



A Strategy for Positive Action

Positive planning for the future by the Latrobe Council has no doubt contributed to the Municipality's growth over many years.

The processes that define Council's decision making for the next five years, particularly in relation to the provision of major infrastructure and services within the community are outlined in its Strategic Plan.

In his paper "Strategic Planning for Local Government", Dave Fountaine of AQUEST Consulting LLC states *"without a well-designed strategic plan, municipalities may waste valuable resources measuring the wrong criteria. Strategic planning provides the municipality with a collaborative, comprehensive plan to guide the municipality. A properly designed strategic plan focuses on what the customer wants rather than what the appointed and elected officials think the customer needs."*

Many municipalities currently operate from crisis to crisis in a reactionary mode rather than a proactive mode. Others manage based upon the adage of "that's the way we've always done it". To truly manage for results and implement a continuous improvement cycle into municipal operations, formal strategic planning needs to become part of an overall professional management model."

This ethos was also reiterated by Enterprise Facilitator and Founder of the Sirolli Foundation, Dr Ernesto Sirolli in a recent address to community leaders. You must listen to what people want and what they are passionate about otherwise, no matter how hard you work at something, success will not be achieved.

It is with this mindset that Mr Phillip Spratt was engaged to facilitate community forums at Latrobe and Port Sorell and with Latrobe Council staff throughout November and December. It is anticipated that the updated Strategic Plan to 2016 will be considered by Council soon.

Organics Trail Extended

Since July 2010, 250 residents of Shearwater have been participating in a trial of organics waste collection to gauge the take up and potential of this being offered as a kerbside service.

Initially the trial was to have concluded by now however Dulverton Waste Management, who are conducting the trial on behalf of Latrobe Council, advise that with the seasonal variances in green waste quantities, for a true reflection of data, the trial will continue until the end of this financial year (June 30).

At the end of this period, sufficient data should be available to enable a more informed decision to be made

regarding the introduction of a permanent organics collection service to be available to all residents in the Latrobe Municipality.

Fiesta Highlight on Event Calendar

Whatever you do on Saturday, 7 January don't miss the Bendigo Bank Port Sorell Surf Fiesta at Shearwater Park, Shearwater. This annual event is a fundraising opportunity for the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club and is proudly sponsored by the Latrobe Council and the Bendigo Bank.

The 2012, the Fiesta will be bigger and better than ever, featuring entertainment for the whole family. There will be a jumping castle, mini jeeps, face painting and spray on tattoos for the kids. Local musical acts Stu and Pie, Kram Nossirrah and Kat and Nat will be performing throughout the day along with the Hypnosis Belly Dancers.

Gourmet food and wine will be a plenty, with wood fired pizza, spit roast and berry pancakes just to name a few. Ghost Rock and Barringwood Park Winery will also be present. Local celebrity chef Nigel Squib will be tempting you with his delicious offerings.

Entry is by donation with several exciting gate prizes to be announced throughout the day.

The Port Sorell Surf Club would like to acknowledge Tempt Bakery, MJ Miller Electrical & Jenkyn Plumbing in their generous support of this event.

Cotton and Victor Street Road Closure

Drainage works associated with the road widening of Cotton and Victor Streets, between Hamilton Street and Gilbert Street are underway.

From January 9 to February 3, this section of road will be closed to all through traffic.

Mayor Gaffney said *"this section of road is popular as a back route to the main road and in times when there is a need to close Gilbert Street for events like Christmas Parades and ANZAC Day."*

These works incorporate improved roadside drainage and widening which will allow greater safety for vehicles of all sizes as they negotiate Victor and Cotton Street."

Access to properties within the road works will be maintained however all other motorists are requested to use alternate routes.

Council regrets any inconvenience to the public however the outcome of this project will provide long term benefits for the community.





Summer Fun

The Lions Club of Port Sorell would like to thank all community members who attended the Christmas Carols and ensured it was such a success again. What a delight it was to see the children's faces when Santa arrived. Many thanks to the Latrobe Federal Band, Crescendo Choir, Man Choir and special guest Olivia Pizzerani-Rand who made the event so memorable.

The recent books sale day raised \$1,000 towards the Relay for Life project.

Pancakes in the Park will be starting at the Camp Kitchen of the Lions Caravan Park on Sunday mornings from January 8. All funds will go towards Relay for Life.

