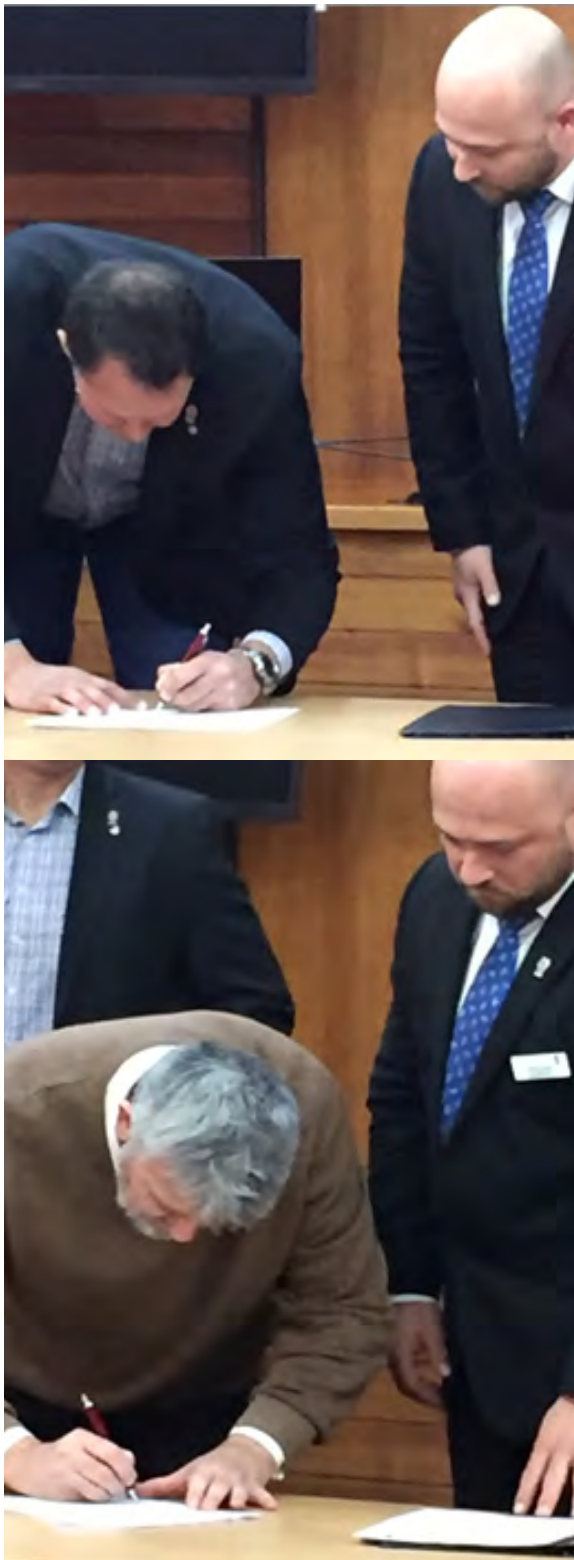




GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

16-18 Anne Street George Town 7253 | (03) 6382 8800 | council@georgetown.tas.gov.au



NEW MAYOR & COUNCILLOR FOR GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

Cr Greg Kieser was the successful candidate at the George Town Council Mayor by-election. Peter Parkes was also successful, he will be replacing the vacant Councillor position that was created when incumbent Cr Bridget Archer resigned to take up office as Federal Member for Bass.

Cr Kieser acknowledged Cr Tim Harris and Cr Chris Barraclough in their campaigns for mayor adding “both Cr Harris and Cr Barraclough are passionate about their local communities, I commend them on their efforts and look forward to working with them and all Councillors as a team united in delivering a positive future for our community”

Cr Greg Kieser was sworn in as George Town Council's 8th Mayor on July 30th 2019.

On the day, Mayor Kieser expressed he is very keen to progress the tourism opportunities for the municipality stating that “moving forward we need to build a diversified economy, and be opportunistic by leveraging off a growing Tasmanian tourism market to generate economic growth and employment, that will provide a bright future for our community, and the next generation”.



