that Council has made a significant contribution to the Southern Midlands Community through this Program.

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 ratable 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](mailto:mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

**Web:** [www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](http://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](mailto:mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

**Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary**

345 Chauncy Vale Road, Bagdad

**Phone:** 03 6254 5050

**Web:** [www.chauncyvale.com](http://www.chauncyvale.com)

**Email:** [mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](mailto:mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

**OATLANDS AQUATIC CENTRE 70 High Street Oatlands**

**Phone:** 6254 5024

**Email:** [oac@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](mailto:oac@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

**Opening Hours:**

Monday—Friday 7.00 a.m.—7.00 p.m.

Sat 9.00 a.m.—5.00 p.m. Sunday 10.00 a.m.—5.00 p.m.

## 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 - 5.00 pm

Saturday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Sunday 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

### Service Tasmania

71 High Street, Oatlands

**Phone 1300 13 55 13**

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

## COUNCILLORS—2023

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

<b>Mayor Edwin Batt</b>	0400 009 471	<a href="mailto:ebatt@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">ebatt@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Deputy Mayor Karen Dudgeon</b>	0428 361 807	<a href="mailto:kdudgeon@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">kdudgeon@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Clr Tony Bisdee OAM</b>	0418 355 158	<a href="mailto:abisdee@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">abisdee@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Clr Rowena McDougall</b>	0466 816 882	<a href="mailto:rmcdougall@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">rmcdougall@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Clr Don Fish</b>	03 6255 5157	<a href="mailto:mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Clr Donna Blackwell</b>	0408 146 754	<a href="mailto:dblackwell@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">dblackwell@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>
<b>Clr Fraser Miller</b>	0497 611 777	<a href="mailto:fmiller@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au">fmiller@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au</a>

## 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**