The "Triple 5" (5 cent drive) project is going well with around \$2,000 raised at the beginning of December. The Club is hoping the community will give generously over the next month to boost the final tally to \$5,000.

If you are interested in joining the Port Sorell Lions Club and meeting new people while supporting our community, please contact Lions Keith Holliday on 0418 178 115 or Rosie Rabbetts on 6428 7389.

Time to Get Refreshed

Feeling as though you have totally overindulged during the Christmas/New Year holidays? Help is at hand in the form of the latest fitness centre on the North West Coast - "Refreshed Health Club Latrobe".

Located within the Latrobe Recreation Ground, Gilbert Street, Latrobe, "Refreshed Health Club Latrobe" evolved following a recommendation Latrobe Sport and Recreation Controlling Authority, supported by Council, to better utilise the Picton Grange building.

Whilst having many purposes since its construction, this large, brick building has, in recent years, been utilised for the storage of Latrobe Recreation Ground equipment.

With extensive labour support by the O Group and supervised by Latrobe Council's Building Services Team Leader, Mr Peter Dawson, the building was basically gutted and transformed into a usable space for the location of a health club and indoor cricket nets, identified as beneficial to Latrobe and encouraging greater use of community recreation facilities.

Nathan Freshney successfully tendered to Latrobe Council to operate the health club.

"Refreshed Health Club Latrobe" provides members with 24/7 access to full strength training and cardio training equipment.

There is a variety of equipment available for strength training including pin, plate loaded and free weights while the cardio equipment includes treadmills, rowers, elliptical trainers, bikes and recumbent bikes.

With qualifications from the Australian Institute of Fitness and experience with a similar centre in Devonport over the past few years, Manager, Nathan Freshney, can get you on track to improving your fitness.



"The strength and cardio equipment are a starting point for improving fitness levels. Down the track there are plans to offer a variety of classes at 'Refreshed' to diversify into other fitness areas," said Mr Nathan Freshney.

"We are also offering an ultra-comprehensive one to one personal training service, catering for all levels of fitness and all goal desires. Group Fitness is also available utilising both the Centre and other facilities throughout Latrobe," added Mr Freshney.

There is an initial set up cost to join then weekly costs for unlimited access via a swipe card system. Further savings can be made by purchasing an annual membership.

To find out more, call at the "Refreshed Health Club Latrobe" within the Latrobe Recreation Ground, Gilbert Street, Latrobe or telephone 6426 3114.

Time to Choose

Chat 'n Choose provides an opportunity for men and women of all ages to learn a craft and socialise with other like-minded persons in a friendly environment.

Coordinated by the Latrobe Baptist Church, sessions are held in their hall, at the rear of their Church in Gilbert Street, Latrobe (near the Post Office), from 10 am until 12 noon each Wednesday throughout school terms.

For Term 1, there are about 15 crafts to choose from. All tutors are skilled volunteers, very caring, patient and eager to share their knowledge.

Whilst registrations are accepted at any time during term, a dedicated registration day is being held from 10.00 am until 12 noon on Wednesday, 15 February.

There is a cost associated with the craft sessions however it is just \$2 and includes morning tea along with a five minute "think spot" with a Biblical theme.

If you are new to the district, bored, lonely or just need some "me" time and the challenge of learning a new skill or brush up on an old one, this is a great opportunity to make new friends and create lovely presents for yourself, family and friends.

For more information, head along to the registration day or phone Glenis (6426 1220) or Fay (6426 1740).

New Roads Named

With the development of new subdivisions throughout the Municipality comes the associated naming of roads. The following streets have been named in recent times -

- the cul-de-sac off Arthur Street, Shearwater has become Arthur Court.
- the road off Charles Street, Squeaking Point will be known as Moorings Drive.
- the road off Stanley Street, Latrobe takes on the name Elm Street; and
- the cul-de-sac off Palmers Road, Latrobe is to be called Spring Grove with the smaller cul-de-sac off that to be known as Roland View Rise.

Recreation Plan Gets Go Ahead

As pre-empted in the last newsletter, the Latrobe Recreation Area Development Plan Final Report was adopted at the November Council meeting.

It was recognised that further community consultation may be required on the recommended infrastructure projects as they are developed and implemented.