Inside this Issue

Featuring

From the Mayor 3

From the General Manager 4

Updates 6

Building Surveying Firm Closes

New Bridge for Weymouth

Words on Waste

Roads & Infrastructure Updates 7

Parks & Open Spaces 8

George Town Council Wins National Award 9

**Opening of Regent Square Playground &
YMCA Skate Parks Leagues 10**

Community News 11



FROM THE MAYOR

I begin my first community newsletter article as your Mayor by saying a big thank you to all who participated in the recent by-elections and for instilling your confidence in me to lead Council over the next few years. I stood for mayor on the platform of having a keen desire to progress the tourism opportunities for the municipality. I believe that through building a diversified economy and leveraging off a growing Tasmanian tourism market we can generate economic growth and greater employment opportunities that will provide for a bright future for our community, and the next generation.

I congratulate and welcome Cr Peter Parkes who returns to the fold adding further experience to our dynamic and committed team of councillors. It was very pleasing to see eleven candidates vying for the vacant councillor position also. This demonstrates to me that we have many among our community who are proud, passionate and willing to take a lead in shaping our future

I very much look forward to consulting with you and our broader community on a number of exciting projects over the course of the 2019/2020 financial year and beyond.

Already I have met with residents in outlying communities, representatives of our light and heavy industries and the local business community to better understand the challenges and opportunities many of our diverse community face. While it is only early days, I am already gaining a higher appreciation of the complexity of issues that present our community and I am committed to listen and to learn more and look forward to meeting many more of you over the coming weeks and months ahead.



Meet Your Councillors



Cr Harris
Deputy Mayor



Cr Parkes



Cr Michieletto



Cr Dawson



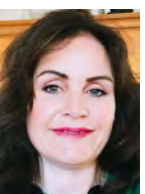
Cr Barwick



Cr Barraclough



Cr Mason



Cr Brooks

I am keen to ensure that Council and staff as a collective, enhance its engagement with stakeholders. I am pleased to announce that a draft of Council's first Community Consultation Framework will be published for public comment later this month, however I trust the community is already seeing a higher level of engagement through its involvement on projects such as the Regent Square Redevelopment. I would like to thank all of you who contribute to the consultation process and take this opportunity to recognise the work of the Regent Square Reference Group in developing the draft Regent Square Master Plan to date.

Later this month Council will look to endorse its 2019/2020 Annual Plan which contains a number of key strategic objectives to be accomplished over the ensuing 12 months that I look forward to announcing over the coming weeks.

Supported by a budget of approximately \$12M, the Annual Plan will be delivered and still achieve an end of year surplus in the order of approximately \$100k. Perhaps the project I'm most excited about is the construction of the George Town Mountain Bike Trail. Pending receipt of funding from the Commonwealth, which I'm confident will not be too far away, the community can expect to receive regular updates from myself, Council and staff on the progress of what will be an amazing asset for our community and visitors alike.

I thank you for your support and look forward to a prosperous future for our municipality

Greg Kieser
Mayor

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



If this is winter in the Tamar bring it on!

Almost daily I am reminded of how lucky we are to live where we do. Every dusk brings a unique and spectacular sunset that produces colour and light that the impressionist artists would have envied. Frosty mornings have generally been followed by sunny days and chilly nights perfect for outdoor activities and relaxing by the fire at night. When our kids aren't engaged in local sports or other activities we have explored the landscapes and local environment by strolling along the beach, bushwalking and fishing and of course viewing the penguins which is obligatory to newcomers and visitors alike. My family and I have visited most of our rural hamlets including Bell Buoy Beach, Lulworth, Beechford, Weymouth, Bellingham, Pipers River, Hillwood and Lefroy, and are genuinely amazed at the distinct offerings of each of these picturesque communities. We really do have some hidden treasures.

