

NEWSLETTER





ABN 68 300 116 092

GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

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 **Progressive**

 **Prosperous**

 **Proud**

MAY 2024

Message from the Mayor

Cr Greg Kieser



As the seasons transition and we embrace cooler days and nights, I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all our residents. Once again, it is with great joy that I reflect upon the events and projects that have occurred in our community in the past few months.

Last month, our inaugural George Town Youth Week took centre stage, and what a resounding success! From the thrills of the YMCA Skate Park League competition to the energetic beats of Rock Challenge Tasmania, Regent Square buzzed with youthful energy and creativity. The George Town Youth Impact Council deserves a round of applause for their stellar coordination, from the vision of the 2023 Seagulls to Chips program.



After being closed to the public for many years, I am excited to see the Hillwood Rock Climbing Area reopened. This popular rock climbing site is arguably the best sport climbing crag in Tasmania. Council worked with the landowner to lease the site and provide appropriate infrastructure so users can safely park off the road without impacting the neighbouring farmland. It's wonderful that we can now offer our community another great adventure opportunity.

In recent months, Council has been deeply engaged in community consultations, drop-in sessions, and workshops where the community had the opportunity to discuss and

participate in the following topics and look forward to sharing the outcomes in the coming months:

- Local Heritage Study
- Township Character Plans
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Review of the 2020 – 2030 Community Strategic Plan
- Live Well Live Long Program

Community participation helps shape our direction, and I encourage continued participation in future sessions as we collectively pave the way forward.

In April, we launched the inaugural Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize. This is a new initiative aimed at celebrating local talent and cultural diversity in the George Town municipality. We invite artists from our community to showcase their work, reflecting our area's rich array of artistic expression. Entries are still open and closing on Sunday, 19th of May, with the exhibition and winners announced on Friday, 21st of June. Full details will be available on the George Town Council website.

With National Volunteer Week on the horizon, I want to express heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers for their unwavering dedication and the profound impact they have on our community. If you haven't already, there's still time to nominate and honour a deserving volunteer for the George Town Volunteer of the Year Awards. Visit the George Town Council website for more details.

Join me and our General Manager, Shane Power, as we hit the road once more for our annual roadshow across the municipality. It's an opportunity to unveil upcoming projects, share initiatives, and engage in productive dialogue with you, our valued residents.

I take immense pride in leading such a vibrant and engaged community. Your involvement and dedication make the George Town municipality a place we are proud to call home. Here's to the next few months brimming with unity, growth, and shared achievements.



Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize

The inaugural Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize is a new initiative aimed at celebrating local talent and cultural diversity in George Town and its surroundings. We are inviting artists from our community to showcase their work, reflecting the rich array of artistic expression in our area. More than just an exhibition, the Kinimathatakinta/George Town Art Prize is a platform for connection and dialogue, offering opportunities for artists and residents to come together and appreciate the creativity that thrives in our region.

Two of the winning artworks will become a prized addition to the George Town Council Art Collection, enjoying prominent display across various council spaces. Join us as we launch this exciting venture and celebrate the artists who enrich our community with their talent and vision.

Don't let this chance pass by to be part of George Town's thriving arts community. Submit your application before the deadline on Sunday, May 19th.

[For further information and an entry form please visit our website.](#)



SPONSORED BY: **RioTinto** | **BELL BAY ALUMINIUM**

George Town Council, Bell Bay Aluminium, Bridget Archer MP - Federal Member for Bass & Greg Dawson

Roadshows

Join us, alongside our General Manager, Mayor and Councillors, as we embark on our annual roadshow across the municipality this May. It's a chance to unveil exciting upcoming projects, share innovative initiatives, and foster meaningful dialogue with our cherished residents. Everyone is welcome to attend as we journey through Hillwood, Pipers River, Weymouth, George Town, Bellingham, Lulworth, and Beechford.

Your participation is crucial as we work together to shape the future of our community.

