



Issue No. 193

A FREE community publication by Latrobe Council

January-February 2024

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW - THE FINAL REPORT

*An opinion piece by Mayor Peter Freshney*

The Local Government Board's final report into the future of Local Government throughout Tasmania is now very much in the hands of councils and their communities as the Tasmanian Government invites public comment and submissions until 29 February.

There are several ways you can have your say. You can make a submission by mail to Local Government Reform, GPO Box 123, Hobart, 7001, by email to [lg.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:lg.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au) or online.

The State Government and opposition have, in my view, abrogated their shared responsibility to lead on this issue and have placed political priorities above all else when it comes to addressing the issues highlighted in the Board's report.

There is a consensus that change is needed if councils are going to be able to serve their communities into the future and, that the structure and function of Local Government needs to reflect the future and not be focussed on the past.

So much time and effort has been wasted, spent defending what is, instead of considering what could be!

The Board has been diligent in undertaking a review of Local Government and has proposed an integrated package of 37 reform options as well as practical pathways and timelines for the implementation of those reforms.

I urge community members to read the report and specifically the recommendations. Some will no doubt surprise, if not alarm, readers while some will hopefully make complete sense.

At the heart of all the proposed changes is the overriding

objective of working with communities to ensure councils are in the best possible position to support the future well-being, sustainability, and prosperity of the communities they serve. A noble statement if ever there was one but the report clearly acknowledges that the drive for change needs to come from communities themselves.

Our Council's alliance with the Kentish Council has stood the test of time and has been nation-leading in what it has achieved and set out to deliver. One administration and operational structure supporting two discreet Local Government Areas (LGA's) is unique but despite all that has been achieved, despite the efforts of management and staff, and despite the foresight and support of successive elected memberships, more needs to be done.

The proposal to merge our two councils has been supported by the Board (Recommendation 4) and we will need to work with our respective communities to provide information that affords you the opportunity to make informed decisions and to determine your support or otherwise for the merging of our two councils.

The report also contains a possible alternative future design for Local Government in Tasmania which includes a Cradle Coast Council, made up of the existing Kentish, Latrobe, Devonport, Central Coast and Burnie Council areas. Now if that doesn't get the blood pumping then a visit to the doctor may be in order! Change is inevitable and necessary. The question for council and the community is simple - do we lead or be led?

The Local Government Board's Final Report can be accessed at <https://engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/>

## GO LOCAL FIRST FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING

Latrobe's local businesses are joining forces to offer late night trading options, ensuring residents and visitors can enjoy stress-free Christmas shopping and "go local first". Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 14 and 21, as Latrobe transforms into a haven for holiday gift buying.

With extended hours, shoppers can explore a variety of unique stores, finding the perfect presents for loved ones. This

collaboration not only enhances the holiday experience but also supports a vibrant local economy. So, grab your gift list, embrace the cheerful atmosphere, and head to Latrobe for a late-night shopping experience this Christmas season.

## CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

The Latrobe Council office will close for the end-of-year from 1:00 pm on Friday, 22 December, reopening at 8:00 am on Tuesday, 2 January 2024.

Council wishes you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

## CHRISTMAS GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICE

The Latrobe North Garbage/Recycling and the Port Sorell Recycling service will be collected earlier, on Saturday 23

December, due to their normal collection falling on Christmas Day.

Collections on New Year's Day, Monday 1 January will be as usual, inclusive of the Port Sorell Garbage run.

All other Latrobe collections will be as per the regular collection schedule.



# HIDDEN TREASURE REDISCOVERED

An exciting new display has just opened at the Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame at Bells Parade, Latrobe. Internet technicians recently discovered a treasure trove covered by a blanket in the roof space of the office at the Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame.

Amongst the objects was a rustic axe box containing the long-lost presentation Plumb (USA) axe won by Tasmanian Bob Radford in 1930 for the World's Championship 15" standing block.

This remarkable axe has a portrait of Radford painted on one side and an inscription from Lafayette Plumb Axe Company (USA) on the reverse side.

The axe box also contained two beautiful gold medals presented to Bob Radford in 1930 by axe companies Plumb and Kelly, and a silver medallion from the 1938 Royal Hobart Centenary Regatta.

This was Bob Radford's third world championship win. 'In reminding the audience that this was the third time that Radford had won the cup, Dr Ferris said the winner has earned a



reputation of which any man might well be proud. Radford also received two gold medals - one each from the Plumb and Kelly Axe Companies - in addition to three axes.'

In that year Radford won the double, also taking out the Tasmanian Centenary Cup which carried a first prize of one hundred pounds and trophies. To do this he beat David Foster's great uncle, Jim Foster of Latrobe. Foster later won four World titles including the 1931 and 1937 World's Championships where Radford came a close second.

The Axeman's Museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm and on Sundays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**TASMANIA'S BRILLIANT AXEMAN.**  
**Centenary Cup Won by C. Weston (Victoria)**  
**UNDERHAND CHAMPION—L. APPO.**  
**Sawing Title—Fraser Bros. (N.Z.)**

"A GATHERING of axemen previously unequalled in the world" was the comment of a visitor to the Ulverstone Carnival on Saturday, and when one looked round at the galaxy of champions from all parts it was not difficult to accept this statement. It was a day of spectacular sport, and not for a moment did interest flag. Bob Radford, the Preston chopper who won the world's championship for the third time in four years, received a reception which must have been flattering to him. It was a spontaneous recognition by those present of one who has proved that Tasmania has an axeman who has no rival.

*Extract from The Advocate, 1 December 1930*

## COUNCIL'S WORKS REPORT

The following works are scheduled to be undertaken throughout January and February:

### CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Roadside side arm mowing
- Roadside spraying
- Resealing of sealed roads



### TOWN SERVICES

- Construction of a 2.5m wide shared pathway connection to the coastal pathway at Bells Parade, Latrobe
- Undertake a footpath and crossover review throughout Port Sorell
- Upgrade the pedestrian crossover at the corner of Wilmot and Rice Street, Port Sorell (carried over from the last update)
- Install electric hand driers in the Kings Park and Warrawee amenity buildings
- Install airlock at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall

### GREEN SPACES

- Parks and reserves mowing
- Parks garden maintenance
- Weed management
- Weekly cricket wicket preparation
- Tree/plant watering

Should you require information on the above, contact Council on 6426 4444.

### LOCAL BUILDING UPDATE

51 applications comprising of 9 dwellings; 4 dwellings addition/alteration, 10 outbuildings; 2 commercial/industrial, 21 plumbing applications and 5 other applications were received by Council in September and October with a conservative value of \$7,343,877.

## BANKSIA COMMITTEE

A vacancy for a community representative on the Banksia Facilities Advisory Special Committee has occurred.



The purpose of the committee is to provide a coordinated, collaborative, and strategic approach to the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the Banksia Facilities to the local community including residents, businesses, and visitors as per the specifics of the Terms of Reference.

The committee meets at 10:00 am with the appointment through to October 2026. The community representative cannot be a member of a user groups. For more information and to nominate for this vacancy, please email council@latrobe.tas.gov.au.

## YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

- Mayor Peter FRESHNEY ....0417 287 006
- D/Mayor Vonette MEAD.....0407 055 180
- Claudia BALDOCK .....0424 782 379
- Graeme BROWN .....0417 598 116
- Dave FIDLER .....0457 880 028
- Jacki MARTIN .....0409 435 825
- Sommer METSKE .....0409 622 710
- Garry SIMS ..... 0419 139 053
- Gerrad WICKS.....0488 325 590

The postal address for Councillors is P O Box 63, Latrobe, 7307

## COMMUNITY VACANCY ON RATES REMINDER

The final two instalment dates for the payment of rates are 28 February and 30 April.

If you are experiencing any challenge with fulfilling your payments, please contact Council's Rates Officer on 03 6426 4444.

## GRANT ALERTS

Do you wish to be alerted to grant programs as they are released? Email [csrgrants@communities.tas.gov.au](mailto:csrgrants@communities.tas.gov.au) to be added to the Grants Alerts List or sign up for the Cradle Coast Funding Funder at <https://grantguru.com/au/cradle-coast/register>

## THE FUTURE OF MOWING

Council has taken delivery a new resource to assist with the maintenance of steep, grassy banks throughout the Latrobe Council area.

This new remote-controlled mower - the Robocut 5300 - can mow up to 55 degrees.