A copy of the plan, which includes a pictorial layout of the recommended improvements, is available on Latrobe Council's website at www.latrobe.tas.gov.au

Council Staff Changes

As the resource sharing relationship between the Latrobe and Kentish Councils continues to grow, there are now a few new positions between the Councils in addition to Council's shared General Manager.

Following the appointment of Mr Nigel Rist as Engineering Technical Assistant within Latrobe Council's Engineering Department, Latrobe Council's Manager Engineering Services Mr Jonathan Magor commenced working two days a week for the Kentish Council. The appointment of Mr Rist fills the void that arose when Mr Leigh Heron terminated his employment with Council in May 2009.

Mr Todd Dare has been appointed as Animal Control and Permit Officer with both Councils. Prior to Mr Dare's appointment, Animal Control services were provided at Latrobe by an external contractor.

With the recent resignation of the Kentish Council's Manager Corporate Services, Latrobe Council's Accountant, Mr Andrew Cock, accepted this position with the Kentish Council. Mr Bill Harris was subsequently appointed as Accountant with Latrobe Council. Both Mr Cock and Mr Harris will provide accounting services between the two Councils.

Mr Wayne Wilson continues to provide Building Surveyor services to meet Council's existing commitments in this field as a contractual arrangement with the George Town Council.

Mrs Vicki Saunders is seconded from Kentish one day a week to provide administrative support to the Latrobe and Port Sorell Tourism Association and complete committed tourism projects.

Coasters can be Confident in Hospitals

Mr Gavin Austin, Acting Chief Executive Officer of the North West Area Health Service commented recently that

"there is a lot of debate at the moment about the State Government's budget savings strategies which are being implemented across the three Area Health Services to save \$100m by July 2012. In recent weeks, some have suggested that Mersey Community Hospital should close.

I would like to reassure you that the Mersey is a central part of health on

the North West Coast. It is a vital asset for our community, and fundamental to ensuring high-quality care for many thousands of patients on the Coast.

In fact, the North West Area Health Service (NWAHS) is continuing to invest in modernising both the Mersey and the North West Regional Hospital (NWRH) - so their futures are indeed quite bright.

In June this year, the Australian and Tasmanian Governments signed a three year Heads of Agreement for the Mersey, providing \$63.6 million per annum, with a CPI adjustment of 3.5% for the second and third years. This Commonwealth funding is specifically for the Mersey to provide a range of services. The agreement provides security and clarity for the Mersey and indeed the

community which relies on it.

Mersey Community Hospital and NWRH work in partnership to provide quality services for the North West community. Both NWRH and Mersey are working close to capacity. Both hospital emergency departments see about 26,000 patients per year. Mersey is a very efficient hub for short stay surgery and has been integral in significantly reducing waitlists for elective surgery in the North West, while NWRH plays a crucial role in more complex cases such as trauma and emergency surgery.

It was a great credit to all staff at the hospitals that the recent Federal Government survey on the myhospitals website found that the hospitals surpass the national average on emergency surgery and wait times in many cases.

Although this will be a hard record to maintain in the current budget climate, it does show that Coasters are getting the benefit every day of a dedicated and high-performing hospital system.

The NWAHS remains focused on continuing to integrate primary and acute services in order to reduce duplication of services and to provide the most efficient and effective health care to our patients.

Both North West hospitals will also continue to provide elective surgery during the holidays to patients who require emergency or urgent elective procedures.

While there has been reduced activity at both the Mersey and NWRH due to the holiday season, with this continuing through to 16 January, patients who urgently need surgery can rest assured that it will be available for them."

Review of Council Recreation Vehicle Overnight Camping Services

In 2011, the Tasmanian Economic Regulator investigated four complaints lodged by private caravan park operators about councils providing free or low-priced overnight recreational vehicle (RV) camping services. Latrobe Council being one of these municipalities.

In each case, the Tasmanian Economic Regulator found in favor of the private caravan park owners, as the councils were either not charging at all or not applying full cost attribution. Therefore, those councils were found to be in breach of their national competition policy and competitive neutrality obligations.

Subsequent to these findings, and in line with a request from councils, the Local Government Division worked with the Local Government Association of Tasmania, and the Departments of Premier and Cabinet; Treasury and Finance; and Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts (Tourism Tasmania) to review issues surrounding the provision of council-operated self-contained RV camping services.

A draft Statewide Directions Paper was consequently released that sought to address the issues raised at the June meeting whilst also providing councils with practical tools to help meet their competitive neutrality obligations.