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Hillwood	Wednesday 15th of May	6:00pm	Hillwood Hall
Pipers River	Saturday 18th of May	2:00pm	Pipers River Fire Station, School Road
Weymouth	Saturday 18th of May	11:00am	Weymouth Hall
George Town	Monday 20th of May	6:00pm	George Town Memorial Hall
Bellingham	Saturday 25th of May	10:00am	Bellingham Hall
Lulworth	Saturday 25th of May	1:00pm	Community Shed
Beechford	Saturday 25th of May	4:30pm	Beechford Hub



Tree Planting

Council workers have been burning the midnight oil recently, planting new street trees in George Town.

Over two nights, the trees and their protective surrounds found new homes in Macquarie and Anne Streets.

9 trees in total have been planted, with the Japanese Elm trees taking centre stage along the median strip in Macquarie Street.

While the environmental benefits of trees are commonly known, did you know that trees have been shown to provide economic and health benefits and also slow down average driving speeds?

Trees also play a vital role in creating vibrant towns and connecting people with the space around them.

The trees will be carefully maintained and cared for by our Parks & Gardens team.

National Volunteer Week

20 - 26 May 2024

Something for Everyone

National 20-26 MAY 2024
Volunteer
Something for Everyone Week

National Volunteer Week 2024 recognises the diverse passions and talents everyone brings to the act of volunteering.

Do you know someone who gives their time to make our community a better place?

Perhaps they run the canteen or coach at your sports club, operate community transport, offer their skills to tutor others, care for the environment, assist with emergency services, or assist in the day to day operations of a charity or organisation: whether that's tourism, heritage, and the arts; administration; maintenance; or community services.

Recognise these people by nominating them and let us acknowledge and celebrate their contributions to our community!

Further information and nomination forms are available via our website.

AWARD CEREMONY

On Friday 24th of May, join us as we honour and celebrate the incredible contributions our local volunteers have made to our community who were nominated by the community.

Let's come together to applaud their invaluable efforts and the positive impact they've made on our community.

WHEN: Friday 24th of May 2024

TIME: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

WHERE: George Town Memorial Hall



Book via the QR or visit Council's website.

Drought Relief Program

Tasmanian farmers and primary producers will have more time to access financial assistance after the Tasmanian Government has extended the grant program.

In recognition of the extended dry seasonal conditions now impacting a large portion of the state, the Tasmanian Government extends support to farmers on mainland Tasmania with the opening of this scheme - the *Mainland Tasmania – Livestock Producers – Seasonal Conditions Scheme*.

This scheme will provide one-off payments of up to \$5,000 to eligible farm businesses.

To be eligible, farm businesses will need

to demonstrate that they have a primary production livestock business on mainland Tasmania that has been severely impacted by extended abnormally dry conditions. Applicants must also demonstrate that the farm business has experienced, or expects to experience, significant financial impact, causing some hardship, due to the extended dry conditions.

Closing date: 11pm Sunday 30 June (or until program funding is exhausted, whichever occurs the earliest).

For more information please visit: https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/grants_and_funding_opportunities

National Road Safety Week 2024 - 5-12 May



Every year, approximately 1,200 people are killed and another 40,000+ are seriously injured on Australian roads. Traffic injury is the biggest killer of Australian children under 15 and the second-biggest killer of all Australians aged between 15 and 24. These numbers are growing every year but are preventable if we choose to Drive So Others Survive!

National Road Safety Week is an annual initiative from the Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) Group, partnering road safety organisations and Government. The week highlights the impact of road trauma and ways to reduce it.

Take the pledge to drive so others survive.

<https://roadsafetyweek.com.au/home/#home/pledge>

Seagulls to Chips 2024 - applications now open!

Co-designed by young people during the term 1 Ideas Lab, the Seagulls to Chips Youth Leaders Program has been created to be an effective avenue of capacity building and change-making for 20 young leaders each year in the George Town area.