This provides a safer work environment for the Green Spaces Team when compared to the conventional ride on mower in the same situation.

# SEASIDE CARAVAN PARK CARETAKER OPPORTUNITY: EMBRACE THE COASTAL LIFESTYLE

Are you ready to wake up to the sound of waves gently crashing on the shore and trade the hustle and bustle for a serene coastal life? The Port Sorell Caravan Park is inviting expressions of interest for live-in caretakers to oversee its recently redeveloped seaside haven. Nestled on Darling Street, this picturesque location boasts a blend of Council-owned land and Crown Land, providing 193 sites for locals, interstate, and international visitors.

## Why Become the Caretaker?

The Port Sorell Caravan Park, with its new amenities, playground, reception/accommodation building, and entry, is an integral part of the community. The Council is committed to the caretaker model, and as the current contractors plan to retire on 30 June, 2024, this presents a unique opportunity for new caretakers to take the reins with the winter months providing the perfect transition period for settling into the role.

As the caretaker, you'll be entrusted with the responsibility to:

1. **Upkeep the Caravan Park:** From daily cleaning to minor improvements, ensure the park is a welcoming haven for all.
2. **Manage Daily Operations:** Oversee bookings, handle inquiries, manage stock, and provide excellent guest services.
3. **Financial Management:** Receipt all transactions, handle semi-permanent site administration, and generate financial reports.
4. **Security and Supervision:** Enforce park terms, provide security, and escalate issues to the Committee or Council when needed.
5. **Compliance and Record-Keeping:** Follow Council directions promptly, maintain meticulous records, and attend

committee meetings.

6. **Maintenance Oversight:** Keep the grounds and facilities in top condition, report repairs, and manage the annual maintenance budget.
7. **Port Sorell Memorial Hall:** Manage bookings and transactions for the Port Sorell Memorial Hall.

As part of the caretaker offering, enjoy onsite accommodation and a dedicated vehicle for park duties. The Latrobe Council covers waste management, utilities, and consumables costs associated with the Caravan Park's operations. Operators must have Public Liability Insurance of \$20 million and a valid ABN.

Interested applicants are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) addressing the following criteria:

1. **Suitability for the Role:** Explain why you are the perfect fit for this unique seaside caretaker role.
2. **Relevant Experience and Skills:** Showcase your experience and skills related to the outlined responsibilities.
3. **Backup Resources:** Provide details on backup resources during peak times or for periods of leave/illness.
4. **Annual Fee Proposal:** Include a proposed annual fee covering the role's responsibilities, including backup resource engagement.

Seize this chance to become an integral part of the Port Sorell community and contribute to the ongoing success of this seaside gem.

Submit your EOI and embark on a fulfilling coastal caretaker journey. Full details are available on the Latrobe Council website at [www.latrobe.tas.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.tas.gov.au).

## RECOGNISING VOLUNTEERS

Not-for-profit organisations and groups that provide community-based services within the Latrobe Council area are invited to nominate their organisation and individuals that meet specific hours of service (500, 2,000 or 5,000 hours) or milestone years (10, 20, 30 and 40 years) of continuous voluntary service for the 2023 Volunteer Recognition Award. Please note that individual nominations must be a decision of the nominating organisation.

The nomination form is available online at <https://www.latrobe.tas.gov.au/community/volunteer-recognition> and close on 1 May.

## BOOKING FACILITIES ONLINE

Latrobe Council has now commenced receiving bookings of its built facilities online.

This includes bookings for the Latrobe Memorial Hall and Hamilton Hub in Latrobe via [www.latrobe.tas.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.tas.gov.au) and the various rooms within the Banksia Centre at Port Sorell with bookings via [www.banksiaportsorell.com/availability/](http://www.banksiaportsorell.com/availability/). From the respective sites, you will be able to check the availability of the site/rooms before booking. Please note that you are required to include your setup and pack away time within the booking period. You will be provided with details of the cost before the booking is submitted.

Confirmation of the booking acceptance will still be provided by Council staff.

If you are not online or prefer the face-to-face experience, you can still visit Council's friendly staff at the Latrobe Council office at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe or the Banksia Centre in Pitcairn Street, Port Sorell to make your booking. The online accessibility is only another option that is now available.

## MOBILE FOOD VAN OPTIONS

Latrobe Council has approved a Mobile Food Vending Policy to allow the introduction of temporary food businesses on selected Council properties under controlled licence conditions.

Creating a balance between the needs of local businesses and individuals who are seeking a variety of takeaway food choices without leaving town, was the main aim of this policy.

There are currently eight locations throughout Latrobe, Port Sorell and Shearwater where vending will be permitted outside of licensed event activities.

The location near Camp Banksia in Port Sorell could be popular for vendors during the summer months as the local population swells with holidaymakers while locations around the Latrobe town centre will possibly provide a source of further variety or a pre-run coffee for active members of the parkrun community.

The policy is available on Council's website along with the application form and permit conditions.

## WHAT PROJECT IS ON YOUR COUNCIL WISH LIST

Each year, Council is faced with assessing and prioritising many worthwhile projects that have been identified within the community.

Council lists each project, assesses it against a common set of objective criteria and prioritises the project with a view to scheduling activities over Council's long-term planning period - currently ten years. If you would like to submit a project for consideration in Council's Capital Works program or 2024-25 Operating Budget, then please send the details in.

Submissions should include sufficient detail to enable Council to understand the project including the location and scope of the project; the perceived benefits of the project including any risk/safety issues, social/community impact and environmental impacts and any other relevant information to enable Council to make an informed decision.

Submissions marked "2024-25 Budget Submission" can be sent by mail to the Team Leader Finance, Latrobe Council, PO Box 63, Latrobe, 7307 or e-mailed to [council@latrobe.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@latrobe.tas.gov.au) by Friday, 16 February 2024.

# AUSTRALIA DAY - WE ARE ALL PART OF THE STORY

Residents are spoilt for choice with so many events throughout the Latrobe Council area on Australia Day, 26 January.

## WATERSLIDE RETURNS

The Lions Club of Port Sorell will hold several events including the much-lauded waterslide down the Bowls Club hillside in Meredith Street, Port Sorell.

The day will be HUGE for members of the Club as they start with cooking their acclaimed pancakes at the Port Sorell Caravan Park Camp Kitchen from 8:00 am.

The waterslide will be open from 9:00 am until about 11:00 am but, simultaneously, Club members will be operating the book and garage sale in the Port Sorell Memorial Hall.

This all culminates with a lunch time snag or burger.

Keep your eye on their Facebook page for further announcements.

## PORT SORELL HISTORY GROUP

Dive into the town's past as the Port Sorell History Group displays historic paraphernalia from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall.

This curated exhibit features local artifacts, photos, and memorabilia, offering a snapshot of Port Sorell's rich history.

Open to all, organisers encourage residents to share their own stories in a day of nostalgia.

## HENLEY ON MERSEY IS BACK

After a three-year hiatus, the Henley on Mersey festival is back at Bells Parade, Latrobe thanks to the efforts of a new committee and their naming rights sponsor BridgePro.

In keeping with the tradition of Henley, the committee has programmed a full day of participation and enjoyment by those attending.

Commencing at 9:00 am and continuing through to 4:00 pm, the day will be jam packed with entertainment, retaining those events that are typically Henley but adding some spice.

A wood-chopping card will feature two Tasmanian Titles and the ferret racing returns. Just imagine Henley as you last recall, all those interactive activities that you hold close to your heart.

New activities include stages where musicians and bands will entertain, Fashions on Henley parade, art, craft, and market stalls, roving street performers, entertainment areas for both kids and kids at heart, carnival rides, and sideshow amusements.

20+ food and beverage vendors in attendance will cater for all tastes.

## BLOSSOMING BEAUTIES

Embrace the vibrant hues of nature and showcase the splendour of your garden at the 34th Latrobe Flower and Vegetable Show, hosted by the Sassafras/Wesley Vale branch of the CWA on 17-18 February.

This floral extravaganza celebrates the beauty of dahlias, inviting greenthumbs and budding enthusiasts alike to immerse themselves in a weekend of blossoming brilliance.

Whether your garden flourishes with vibrant dahlias or bountiful begonias, the show welcomes all flora enthusiasts.