Input into the development of the paper was sought from representatives of local government, the Caravan Industry Association of Tasmania, the Caravan and Motorhome Club of Australia, and the Tourism Industry Council. The



Tasmanian Economic Regulator also assisted in the development of the decision-making guide and full cost attribution checklist attached to the draft Statewide Directions Paper.¹

The public comment period on the Directions Paper closed on the December 5 with the final report expected to be released early this year.

¹ Department of Premier and Cabinet, Local Government Division

Every Cat Needs a Lap

Cats make wonderful companions, but looking after any animal is a responsibility that shouldn't be taken lightly.

At this time of the year it is not uncommon for children to be approached to take a 'free' kitten or be given one as a Christmas present. Unfortunately the young cats may be pregnant, leaving animal welfare agencies like the RSPCA inundated with kittens and struggling to find them new homes. Cats don't need to have a litter before being de-sexed.

Pets need lots of attention, good food, exercise and kept safe from harm. Roaming cats are likely to pick up diseases or be injured through contact with wild cats, chased by dogs or hit by cars. As natural hunters, they may also attack small native birds and animals.

Being responsible means micro-chipping your cat for identification, de-sexing to prevent unwanted kittens, vaccinating against disease and building an outdoor enclosure to keep it safe at home. Cats sleep most of the day and will adapt easily to enclosures and even being walked on a lead.

If you want a healthy pet, visit the RSPCA or talk to your local vet.

Learn more about caring for your cat by reading 'I Love My Cat' brochure which is available from local Councils or vet clinics.



Running an Activity on Council Land?

There are many uses of public land, especially during the warmer weather. Many of them are on the spur of the moment - a gathering of friends, a bbq, perhaps even a roadside stall to raise funds for a group or even generate an income - however others are planned well in advance such as a wedding, school event etc.

Latrobe Council encourages the use of its built and open space facilities however, as you would expect when a visitor calls to your home, we like to ensure that the best possible presentation is made at these locations so everyone enjoys the occasion; the activity doesn't impinge on others rights to use public land and that the facility is actually available for use when you want it.

While there are numerous grounds and facilities throughout the municipality, there are occasions when lots of small groups want to use the same facility at the same time or maybe even a large group wanting sole use. Early contact with Council may alleviate unnecessary and awkward situations.

Details should be given in writing to Council, advising of what you are planning, where you are proposing and contact details of the coordinator. Council will then follow up with any other information that may be needed

prior to approval being provided.

There may be occasions where activities are not approved by Council however this is generally only the case in high risk or inappropriate activities.

With approval, you then have paperwork to present to anyone questioning your right to be doing what you have permission to do. It also enables Council to cater for community needs i.e. scheduling of maintenance at facility; stocking of sufficient supplies pre and post event etc.

Should your activity be a roadside stall, you are required to complete a Roadside Vendor Application and lodge with Council no less than five (5) working days prior to your activity.

Should you be seeking to run a large event or have sole rights to public land, you may be required to complete an Event Management Plan, which requires lodgement no later than 30 working days prior to your event.

Details on the above are available from Latrobe Council's Community Services personnel by phoning 6421 4650.

Start Too Early or Finish Too Late?

Are you aware that there are restrictions to the times that a variety of machinery and equipment may be operated?

Under Schedule 7 in the Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Miscellaneous Noise) Regulations 2004, these include -

Item	Days	Permissible hours of use
1. Mobile machinery, forklift trucks and industrial motor vehicles referred to in Schedules 2 and 3	Monday to Friday	Between 7 am and 6 pm
	Saturday	Between 8 am and 6 pm
	Sundays and statutory holidays as defined in the <i>Statutory Holidays Act 2000</i>	Between 10 am and 6 pm
2. Portable apparatus referred to in Schedule 4	Monday to Friday	Between 7 am and 6 pm
	Saturday	Between 9 am and 6 pm
	Sundays and statutory holidays as defined in the <i>Statutory Holidays Act 2000</i>	Between 10 am and 6 pm
3. Power lawnmowers referred to in Schedule 5 and other power garden maintenance equipment	Monday to Friday	Between 7 am and 8 pm
	Saturday	Between 9 am and 8 pm
	Sundays and statutory holidays as defined in the <i>Statutory Holidays Act 2000</i>	Between 10 am and 8 pm
4. Musical instruments and sound amplifying equipment	Monday to Thursday	Between 7 am and 10 pm
	Friday	Between 7 am and midnight
	Saturday	Between 9 am and midnight
	Sundays and statutory holidays as defined in the <i>Statutory Holidays Act 2000</i>	Between 10 am and 10 pm
5. Motor vehicles, motor vessels and outboard motors (unless the motor vehicle or motor vessel is moving into or out of residential premises)	Monday to Friday	Between 7 am and 6 pm
	Saturday	Between 9 am and 6 pm
	Sundays and statutory holidays as defined in the <i>Statutory Holidays Act 2000</i>	Between 10 am and 6 pm