On the work front, it has been an action packed few months since I last wrote in the Community Newsletter. We have seen the appointment of Cr Greg Kieser to mayor and the return of Cr Peter Parkes following the by-election, which was triggered by the resignation as mayor and councillor from Bridget Archer who successfully contested the seat of Bass in the recent federal elections. I thank Bridget for her guidance and leadership during her time as mayor and am confident that she will continue to deliver great outcomes for our region in her new capacity.

Since I last wrote, we have welcomed Meagan Bennet and Brent Daire to the organisation taking up two new key roles being the Marketing and Engagement Business Partner and People and Performance Business Partner respectively. Both Meagan and Brent come well qualified and experienced.

Meagan holds a Bachelor of Business in Applied Economics & Marketing and an Executive Certificate in Event Management. Meagan's extensive body of work has been recognised through multiple awards across a variety industries including advertising, marketing, television and event management. Meagan has held senior management roles at Woolworths, Gunns Retail, Win Television, AT&M Advertising, St Michaels Association, Walker Designs and the highly successful Festivale.

Brent was a Cardon International Scholar at the Romney Institute of Public Service and Ethics and holds a number of qualifications including Master of Public Administration, Master of Arts in Strategy & Management, Graduate Certificate in Business and a Diploma of Military Leadership. Brent has held a number of senior roles in

Australia and abroad including in the Australian Army, Melbourne Mission, Brigham University (USA), Multi-Cap Tasmania and Cornerstone Youth Services. Brent is also a George Town resident who actively participates in a number of community groups.

Through the appointment of these two roles the community can expect to see a greater media profile of Council and the municipality, greater community engagement and further transparency on organisational performance and compliance.

I am also pleased to welcome another local resident to the organisation who we have engaged through local employment agency KEEN Partners as a Horticultural trainee.

I thank the community in participating in the budget process with many of the numerous submissions having been adopted by Council. Residents will already note improvements to our streetscapes through the planting of avenue trees along Macquarie Street, which together with the appointment of a trainee was an initiative of the 2019/2020 budget.

The 2019/2020 year will certainly be a challenging one with so much to deliver. I am however confident that we will deliver on an ambitious capital works program which includes significant works at the Hillwood and George Town sports facilities, the replacement of Back Creek Bridge, the upgrade of Dalrymple Road Bridge (East Arm section), continued accessibility improvements to Council buildings and funding pending, the commencement of the mountain bike trail and the Regent Square Redevelopment which will see stage two of the playground installations and more. And I thank in advance all those who have or will contribute to draft Regent Square Master Plan and in particular I thank the tireless

efforts of the Regent Square Reference Group who have developed the draft to date.

The months ahead also see the development of a number of key strategies including municipal branding, collation of our cultural, natural and heritage assets, development of the George Town Precinct Structure Plan, review of the Hillwood Structure Plan and the development of concept plans for the Macquarie Street precinct and the former Surf Life Saving Club site at East Beach, to name a few

In discussing budgets and challenges it would be remiss not to acknowledge the financial assistance Council receives through recurrent and non-recurrent grants from both the federal and state governments.

Without this assistance councils across Australia would not be able to deliver the numerous services they do for their communities.

One of the many services in which George Town Council provides is Building Services. Residents and builders will have seen recent media on the closure of Launceston based building surveying service providers. We encourage anyone affected to contact our building services team to determine if Council can assist to ensure your build is not delayed.

Finally, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our staff who continue to serve with a genuine commitment to ensure a greater quality of life for the people of our community. Our team continues to explore ways in which it can deliver quality services in the most efficient means that meet or exceed customer expectations. As we embark on a year that aims to deliver a surplus of approximately \$100k, it is worthy of mention that Council delivered its 2018/2019 programs achieving a surplus of approximately \$400k. My appreciation goes out to all the current and former staff who made this achievement possible. Outstanding effort!

Also a friendly reminder that my team and I are more than happy to meet with community members to discuss any matter. Please call into our offices or phone our friendly customer service team to arrange an appointment.



Shane Power
General Manager



Building Surveying Firm Closes

The impact on local property owners and builders

The recent closure of a local northern building surveying company has resulted in some owners and builders of current building projects finding themselves without a building surveyor at short notice.