Cultivate your passion for flower arranging or discover the secrets of successful vegetable patch mastery. The Latrobe Memorial Hall will be open from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Friday, 16 February and from 8:00 am until 11:45 am on Saturday, 17 February to receive your entries.



The doors open to the public from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturday and from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm Sunday.

Beyond the floral splendour, photographers are invited to capture the essence of botanicals.

The official opening is scheduled for 3:00 pm on Saturday and includes the presentation of awards.

Revel in the fragrant ambiance and join in this blooming celebration of nature's artistry, where every petal and leaf tells a story of passion and dedication.

The committee acknowledges the donation by sponsors and the support of Latrobe Council to help facilitate the vision of the committee in rebirthing this traditional festival.

Admission fees apply. See you in January.

## AUSTRALIANA DELIGHTS BY LATROBE FEDERAL BAND

Join us at the Latrobe Memorial Hall on Australia Day at 10:00 am for an Australiana Concert by the award-winning Latrobe Federal Band. Enjoy a musical journey celebrating Australia's diverse culture.

During the concert, witness the presentation of the Australia Day Awards that acknowledge the outstanding contributions of individuals who have made a significant impact in our community and the induction of our newest Australian citizens. Witnessing this ceremony is not only a testament to the diverse and inclusive nature of Australia but also a heartwarming display of individuals embracing their new homeland.

No bookings are required - just show up and be enjoy this free event.

## BAREFOOT BOWLS

The Port Sorell Bowls and Community Club Inc invites you to join them for a day of fun, friendship, and fantastic bowls at their Australia Day Barefoot Bowls event!

No experience is required so grab your friends and join the fun! Form groups of four and get ready for some friendly competition on the green.

Limited equipment is available, so bring your lucky bowls if you have them!

For just \$10.00, you get to enjoy the BBQ, a thrilling game of barefoot bowls, and the chance to win fantastic raffle prizes.

The clubrooms at 30 Meredith Street, Port Sorell are open from 11:30 am with registration from 12:30 pm. Spaces are limited, so it's recommended to secure your spot in advance. The competition starts at 1:00 pm.

For more details or to secure your spot, contact: Julie 0428 268 464, Donna: 0488 686 856 or phone the Club (after 3:00 pm) on 03 6428 6386.

Bring your friends, bring your bowls, and let's make this Australia Day one to remember.

Don't forget that the club is also open for meals on a Friday night over Summer. Well worth booking!

## LILIUM SHOW CONFIRMED

The North-West Tasmanian Liliium Society moved its annual show to the Latrobe Memorial Hall in 2015, after 25 years at other venues.

The North West Liliium Show is returning to Latrobe on 28-29 January and they look forward to welcoming everyone to what will be a feast for the senses through amazing floral art; bulbs, plants, flowers, and seeds for sale.

There will be demonstrations as well as expert advice.

Morning and afternoon teas as well as light lunches will also be available.

Doors open to the public from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm on Saturday and from

10:00 am until 4:00 pm on Sunday with flowers auctioned on Sunday at 4:00 pm.

To learn more, please contact Neil on 6435 1298.



# BUSINESS INFORMATION AND HAPPENINGS

## SMALL BUSINESS REFORM SUCCESS

The Kentish and Latrobe Independent Business Association (KaLIBA) is being recognised by the Tasmanian



Government as a “joint architect” in a major new small business reform initiative launched in October with the first phase project estimated for completion in March 2024.

This was announced at a media launch by the government, represented by Gordon Williams CEO of KaLIBA with the reform project including specific recommendations and lobbying by KaLIBA to the state government, supported by the success of the recent Cutting Red Tape for Businesses event. This initiative seeks:

1. To map all of the estimated 700 “touch points” where small businesses interact and require some form of permit, approval or process with the government;
2. To provide regulated time and service quality guarantees on each of these touch points and process for continually improving them;
3. To provide easy-to-understand information for businesses on these interactions and the service guarantees;
4. To provide additional resources including possibly a team of troubleshooters to engage with small businesses on specific red tape issues.

To stay in the know with KaLIBA activities and initiatives, check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mykaliba>

## SHEARWATER PODIATRY

Shearwater Podiatry has opened at Shop 1, 1 Fairway Crescent, Shearwater (in the Tudor building).

Owner Stephanie is a born and bred Tasmanian who has just moved to the North West to provide leading edge care to the local community. She is committed to providing top quality care that is individually tailored to each patient. Shearwater Podiatry offer a full range of services including routine nail and skin care, diabetic food assessments, lower limb injury assessment as well as custom orthotics providing the highest level of care by staying up to date with the latest advancements in podiatry and maintaining a patient-centred approach.

You do not require a referral for appointments with private health, DVA, NDIS and CDM plans all accepted. Appointments are available online at [www.shearwaterpodiatry.com](http://www.shearwaterpodiatry.com) or by phoning 0403 865 568.

## SANCTUARY CORNER CAFE

Opening their doors in what many readers would recall as the former Salt Bar location at 1 Fairway Crescent, Shearwater, Sanctuary Corner Café offer all sorts of goodies to cover everyone’s dietary needs from gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, sourdough delights, organic coffee, scrumptious cakes, healthy smoothies, salads, raw slices, and more.

Not only do they stock their own products, but other, independent local entrepreneurs are also stocked, including honey.

If you have a product that you would like to retail, please contact Sanctuary Corner Café via Facebook.

## LEWINA OXYGEN CLINIC

Lewina Oxygen Clinic is a new home-based business at 74 Jefkins Drive, Port Sorell utilising the Hocatt™ system to offer general health uplevelling to chronic health concern support via a personal spa experience, providing integrated wellness support.

Michelle advises that Hocatt™ uses nine healing modalities via 30-minute sessions to provide a full body 3D deep cleansing. The process can assist with rejuvenation and regeneration, pain management, enhanced sleep, circulation, nerve response and to modulate immune and hormone response.

Want to know more, contact Michelle by phoning 0457 269 262 or email [info@lewinaoxygenclinic.com.au](mailto:info@lewinaoxygenclinic.com.au)

## EMBODY WELLNESS STUDIO

Embody Wellness Studio from Deloraine has now expanded their services to the Shearwater area within Lisel Pearson Pilates premises with services including the Closing the Bones, Holistic Pelvic Care program and Balancing the Diaphragm. These techniques involved myofascial release to balance one’s body alignment.

Want to know more, call Gretta on 0402 783 323. To book a service, go to <https://bit.ly/EmbodyWellnessStudio>

## SECURE YOUR BUSINESS FUTURE

Many business owners believe emergencies won’t impact them, but it’s crucial to prepare for unforeseen events. Business Tasmania have developed some simple checklists that can prepare your business for emergencies, ensuring a swift recovery and the ability to continue trading while rebuilding. Access the toolkit at <https://bit.ly/BusinessEmergencyManagementToolkit>.

They also offer a business continuity plan template at [https://www.business.tas.gov.au/managing/natural\\_disasters](https://www.business.tas.gov.au/managing/natural_disasters). This comprehensive document is divided into four sections:

1. **Know Your Disaster Risk:** Evaluate the risks to your business.
2. **Get Ready:** Prepare your business and staff for potential disasters.
3. **Take Action:** Understand what steps to take during a disaster.
4. **Reassess, Recover, and Learn:** Track your recovery post-disaster.

You can complete the entire plan as one document or focus on relevant sections individually. Download your copy today to safeguard your business against unforeseen challenges.

Source: Business Tasmania

## PREPARE FOR INTERNET OUTAGES

Optus’ November outage significantly impacted many businesses who relied on them to deliver products or services.

To minimise the impact of future communication service disruptions, the Digital Ready team has developed guidance on how to make a digital backup plan for your business.

Your Internet Connectivity Back Up Plan looks at how your Internet can fail, actions to take, how to create your plan and mitigate as much of the risk as possible. Business Tasmania’s suite of business contingency planning tools will also help you plan for future risks and how to recover from them.

Developing a digital backup plan and communicating that plan to your team is an easy thing to put off, but it can be costly not having a plan when it is required. It is time for action.

## DOES YOUR BUSINESS NEED A FOOD SAFETY SUPERVISOR?

From 8 December 2023, certain food services, caterers, and retail businesses, including food providers at markets, must appoint at least one Food Safety Supervisor (FSS).

The role of the FSS is to minimise the risk of illness because of incorrect food handling. The FSS provides expertise and guidance to food handlers in the business by identifying and implementing procedures to address food safety risks.