The program hosts a range of high-end facilitators that delivers relevant training to selected young people with an opportunity for the youth to create and participate in youth events in and around George Town.

Some highlights of the 2024 program include a trip to Launceston with team building activities such as an Escape Room, Rock Climbing and more. Seagulls to Chips will also have visiting speakers to George Town training the youth in content design, podcasting, mental health, advocacy and more! Concluding the program, we envision new opportunities for local youth to create social impact in and around George Town.

Applications can be submitted at Seagulls to Chips youth leadership program - Application Form

Block 1 – Team Building and Leadership

Block 2 – Film and Podcast Creation

Block 3 – Creating Self Care Routines

Block 4 – Fight For What's Right (ethically)

Block 5 – Managing Conflict and Building Healthy Connections

Block 6 – Create Your Own Opportunity



**6 blocks of sessions - creative content
create new opportunities - free merch!**

Seagulls to chips
This program is coordinated by the Our Futures Youth Project and is funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund and George Town Council. For further information on how to apply, please contact the Our Futures Project Coordinator andrew.beeston@georgetown.tas.gov.au or visit www.futureimpactgroup.org.au



apply now




The 2024 George Town Youth Week turned out to be a great success!



Featuring the YMCA Skate Park League hosting the competition, live music Rock Challenge Tasmania and a wide array of creative fun and vibes, hundreds of people flocked to Regent Square to celebrate youth.

The George Town Youth Impact Council coordinated the event, with members creating the idea during their time in the 2023 Seagulls to Chips program. On the day, the young leaders arrived at 8.30am, setting up the event ready for an 11.00am start. Providing free activities such as balloon sculpting, beading, lawn games, basketball and street art, there was no shortage for things to do. The youth also filmed the event and had roving reporters which can be found at 2024 Youth Week video via the [Future Impact Group YouTube Channel](#). The scooter competition proved to be a highlight with many young people entering in various divisions. Following the BMX, inline and skate competition, the live music kicked off in the Gathering Space, with 6 different youth bands performing a variety of originals and covers.

Free food for the youth was provided by the Lions Club and Kimmy's Dream Cafe was a popular addition to the menu.

Service providers included Outer Cove Creative Inc with a paint throwing installation, cartooning by Ben, a photo booth, and a large number of bean bags supplied by City of Launceston.

The Youth Impact Council are super appreciative of the support provided by members of the Future Impact Group who provided consultation and conversation about youth opportunities, the support from George Town Council in their assistance in organising necessary bollards and other resources for the event, YMCA Skatepark League team, Pro-Med First Aid, Rock Challenge Tasmania and the wider community for participating in the day.

We look forward to seeing future events in George Town for the local youth.

Key Dates/Information

WINTER SOLSTICE

Friday 21st of June 2024 - 5pm to 9pm | Regent Square

Join us on June 21st to celebrate the Winter Solstice, embracing the transition from darkness into light. Experience an atmospheric night filled with art, music, fire, feasting, and drinks. Inspired by the spirit of community and warmth amidst the cold, this event aims to unite residents and visitors for a night of enchantment and festivity in George Town.

Ticket details to be announced shortly.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

27 May - 3 June 2024

Now More Than Ever

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. *Further details to be announced soon.*

**NOW
MORE
THAN
EVER**
#NRW2024

NAIDOC Week

7 - 14 July 2024

During NAIDOC week we will celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Stayed tuned for further details



**KEEP THE FIRE
BURNING!
BLAK, LOUD
AND PROUD**

7-14 JULY 2024

CREATIVE
George Town

Stay tuned – we are lining up a series of Creative George Town workshops for the July School Holidays.

More info to come!

Coming Soon.....

Online Customer Portal

- Pay rates
- Register your dog
- Register a building or planning application
- Renew your existing food licence business and more...

The George Town Council website re-design survey is still open and we want your feedback.

Visit our website to complete the survey.

Our newsletter is also available to view on our website www.georgetown.tas.gov.au



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