Most of these jobs have now been sorted, thanks to the efforts of staff from the closing company, other building surveyors, Council's Permit Authority staff, property owners and their builders.

If you have not yet appointed a new building surveyor for your works – now is the time to contact either a building surveyor or **Council Permit Authority staff** to arrange an appointment. If you have been affected by these circumstances you should have received documentation from both the company in question, and Council's Permit Authority.

George Town Council Building Department



New Bridge for Weymouth Farm Road



A new concrete bridge for Weymouth Farm Road given a successful grant application under the Federal Government's Timber Bridge Renewal Program 2019/2020.

Earlier this year Council submitted an application for a grant to upgrade the bridge as the existing structure has been steadily approaching the need of an upgrade. Council will be receiving \$105,000 from the Federal Government, whilst the total project will cost \$210,000, with Council funding the balance.

The exiting timber bridge will be replaced with a new concrete structure, with works scheduled to commence in the latter months of this year.

Council will continue to explore all options for a viable and sustainable waste minimisation program and has recently implemented a number of initiatives at George Town waste transfer station to assist with the separation of recyclable waste products.

Some of the waste transfer charges have been reduced with other items now attracting no fee as part of a review in the 2019/20 budget process.

Council is pleased to announce an addition to its fleet, a new garbage truck to service retail and open space areas. We will be conducting a competition to create a design for the barrel of the truck in the coming months. Make sure you **Follow us on Facebook** for all the details.

Applications are now open for Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation Grants Program. With \$70,000 allocated to the 2019/20 Round.

The NTWMG Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation Grants Program will allocate funds to eligible organisations in Northern Tasmania that are working towards decreasing the amount of waste sent to landfill

Rethink Waste
TASMANIA



from core activities and/or increasing the recovery of resources from waste that would otherwise be lost to landfill.

For more information: <http://rethinkwaste.com.au>
Applications Close: 24th September 2019 at 3pm

Roads & Infrastructure Updates

Roads

Dalrymple Road

The re-construction of the South of East Arm Road section has been completed.

Design plans are currently underway to replace and upgrade the bridge from single to dual lanes.

The proposed completion is Jan-Feb 2020

Hillwood & Leam Roads Upgrades

A section of Hillwood and Leam Roads has been completed. Currently planning has been undertaken to continue re-construction works on Hillwood Road towards the Berry Farm.

Gerzallia Drive

Re-construction works will commence prior to December 2019

Franklin Street

The re-surfacing works are 95% complete.

The roundabout works are underway and expected to be completed in October 2019.

Industry Road

The re-construction works are 95% complete.

Design plans near completion to widen the two single lane bridges to dual lanes.

The expected completion is Nov-Dec 2019.

Images below.



Soldier Settlement Road

The re-construction works have been completed. Images below.



Parks & Open Spaces

Windmill Point BBQ Area & toilet

Since the completion of the BBQ area and toilet we have noticed that this area has been well utilised and serving as a valuable asset to our community.

George Town Sports Complex

Currently possibilities are being explored in relation to the construction of new male and female toilet and shower facilities under the State Government funding agreement for Leveling of the Playing Fields.

Council will be preparing and coordinating the installation of an inground automated irrigation system in the the current 2019/20 fiscal year.

Hillwood Oval

As per the Council's 2019/20 budget the substandard boundary fence at the Hillwood oval will be replaced for the full perimeter to align with current AFL standards. It is due for completion by December 2019.



Regent Square Playground

Regent Square playground, stage one of the redevelopment will be completed ready for the official opening on the 31st August 2019. See Page 10 for details on all the "Official Launch" and activities on the day.



George Town Council Wins National Award

Contributing to Regional Growth

Sponsored by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development

George Town Council, TAS
Bell Bay Initiative



George Town Council has been recognised for its role in the Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone at the Australian Governments 2019 National Awards for Local Government, receiving the award for Contributing to Regional Growth.