The need for a FSS depends on the type of food-handling activities that occur in your business. Council’s Environmental Health Officer advises that charitable and community groups are not required to appoint a FSS however their members must have completed a food handling course which is available for free via Council’s website at [www.latrobe.tas.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.tas.gov.au).

More information is also available on the Department of Health website, phone 1800 671 738 or email [public.health@health.tas.gov.au](mailto:public.health@health.tas.gov.au).

## BLUE GREEN ALGAE

In the warmer months, there is an increased risk of blue-green algae blooms developing in dams.

Conditions that encourage algal growth include high levels of nutrients, warm temperatures, and direct exposure to sunlight.

Signs of an algal bloom include:-

- Change in water colour
- Unpleasant odour
- Thick slicks or mats forming on surface of the water

If the affected water is to be used for irrigation, ensure this only occurs on calm days and that PPE is used when handling water.

If the water is to be used where the public may access, adequate signage must be erected. For further information, contact Council's Environmental Health Officer.

Source: TasWater

## A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO DEMENTIA

The Dementia Guide is the go-to resource for people living with dementia, their carers and family.

The guide supports people living with dementia, their carers and family, to understand more about dementia, the treatments, support, and services available.

It also includes information about living well with dementia and making plans for the future.

The guide is available as an audio version, PDF, or you can order a printed guide to be sent to you.

For more information and practical tips about living well with dementia go to [www.dementia.org.au](http://www.dementia.org.au)

## PROGRESS ON PORT SORELL CARAVAN PARK

As the renovations come close to a conclusion, the Port Sorell Caravan Park will present a new face to our visitors with a suite of new signs being developed to welcome visitors to the park.



by local  
nic artists  
a new look  
designed  
to be more  
appealing to  
visitors while  
providing  
clear  
messages  
throughout  
the park.

The new entrance to the park will be the first location for the signs and will change the traditional approach to the park. Locals will also see a change in traffic movement along Darling Street with the new entry making it easier during busy times for visitors to check in and enter the park.



## UNLOCK THE MAGIC OF TASMANIA

Are you newly retired or have some spare time on your hands?

With exponential growth set to boom as the new Spirits of Tasmania come online, volunteering can be so rewarding. Not only does it develop self-confidence, but it also provides a variety of skills that can be beneficial personally and professionally. If you have a passion for showcasing the wonders of our beautiful area and desire to be at the forefront of welcoming tourists and locals alike, sharing the magic of Tasmania with the world, the Visitor Information Centre Coordinator, Tracey Riggs-Barker, would welcome your enquiry by phoning 03 6491 1179.

“Volunteering in the tourism sector not only allows you to be a part of our exciting journey but also offers numerous personal and professional benefits.

Gain hands-on experience in tourism operations, customer service, and community engagement.

Build lasting connections with like-minded individuals and be a proud ambassador for our region.

Don't worry that you don't know it all. Training will be provided.

Join the dynamic team at the Latrobe Visitor Information Centre as you embark on a rewarding adventure and continue to showcase the best of our community,” said Mrs Riggs-Barker.

## 2024-25 COMMUNITY GRANTS OPEN IN MARCH

Did you know that Latrobe Council offers a competitive small grants program twice yearly with two fields of funding -

- **Emerging Needs Grants** to address an unmet need within the Latrobe Council area in the areas of minor capital works, health and community welfare, environment, sport, and recreation.
- **Arts, Culture and Festival Sponsorship** to assist the sustainability of events and major festivals within the Latrobe Council area.

Round 1 opens on 1 March and applies to projects occurring between 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Round 2 opens in August and applies to projects implemented between 1 October 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Grant guidelines and application forms will provide more detail however, between now and 1 March, why not consider the priorities of your community organisation for potential co-funding?

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT BACKYARD BURNING

Backyard burning, a common practice for many homeowners, refers to the burning of piled-up or standing vegetation, as well as other materials on urban blocks and rural-residential properties over 2000m<sup>2</sup>.

**Backyard burning is prohibited on properties smaller than 2000m<sup>2</sup>.**

While it can be a convenient way to dispose of waste, there are important regulations in place to ensure it is done safely and responsibly.

Properties over 2,000m<sup>2</sup> can burn specific solid fuels in your backyard, including unpainted/uncontaminated wood, pellet fuel, coal, charcoal, and peat. Burning any other materials, especially hazardous ones, is strictly prohibited.

Barbecues, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pots used solely for cooking or heating are not considered backyard burning.

However, if these are used to dispose of waste, they must adhere to the same regulations.

Burning demolition or building waste is allowed, provided it doesn't contain prohibited materials. Many building materials release hazardous chemicals when burned, so recycling is the preferred option. If recycling isn't possible, use authorised facilities for safe disposal.

Breaching backyard burning regulations can result in penalties. An infringement notice may lead to an on-the-spot fine of 5 penalty units (\$975 in 2023-24). For severe or repeated violations, prosecution may occur, with a maximum court penalty of 50 penalty units (\$9,750 in 2023-24). Knowing what can be burned, using fire appliances responsibly, and understanding the consequences of violations ensure safe and environmentally responsible waste management. Prioritise recycling and proper disposal facilities to protect your community and the environment.

## CONNECTING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

FindHelpTAS at <https://www.findhelptas.org.au/> is a free, publicly accessible, and independently managed online directory that lists over 900 services from 461 social service providers in Tasmania.

TasCOSS is continually improving FindHelpTAS and recently updated the categories and graphics to be more user-friendly and inclusive. Please let them know if you have feedback or suggestions on what you would like to see.

If you are having trouble navigating the site, TasCOSS offer free training sessions for community service organisations, health care providers and consumers. Contact Chris Sierzant at [admin@findhelptas.org.au](mailto:admin@findhelptas.org.au).

## FREE HEALTHY AGEING PROGRAM

A free strength-based exercise program is now available to support older Tasmanians living with long-term health conditions. Primary Health Tasmania (Tasmania PHN) has commissioned Tasmanian-based organisation Healthy Business to deliver the Exercise Treatment Program in several areas across the state, including the Latrobe Council area, making sure older Tasmanians have access to quality primary health care is a priority for Primary Health Tasmania.

Funded by the Australian Government's 'healthy ageing' funding this free 14-week course targets people who have or are at risk of developing chronic (long-term) health conditions, and are aged 60 or older, or an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person aged 45 or older.



People can self-refer into this program (with health clearance from a health professional), or their GP or other health professional can refer.

Program participants are guided through individually tailored exercises at the weekly sessions, where allied health professionals also provide healthy living advice. At the end of the course, their progress is measured, and they receive advice about how to keep active and healthy moving forward.

More information is available by phoning 1300 655 530, emailing [etp@healthybusiness.net.au](mailto:etp@healthybusiness.net.au) or online at [exercisetreatmentprogram.com.au](http://exercisetreatmentprogram.com.au)

## TOO GOOD TO WASTE

In Tasmania we grow, cook, and eat delicious food. We also waste a lot of it and at an alarming rate.

To help Tasmanians save food and eat well, Eat Well Tasmania has partnered with some of our State's finest chefs and passionate producers to create helpful videos and tasty recipes. Check them out at <https://www.eatwelltas.org.au/too-good-to-waste/>

## KEEPING VACANT BLOCKS FIRE SAFE

If you have a vacant block either in town or in a rural area, please ensure the block is mowed or slashed to make it fire safe. This may need to occur more than once a year to ensure the block is well-maintained.

If you have a bush block a fire break may need to be created and maintained.

If you have concerns about a neighbour's block, contact Council's Abatement Officer to request the block be inspected. An abatement notice may be issued to the property owner requiring them to undertake mowing works within 21 days. For property owners, please don't wait to get an abatement prior to engaging a contractor - the work should be on an annual program to be completed as required.

For owners who don't live in the area, have a plan to have your block checked regularly.

If the work is not completed within the 21 days, Council may issue an infringement notice for failing to comply with an abatement notice and can organise to have the work undertaken at the owner's expense.

## NEARBY SAFER PLACES

A nearby safer place is a place of last resort for people during bushfire emergencies.

If you have no bushfire survival plan, or your plan has failed, a nearby safer place may be your last resort when there is an imminent threat of bushfire.

Tasmania Fire Service identifies some nearby safer places and lists these in Community Bushfire Protection Plans. Even if there are nearby safer places listed in your community protection plan, you should identify others in your survival plan in case you can't get to the ones identified by Tasmania Fire Service.

The identification and assessment of nearby safer places involves:

- Consulting the local community to identify where they are likely to go to seek shelter in a bushfire;
- Using desktop geographic information systems and site visits to evaluate shelter options;
- Undertaking field surveys to accurately measure and assess sites; and
- Analysing bushfire attack level and radiant heat flux using computer modelling.

The nearby safer place assessment process allows planners to predict how a site will be affected by bushfire and determine if a site will provide adequate protection or separation from radiant heat so that people may survive a bushfire.

Nearby Safer Place assessment draws from the assessment methodology detailed in

the Australian Standard AS3959-2009: Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas.

In some communities, Tasmania Fire Service may not identify any nearby safer places, as there may not be any suitable sites that provide adequate separation from flammable vegetation in order to protect people from radiant heat.

Source: Tasmania Fire Service

## CHANGE TO ATDW TOURISM OPERATION INFORMATION

The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) is where many tourism websites, booking agencies, and search engines obtain their information on tourism and accommodation providers. If your entry in ATDW is missing or out of date, your business will be invisible to those outlets. The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) is Australia's largest tourism online database. It allows Tasmanian tourism operators to easily promote their business or events on numerous digital platforms that connect directly to consumers.

There are major changes coming to ATDW that providers need to be aware of. KaLIBA strongly recommends that you log in to your ATDW account to:

- Confirm that your email address is correct.
- Review and update your profile(s).

Visit the ATDW website at

<https://bit.ly/ATDW> for more information and a sneak preview of the new platform.

## ASTHMA TRIPLE WHAMMY - GETTING PREPARED

With the peak pollen season, increased risk of thunderstorms, and predictions of a hot summer with potential for bushfires and poor air quality, Asthma Australia is urging people with asthma to prepare their asthma plans now to proactively manage their condition.

With this triple whammy asthma season ahead, people with asthma who haven't already prepared or updated their asthma plans should act as soon as possible. It's also important for people to control their asthma or hay fever symptoms with preventer medication.

People with hay fever or allergic rhinitis are also urged to visit their doctor to discuss treatment options as having hay fever worsens asthma control for many people with asthma. This can be particularly bad during high pollen seasons, where the threat of thunderstorms can lead to severe asthma attacks.

Find out more at: <https://asthma.org.au/about-us/media/asthma-triple-whammy-looms-people-with-asthma-urged-to-prepare-asthma-plans/>.

To speak with an Asthma Educator about getting prepared this season, call 1800 278 462 or visit [www.asthma.org.au](http://www.asthma.org.au)

## READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY

In response to NAPLAN data revealing concerning literacy and numeracy levels among Australian students, including Tasmania with an enduring illiteracy rate of 50%, an initiative - Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day - has been launched to seek a cultural shift to improve our children's future.

The vision behind the campaign is to encourage parents to make reading aloud to a child from birth a part of their daily routine and, in turn, improve literacy skills.

The exposure to language, varied tones, and facial expressions aids in the development of a child's brain, fostering the connection of neurons and introducing fundamental concepts such as numbers, letters, colours, and shapes in an engaging manner.

Reading aloud also plays a crucial role in building essential skills, including listening, memory, and vocabulary, while providing infants with valuable information about the world around them. Resources such as the Latrobe Library, community book libraries and Op Shops enable participation in the Read Aloud campaign at minimal cost with a huge investment outcome. What more could a parent, grandparent, carer want?

## 2023-24 COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND (CSF) GRANTS ROUNDS

The Community Support Fund (CSF) small grants are currently open for application, closing on 1 March.



Up to \$10,000 per organisation is available from a total pool of \$250,000.

Organisations must be an incorporated not for profit or partner with one for their project. Projects must be undertaken in Tasmania and provide a benefit for vulnerable groups and/or communities. Small grants must support preventing or reducing gambling harm, including projects that address the potential drivers and impacts of gambling harm. More information on drivers and impacts of harm can be found in the Guidelines. Please refer to the Guidelines before applying.

Apply for a CSF Small Grant via SmartyGrants at <https://communitiestas.smartygrants.com.au/CSF23-24Small>. The Small Grants Round is assessed on a "first in" basis for eligible small grants applications.

## FAMILY HISTORY HOW TO

The Tasmanian Family History Society Mersey Branch is a not-for-profit organisation that helps people research their family history and local histories within Tasmania. Mersey branch gathers and collates information from as many sources as possible for birth, death, and marriage records. Indexing this information for use and for prosperity. Mersey branch is one of four branches in Tasmania and membership of \$50 per year concession allows members the use of all branches. Mersey branch has a volunteer base of interested members who have a wealth of knowledge that they use when helping researchers and/or beginners. Visitors are always welcome and for a small fee of \$10 they will be helped and just may find their roots in Tasmania. Access to overseas sites is also available. In 2024 Mersey branch will have sessions each month guiding people on how to use different sites online. These will include Ancestry, The List, Libraries Tasmania, Trove etc.

On Saturday 10 February a BBQ will be held at the Mersey branch.

For more details contact the Secretary Gay on [secretary@tfsdev.com](mailto:secretary@tfsdev.com) or 0408 059 990 or Ros on 0476 008 531

Mersey branch is located at the back of the State Library Latrobe, in the old Police building.

The Mersey Branch is open on Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm, phone 6426 2257.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH RESUMES AT PORT SORELL

In a move toward fostering community safety, the Latrobe and Port Sorell Residents and Ratepayers Association (LAPSRRA) has revived Port Sorell Neighbourhood Watch (PS NHW). The group is now back in action and dedicated to enhancing the security and well-being of the Port Sorell community. Residents and community members wishing to contribute to a safer neighbourhood are invited to join the cause. Whether you are interested in active participation or seeking more information, individuals can explore the Port Sorell Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page or reach out to [lapsrra@gmail.com](mailto:lapsrra@gmail.com). The reinstatement of PS NHW signifies a collective commitment to vigilance, community collaboration, and the promotion of a secure living environment. LAPSRRA encourages everyone to engage with this initiative, recognising that a watchful community is a safer community. Let's come together to build a safer and more secure neighbourhood. Join the Port Sorell Neighbourhood Watch and be a part of the solution.

## CALENDARS PROMOTE TASSIE

The Rotary Club of Latrobe now has a Provisional Interact Club at Latrobe High School commencing from Year 8. This should grow the club progressively. Rotary's mentor panel has a break in January and recommences in February. Watch out for the Rotary Club of Latrobe at Bunnings, Devonport on 20 January for their first fund raising event of 2024. Club members continue working with Latrobe Council on seating and other improvements in Pitcairn Reserve, Port Sorell.

A few 2024 calendars remain in circulation for only \$5.00. They are at the Latrobe Visitor Centre, Latrobe Council, Carolyn McLennan Hairdressing, Latrobe Newsagency, View Real Estate Latrobe and IGA Shearwater.

The club is excited to be providing the main BBQ at Henley on Mersey on 26 January. If you can assist on the day, please contact John on 0457 883 006. A thank you BBQ will be held during February for all those who help on the day. If you are interested in learning more about the Rotary Club of Latrobe, check them out on Facebook, email them at [info@rcol.org.au](mailto:info@rcol.org.au) or phone 0457 883 006.

## 37 YEARS OF SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

As the Mersey Valley Ladies Probus Club enters its 37th year, the vibe is all about good times and lasting friendships. Their monthly meetings at the Hamilton Hub, 18 Hamilton Street, Latrobe (every 4th Monday, except December and January) are where the magic happens, filled with engaging discussions and optional post-meeting lunches at local hotspots.

The club is not your average social gathering - they bring in fascinating Club and Guest Speakers to spice up their meetings. But that's not all - there's a laid-back book club, casual coffee mornings at Anvers, and mouthwatering meals at different restaurants on their agenda. They are not confined to Latrobe either - their well-loved bus trips take members on exciting adventures.

They are a sociable bunch, teaming up with nearby Probus Clubs for different events like fashion parades, trivia days, and even the occasional overnight bus trip for those who crave a bit more wanderlust. Want to join the fun?

New members are always welcome. Drop a line to Robyn at 0407 806 499 or send an email to [merseyvalleyprobus@gmail.com](mailto:merseyvalleyprobus@gmail.com). Come and be a part of the Mersey Valley Ladies Probus Club, where the atmosphere is warm, and the friendships are even warmer!