What does this award mean for George Town Council, "It has put George Town municipality back on the national stage and it is knowing what we listened and invested our time and resources in, the Bell Bay Advance Manufacturing Zone (BBAMZ), has been recognised nationally by our peers as a world class initiative. Developing a business culture that will continue to support the economy not only in our region, but our state. It is the collaboration between industry, business and the three tiers of government we hope will inspire other local governments to engage in a similar framework to develop strong economic foundations for future generations. Understanding that supply, demand and technology are the key drivers in all economies and it is our role as a key community leader to ensure there is recurrent investment, employment, training and reskilling opportunities for the ongoing prosperity of our municipality," said General Manager, Shane Power of George Town Council.

Council wishes to thank the Office of Coordinator General, RDA Tasmania and each of the industry representatives that comprise the Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone sub-committee and a special thanks to Susie Bower, Project Officer. George Town Council's Acting Mayor Cr Tim Harris said "this award is recognition of the great work of forward thinking leaders from each level of government and industry, collaborating to secure a prosperous future for the George Town community"

If you would like to learn more about the world class Bell Bay Industrial Precinct and port, or the exciting initiatives underway please contact council offices



Community News - For your Diary



**REGENT SQUARE
PLAYGROUND
OPENING + YMCA
TASMANIAN
SKATE PARK
LEAGUES EVENT**

**SATURDAY 31 AUGUST
10.45am - 4pm**

COME ALONG TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF
THE REGENT SQUARE PLAYGROUND STAGE ONE
BY BRIDGET ARCHER MP

YMCA LAUNCESTON ACTIVITIES INCLUDES
FREE FACE PAINTING / BUBBLE BALLS / MAZE AND MORE!
PLUS FOOD & BEVERAGE VANS



**SPL SKATE
COMPETITION** 

FOR ENROLMENTS GO TO SKATEPARKLEAGUES.COM/ENROLL

SPL / **SKATE
PARK
LEAGUES**  

Community News - For your Diary



Halloween

When: Saturday, 2nd of November

Where: LCA Shed

Who: The Lulworth Community Association



"ART WORKS - Skylines"

Jim Mooney Gallery, Memorial Hall ... Fri 8 Nov - Fri 15 Nov 2019

ATTENTION ALL ARTISTS

George Town Council Area

You are invited to participate in this year's local art exhibition

ENTRIES INSPIRED BY THE TOPIC "Skylines"

One piece of work of any medium

VIEWERS' CHOICE PRIZE

ENTRIES CLOSE TUES 8 OCT 2018

REGISTRATION FORMS have all the details and are available from:

George Town Watch House and Tamar FM

or contact: Secretary, Susan Uncle 0400 580 102
Email: tighthousera@yahoo.com.au

The Great Northern Coastal Walk

When: Saturday, 2nd of November

Time: 9.30am - 3.00pm

We invite the coastal community groups to join us for a day of shared learning and building community.

Enjoy walking 15km of spectacular northern coastline and removing marine debris as we go. We'll take time to share stories and hear from local experts.



Ainslie Complex Auxiliary Morning Tea

When: Thursday 5th September

Where: Memorial Hall

Time: 10am -12pm

Entry: \$5.00

Raffles, Luck Door Prize & Trade table



Community News - For your Diary



GEORGE TOWN LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB NEEDS YOU!!

Shake off the winter woolies and join us for some summer family fitness and fun.

Join us for a
FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
for our first training session of the season at:

South George Town Primary School oval
Monday 9TH September
4:30 – 5:30 pm

We welcome children
From the ages of 3 (tiny tots) through to 15
of ANY ability and level

All enquires welcome to Tanya: 0439 703 848

Find us on Facebook - George Town Little Athletic Club



Catch it in the Catchment



Restore our beautiful Tamar estuary - Sunday, 10th November 2019

The event, supported by Clean Up Australia Day.

When: Sunday, 10th November

Time: 9am – 12pm

We invite community groups, sporting groups, schools, businesses and individuals to help restore our beautiful Tamar estuary.

For More Information

Catch it in the Catchment Coordinator
e: catchitinthecatchment@gmail.com



Catch it in the Catchment