## **SCHOOL STUDENT BROADBAND INITIATIVE**

A new National Referral Centre has been launched to help more families get connected to the School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI).

The initiative provides free home internet for 12-months, for up to 30,000 unconnected families with school age students.

Families can now self-nominate by contacting the National Referral Centre (1800 954 610).

## **PORT SORELL PICKLEBALL CLUB INC**

It has been a big year for the Port Sorell Pickleball group who are now officially the Port Sorell Pickleball Club Inc, the first Pickleball Club to be formed in the North and North West.

The club has also designed their own club shirts for all its members .

The club plays at the Port Sorell Banksia Centre with sessions on Thursdays 3:30 pm until 5:30 pm. Fridays 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm and Saturdays 10:30 am until 12:30 pm.

The cost is \$5 each session for members, \$8 for non-members.

U3A has Pickleball on Tuesdays at 11:00 am until 1:00 pm and Thursdays from 10:00 am until 12 noon.

The Club encourages anyone of any age to come along and have a game, it is great fun, it's very social, and a little competitive.

Not only does it keep you physically fit but it is also good for your mental health. During the school holidays the club intends to organise sessions for school children. To find out more, contact the below.

Such is the passion of the club's membership that they had many players representing Port Sorell this year at tournaments all over the mainland, such as Victoria , Queensland, NSW and South Australia where they brought home multiple Gold, Silver and Bronze medals. In February 2023, ten members even participated in two New Zealand tournaments, winning international medals.

The club congratulates all members who participated in the local Tasmania and mainland tournaments.

In October 2024, the Tasmanian Masters Games (TMG) will run in the North West again. The 2022 TMG was a huge success and has gained a lot of interest from the mainland and internationally. Pickleball players will no doubt be attending the tournament in October 2024.

This year Pickleball Tasmania was the winner of the Tasmanian Active

Achievement Awards which acknowledged all the hard work the committee and volunteers in the state do for the fastest growing sport in the world. While the main stadium at the Banksia Centre has its floors done early December to early January, Pickleball will be held in the Rubicon Room at the same venue. For more information, please contact Claire 0429 591 487; Michael 0400 006 535 or Ali Wheatley 0411 485 671.

## **PORT SORELL SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB**

With the patrol season having started in December, around 50 patrol members from the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club (PSSLSC) will share the load of keeping our local beaches safe this summer.

In discussion with Surf Lifesaving Tasmania the Club has negotiated a variation to traditional patrol hours to better reflect beach usage over the holiday period.

You will still see the patrol teams based on Freers Beach and around the Port Sorell Estuary on Saturdays, Sundays and Public holidays, but over January they will also patrol on Fridays between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

It is not only 'between the flags' where you can engage with members of Port Sorell SLSC. This summer they will "Bring the Community to the Beach" with bigger-than-ever twilight markets by the beach events. These will be held on 29 December and 12 and 19 January.

Stallholder applications have closed with some exciting new additions. Your support helps the surf club to maintain the equipment they need to run their important Nipper programs, beach patrols, and rescue work.

Stay connected to their Facebook page to find out about visiting food vans, Sunday sessions on the deck, the annual Penguin Island Swim, the Hottest 100 By the Beach and watch out for information advertising the exciting return of Emily Burke to the Club (where opera will meet comedy!) in early January.

New members are always welcome and you can email the club at [portsorellslc@gmail.com](mailto:portsorellslc@gmail.com)

## **PORT SORELL GOLF CLUB OVER SUMMER**

The Port Sorell Golf Club (PSGC), in the centre of Shearwater, has several activities over the summer for holidaymakers and locals alike.

The Wednesday afternoon 4-person Ambrose is open to golfers with or without a handicap (if no handicap, a handicap will be allocated on entry)

Friday afternoon's 18-hole Visitor Day is open to golfers with a GA handicap. This

is a stableford competition which will be handicapped. No green fees apply with \$10 entry for non-members, \$5 for members. The bar will be open from 5:00 pm. Call the Pro Shop 6428 6555 for tee times.

As well as the weekly competitions, regular Club competitions are open to golfers with a GA handicap, Tuesday Vets, Thursdays Ladies, and Saturdays for men and lady golfers.

Summer memberships is available for November, December and January for \$125 full membership (for competition and social play).

Monday clinics with Darren Spencer for beginners run from 10:00 am until 11:00 am at a cost of \$20 with 6-9 hole game to follow.

Lessons are also available with Ron Garwood, call the Pro Shop for availability.

Five (5) game gift cards are available for social play for \$60. These can be purchased from the Pro Shop.

For further information on any of the above phone the Pro Shop 03 6428 6555.

## **PORT SORELL TABLE TENNIS CLUB IS OPEN FOR FUN AND FITNESS**

Table Tennis is fun and fitness all rolled into one. Best of all, Table Tennis Australia's Club of the Year 2022 is in Port Sorell; right here on your doorstep and the perfect way to get into shape in 2024!

The Port Sorell Table Tennis Club (PSTTC) resumes its regular sessions; on Mondays (2:00 pm until 6:00 pm), Wednesdays (6:30 pm until 9:30 pm) and Saturdays (1:00 pm until 4:00 pm) from 15 January in the Banksia Centre Stadium. On 27-28 January, PSTTC will host its popular, statewide, Port Sorell Open in Deloraine.

Table Tennis is the ultimate inclusive sport; it is suited to any age, gender, and ability. Furthermore, at the PSTTC there is a place for everyone, beginners to champions.

Table Tennis is renowned for its health benefits, being described as "the world's best brain sport" by leading world neuroscientists, (e.g. it enhances concentration and reflexes), it is aerobic yet easy on the body, all while being heaps of fun.

Overall, the benefits of Table Tennis on mind, body, and soul, is not just hearsay; it is scientifically proven. So why not give it a go: Nothing to lose; everything to gain. Phone Christa on 0400 841 121 or email [portsorelltabletennis@gmail.com](mailto:portsorelltabletennis@gmail.com) or simply drop in on to one of their sessions.

## NORTH WEST BOXING TASMANIA CLUB PACKS A PUNCH FOR ALL AGES

Promoting physical and mental well-being, the North West Boxing Tasmania Club, affiliated with Boxing Australia Tasmania, is located within the Latrobe and Districts Youth Centre in Cotton Street, Latrobe, and has been delivering knockout experiences since its establishment in July 2023.

The club's primary objective is to offer a secure and supportive boxing environment for individuals of all ages, with their current membership ranging from 9 to 75 years old.

The Club opens for classes on Mondays

and Wednesdays from 4:30 pm until 5:30 pm with another session from 5:30 pm until 6:45 pm.

The schedule is tailored to accommodate various age groups and skill levels, reflecting the club's commitment to inclusivity. Plans for expansion are underway, contingent upon community interest.

Memberships come at a nominal annual cost of \$50, with member sessions priced at \$12. Casuals pay \$15 per session.

The benefits of boxing extend beyond physical fitness and encompass improved

balance, coordination, mental resilience, and the chance to forge social connections, friendships, and confidence.

Supported by Latrobe Council, the Club offers participants seeking to engage in representative boxing competitions an elevated competitive edge.

Whether you want to take up boxing for competition or just for your own physical and mental well-being, North West Boxing Tasmania can support you.

For more information about North West Boxing Tasmania Club, email NWBoxingTas@gmail.com or just turn up to a session.

## WHAT'S ON AT A VENUE NEAR YOU

### DECEMBER

**Throughout December:** Elysian Portrait Photography at the Crowded Lounge, 127-129 Gilbert Street, Latrobe

**11 Latrobe Council Meeting** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00 pm. Attendance registration is essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, you can join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>

**14 Bridge of Hope Church Christmas Service** at Rubicon Grove, 89 Club Drive, Shearwater at 2:00 pm

**14 Services Australia Bus** at 20 Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm to assist with any Centrelink issues.

**16 Latrobe Lions Christmas Party and Carols** at Bells Pde, Latrobe from 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Enquiries: Lions Club of Latrobe - 0437 123 890

**16 Christmas Carols Service** at St James Community Church, Northdown featuring the Geneva Christian College Choir and Band from 6:00 pm. All welcome. Ph 0428 556 695

**16-17 Mystique Christmas Market** at the Latrobe Memorial Hall from 12 noon until 5:00 pm Saturday and 9:00 am until 2:00 pm Sunday.

**17 Bridge of Hope Church Combined Parish Carols Service** and morning tea at the Banksia Centre, Pitcairn Street, Port Sorell at 9:30 am

**20 Latrobe High School Leavers Parade** at the Latrobe Recreation Ground from 5:00 pm until 6:45 pm.

**24 Santa's Tour of Port Sorell.** Check out the Port Sorell Fire Brigade's Facebook page for routes and timings.

**24 Bridge of Hope Church Christmas Eve Service** at the Banksia Centre, Pitcairn Street, Port Sorell at 9:30 am

**24 Christmas Eve Carols Service** followed by a cuppa at the Wesley

Vale Community Church, Port Sorell Main Road, Wesley Vale at 10:00 am. Donations to local Christmas appeals are appreciated. All welcome.

**24 Bridge of Hope Church Christmas Eve Service** at St George's, Hermitage Lane, Newground at 7:00 pm

**25 Bridge of Hope Church Christmas Day Service** at St Luke's, Hamilton Street, Latrobe at 9:30 am

**25 Community Church Christmas Day Service** at St James Community Church, Northdown at 10:00 am. All welcome Ph 0428 556 695

**29 Market by the Beach** - food, live music and entertainment from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club. Parking on Shearwater Park, accessible from Freer Street, Shearwater.

**30 Gulf Western & Independent Oils Super Sedan Speedway Racing** the Gulf Western and Independent Oils Speedway, Speedway Drive, Latrobe featuring Sprintcars, Super Sedans, Modifieds, Street Stocks, Junior Sedans, Wingless Sprints and Go-Karts. Gates open at 3:00 pm. Admission fees apply.

**31 Silver Lining** perform at Shearwater Resort. Support act from 6:00 pm. Feature artist from 9:30 pm until 1:00 am. Free entry.

### JANUARY

**5 The Blues Brothers Revival Band** performs at Shearwater Resort. Doors open at 6:00 pm, music from 6:30 pm. Tickets \$25 from <https://bit.ly/BluesBrothersatShearwater>

**6 Emily Burke Comedy Meets Opera** at the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club. Details available from the club on 10 December. Email [portsorellslsc@gmail.com](mailto:portsorellslsc@gmail.com)

**12 Market by the Beach** - food, live music and entertainment from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Port Sorell Surf

Life Saving Club. Parking on Shearwater Park, accessible from Freer Street, Shearwater.

**12 Dylan Boys Trio** performs at Shearwater Resort from 7:00 pm. Free entry.

**14 Devonport Anglers Club Junior Fishout Day** (TBC) at Taylor's Dam, opposite the House of Anvers Chocolate Factory, Bass Hwy, Latrobe from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania](http://www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania)

**14 Mr Perfect Free Men's BBQ** at Don Brown Memorial Gazebo, East Esplanade, Port Sorell from 11:00 am. Enquiries 0407 969 964

**19-20 Gulf Western & Independent Oils Super Sedan Speedway Racing** the Gulf Western and Independent Oils Speedway, Speedway Drive, Latrobe featuring Super Sedans,

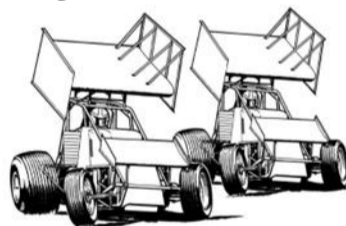
AMCA, Tassie Sixes, Street Stocks and Wingless Sprints and Friday and Super Sedans, AMCA, Modifieds, Tassie Sixes, Street Stocks, Formula 500's, Go-Karts on Saturday. Gates open at

3:00pm. Admission fees apply.

**19 Market by the Beach** - food, live music and entertainment from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club. Parking on Shearwater Park, accessible from Freer Street, Shearwater.

**19 Tusk - The Fleetwood Mac Tribute** at Shearwater Resort. Doors open at 6:00 pm, music from 6:30 pm. Tickets \$39.80 from <https://bit.ly/FleetwoodatShearwater>

**21 Penguin Island Classic Swim** as part of the Tasmanian Ocean Swim Series at North Freers Beach, Hawley. Novice 500m swim and Open 2km swim. All registration fees go to the hosting surf club to build on their surf sport programs and training facilities. Stay informed at [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)



tasoceanswimseries or email  
portsorellslc@gmail.com

**23 Latrobe Council Meeting (TBC)** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00 pm. Attendance registration is essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, you can join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>

**26 Henley-on-Mersey** at Bells Parade, Latrobe. Check out [www.facebook.com/HenleyonMersey](http://www.facebook.com/HenleyonMersey) for details.

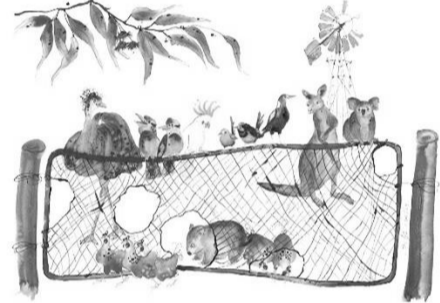
**26 Australia Day Pancakes** at the Port Sorell Caravan Park Camp Kitchen from 8:00 am.

**Waterslide** at the Port Sorell Bowls Club hill from 9:00 am until 11:00 am

**Book, Garage Sale and BBQ** at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm hosted by the Lions Club of Port Sorell.

☎ 0419 162 691

**26 Port Sorell History Display** in the Port Sorell Memorial Hall from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm.



**26 Australiana Concert, Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Induction** in the Latrobe Memorial Hall from 10:00 am. Come along and enjoy the music of the Latrobe Federal Band, see who this year's Citizen, Young Citizen and Community Event of the Year recipients and welcome our newest Australian Citizens.

**26 Barefoot Bowls** at the Port Sorell Bowls Club, 30 Meredith Street, Port Sorell. Open from 11:30 am, registration from 12:30 pm.

**26 Matt and CJ** perform at Shearwater Resort from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Free entry.

**27 Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club's JJJ Hottest 100** at North Freers Beach, Hawley.

**10-11 Gulf Western & Independent Oils Super Sedan Speedway Racing** the Gulf Western and Independent Oils Speedway, Speedway Drive, Latrobe featuring Sprintcars, AMCA, Street Stocks (Tasmanian Title), Junior Sedans, Formula 500's, Wingless Sprints with Go-Kart Tasmanian Title Saturday night. Gates open at 3:00 pm. Admission fees apply.

**28-29 Latrobe Lilium Show** at the Latrobe Memorial Hall, Gilbert Street, Latrobe. Open Saturday 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm and Sunday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. ☎ 6435 1298

## FEBRUARY

**2 Gulf Western & Independent Oils Super Sedan Speedway Racing** the Gulf Western and Independent Oils Speedway, Speedway Drive, Latrobe featuring Sprintcars, AMCA, Modifieds, Street Stocks, Junior Sedans, Wingless Sprints and Late Models. Gates open at 3:00 pm. Admission fees apply.

**2 The Angels** perform at Shearwater Resort. Doors open at 6:00 pm, music from 6:30 pm. Tickets \$45 at <https://bit.ly/TheAngelsatShearwater>

**3 Oasis of Calm - Reflection on the writings of the Baha'i Faith** at the Crowded Lounge Meeting Room, 127-129 Gilbert Street from 10:30 am until 11:30 am. Enquiries to 03 6426 2643

**6 Geneva School Term 1 commences**

**7 Catholic and State School Term 1 commences**

**11 Devonport Anglers Club Junior Fishout Day (TBC)** at Taylor's Dam, opposite the House of Anvers Chocolate Factory, Bass Hwy, Latrobe from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania](http://www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania)

**20 Latrobe Council Meeting (TBC)** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00 pm. Attendance registration is essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, you can join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>

**23 Gulf Western & Independent Oils Super Sedan Speedway Racing** at the Gulf Western and Independent Oils Speedway, Speedway Drive, Latrobe featuring Super Sedans, AMCA, Modifieds (Tasmanian Title), Tassie Sixes (Tasmanian Title), Junior Sedans, Formula 500's, Wingless Sprints, and Go-Karts. Gates open at 3:00 pm. Admission fees apply

**17-18 Latrobe Flower Show** at the Latrobe Memorial Hall, Gilbert Street, Latrobe hosted by the Sassafras/Wesley Vale CWA. Open from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm Saturday and 9:00 am until 5:30 pm Sunday. Admission Adults \$3, children and exhibitors free. For more information phone 03 6428 4170 or 03 6428 4154.

**24 Concert in the Vines** at Ghost Rock Wines, 1055 Port Sorell Road, Northdown featuring Mark Seymour, The Bad Loves, Ella Hooper Trio and Pete Cornelius. Car park opens at 9:45 am; gates open at 11:00am. Find tickets at [www.ghostrock.com.au](http://www.ghostrock.com.au) or from the cellar door.

**23 The Opportunists** perform at the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club. Check [www.facebook.com/portsorellslsc](http://www.facebook.com/portsorellslsc) for details.

**24 Heavy Rollers** perform at Shearwater Resort from 6:30 pm. \$5 entry, under 18's free.

## MARCH

**1 Schools Clean Up Day:**  
[www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/](http://www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au/)

**2 Backyard Bash** featuring the Australian Motley Crue Show, Poizon'Us (Australian Poison Tribute Show), Riot Act (Tribute to Sebastian Bach era of Skid Row), Ratt 'n' Roll (The Australian Ratt Show), Slip of the Tongue (Australian Whitesnake Show) from 2:00 pm until 11:00 pm. Tickets \$45 at <https://bit.ly/BackyardBashatShearwater>



**3 Latrobe Cemetery Working Bee (TBC)** at the Latrobe Cemetery, Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 10:00am until 11:15am. BYO gardening implements and wear appropriate clothing. Food and drink at conclusion. ☎ 6426 4444

**6 Latrobe Council Meeting (TBC)** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00pm. Attendance registration essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>

**8 International Women's Day**

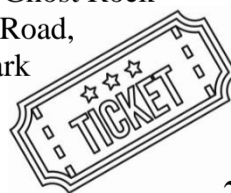
**17 Devonport Anglers Club Junior Fishout Day (TBC)** at Taylor's Dam, opposite the House of Anvers Chocolate Factory, Bass Hwy, Latrobe from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania](http://www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania)

**19 Latrobe Council Meeting (TBC)** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00 pm. Attendance registration is essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, you can join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>

## APRIL

**14 Devonport Anglers Club Junior Fishout Day (TBC)** at Taylor's Dam, opposite the House of Anvers Chocolate Factory, Bass Hwy, Latrobe from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania](http://www.facebook.com/juniorfishingtasmania)

**23 Latrobe Council Meeting (TBC)** at 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5:00 pm. Attendance registration is essential to 6426 4444. Alternatively, join online by following the link at <https://bit.ly/LivestreamLatrobeCouncilMeetings>



## 63 YEARS OF COMBINED SERVICE

The Latrobe Fire Brigade (LFB) recently hosted a farewell function for three of its members who had collectively accumulated 63 years of service.

Mr Michael Parker joined the brigade in October 1984 and held numerous roles with his most senior position becoming Brigade Chief in December 2015.

Mr Parker was deployed on multiple intra and interstate campaign fires and has been a dedicated supporter of the social club and the many fundraising activities during the years.

His service has been recognised with the awarding of a Tasmanian Fire Service Volunteer medal, National Medal for Diligent Service and the National Emergency Medal for service during the 2019 Bushfire emergency.



Pictured: Michael Parker on the right with his son Ben, daughter Lydia and wife Karen.

Mr Parker attended and showed leadership of some of the larger incidents in the history of the brigade.

His belief in delegation and professional development of fellow officers, ensured sustainability of the LFB beyond the individual. A further two members recently hung up their hats.

Mr Simon Haines joined the LFB in September 2009 and Mr Rikki Day in February 2012.

Both held the roles of Level 1 and 2 firefighter, Advanced Bush firefighter and Advanced Urban firefighter, were Crew Leaders and each received the TFS volunteer medal.

As a member of the TFS, you can gain many licences including advanced resuscitation, CAFS Level 1 & 2 firefighting, working at heights, working with hazardous materials, chainsaw operations and medium rigid licences.

Both Simon and Rikki were deployed to several fires around the state and were consistent responders to local incidents.

Their role as Crew Leader involved internal training to members of the LFB as well as guidance and mentorship to new members joining the brigade.

The LFB trains every second Monday to ensure response readiness for fire emergency events.

If you are interested in learning more, please drop in.

## FUTURE EDITIONS

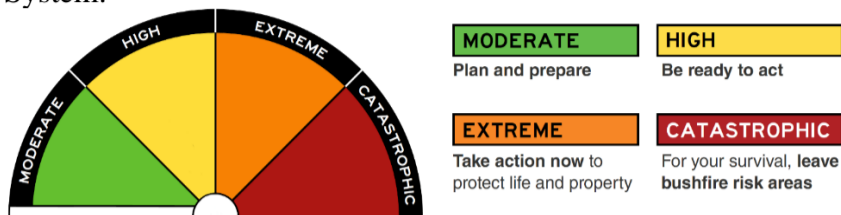
Article and event deadlines and distribution dates are provided to assist contributors with you with your promotional planning:

Deadline.....	Edition
1 Feb (Thurs) .....	Mar-Apr
4 Apr (Thurs) .....	May-Jun
30 May (Thurs) .....	July-Aug
1 Aug (Thurs).....	Sept-Oct

Articles must be submitted by the relevant deadline via council@latrobe.tas.gov.au or post to P O Box 63, Latrobe, 7307. Contributions must be relevant to the Latrobe Council area and suitable for inclusion. Submissions will be used at the discretion of the editor. The Council does not pay for editorial submitted.

# GET TO KNOW YOUR BUSHFIRE RISK

To ensure you get to know your bushfire risk, and help protect the things you value this summer, it is important that you keep an eye on the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) and stay up to date with bushfire incidents via the Australian Warning System.



The Australian Fire Danger Rating System is designed to tell you just how dangerous a fire could be if one started in your area.

While we can't predict when or where a fire will start, the Tasmania Fire Service can measure its potential fire behaviour, allowing you to make appropriate bushfire planning decisions. To check your fire danger rating, please visit <https://www.fire.tas.gov.au/fire-danger-rating/summary/>.

When a bushfire has started, the Australian Warning System provides alerts and warnings helping you stay informed and take early action. TasAlert at <https://alert.tas.gov.au/> enables you to keep up to date with these warnings and also features a new map for easy viewing of information.

For all fire safety information, warnings and updates, please refer to the Tasmania Fire Service at [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au) or listen to your local ABC radio emergency broadcaster.

Lastly, don't forget to put together a bushfire plan! You can either jump on to <http://bushfire.tas.gov.au> or scan to plan using the QR code alongside.



tas.gov.au or scan to plan using the QR code alongside.

All brigades in the Latrobe Council area rely on volunteers. Volunteer Stations are unmanned unless they are conducting regular training activities or responding to an emergency. Local brigades are located at -

- Latrobe Fire Brigade, 179 Gilbert Street, Latrobe
- Moriarty Fire Brigade, 13 Bonneys Lane, Moriarty
- Port Sorell Fire Brigade, 41 Rice Street, Port Sorell
- Rubicon Fire Brigade, 195 Marana Drive, Bakers Beach
- Sassafras Fire Brigade, 7723 Bass Highway, Sassafras
- Tarleton Fire Brigade, 445 Mersey Main Road, Tarleton
- Wesley Vale Fire Brigade, 5 Westwind Drive, Wesley Vale

## CHECK YOUR ALARMS - BE PREPARED

With the move the warmer months, the Port Sorell Fire Brigade reminds residents and holiday makers to:

- Check your residential smoke alarms are operational.
- Do your 5 Minute Bushfire Safety plan, and ready your property.
- Obtain a free fire permit if you are planning to burn on your property by phoning 1800 000 699.

Santa will again be out and about throughout the Port Sorell area for the Annual Christmas Eve Lolly Run and preparations are also underway for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Easter Picnic.

The brigade thanks you for your support throughout 2023.

If you are interested in learning more about the Port Sorell Fire Brigade, they train every second Thursday. Check them out on Facebook.

*DISCLAIMER - Although all care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing, Latrobe Council gives no warranty or assurance and makes no representation as to the accuracy or reliability of any information or advice contained in the newsletter, or that it is suitable for your intended use. The publication of articles supplied by external organisations does not imply any form of endorsement by the Latrobe Council.*