If you are experiencing issues in relation to a breach of the

above, please telephone Latrobe Council's Environmental Health Officer on 6421 4650 or, if outside office hours, phone Tasmania Police.

Who's Driving You Home Tonight?



The recently launched Devonport-Latrobe Liquor Accord's first project was the creation and launch of a designated driver program -

Who's DES Tonight - in December.

Department of Infrastructure Road Safety Operations Manager, Grant Douglas, said in a recent media statement that "*Who's Des Tonight?*" was an initiative of the Community Road Safety Partnership between Devonport and Latrobe Councils and the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER).

This important program, which is being coordinated by the Devonport-Latrobe Liquor Accord, encourages patrons to plan ahead when out drinking and to nominate a sober driver for safe transport home. Initially around 20 licensed hotels and clubs in Devonport and Latrobe have enlisted in the program and will provide identifying wristbands and free soft drinks to participating designated drivers.

Promotional material has been developed for radio and television advertising and through poster displays in licensed premises. As part of the promotional material designated drivers will be symbolised by two cartoon characters, 'Des' and 'Desiree'.

The project, which has been sponsored by DIER, Southern Cross Television, radio station 7AD and Coca Cola, has also received generous support of the participating venues which will oversee operations.

Mr Douglas said that *Who's Des Tonight?* was an excellent example of a local community identifying a road safety issue and successfully tackling the issue at the grassroots level.

Bells Parade Facilities Hired

Use of the rotunda and southern end of the Bark Hut at Bells Parade are now able to be booked for private functions.

The booking process has been introduced on a trial basis solely to these sections of Bells Parade to enable functions surety of use when required i.e. weddings, end of year activities.

A noticeboard advising of the booking of these facilities is located at the Bark Hut and regularly updated.

The northern end of the Bark Hut, heritage hut and general amenities throughout Bells Parade are all still freely available for general use, many of which include free BBQ facilities. If the rotunda and southern end of the Bark Hut are not booked for private functions, they too may also be used on the basis that multiple groups may use same.

Bookings are being managed by the Australian Axemans Hall of Fame, who are contactable by phoning 6426 2099. A booking fee applies.

Community Bank Countdown Continues at Port Sorell

The Community Bank project at Port Sorell needs another 80 pledges of support if it is to proceed to the next phase (a full financial feasibility).

While support for the project has been solid to date,

committee chair John Tabor is appealing to the many people who have indicated their support of the initiative, but who have not yet sent in their pledge, to do so now.

"We are so close", says Mr Tabor, "but the project will not proceed unless we get more concrete support from the local community. The additional pledges are critical, but equally important to getting a firm commitment from Bendigo Bank is that local people start to support the Bank."

"Sue Cox from Bendigo Bank is in attendance at Shearwater (the old post office site) every Wednesday and any business transferred to the Bank is identified with a unique Port Sorell identifier".

"This venture has so much potential for our community, especially the ability to support the activities of local community groups and clubs through ongoing community grants, that it would be a tragedy if the bank didn't proceed."

Even if you are an existing customer of the Bendigo Bank, a pledge of support for a local Community Bank branch is important. So please help us to help you."

You can pledge support or get further information by phoning 0487 672 556 or emailing portsorellcommunitybank@gmail.com

Shearwater Park Toilet Facilities

An appropriately themed infant playground, inclusive of a child's toilet facility, is proposed for installation on the foreshore reserve between Shearwater Park and the Port Sorell Surf Club by the end of this financial year.

The identification of this area as the desired location took into account the lack of these facilities in this part of the community, availability of car parking and positioning near high pedestrian use areas.

"There are two well used playgrounds at Port Sorell, one at the Panatana Rivulet Family Park in Rice Street and another at the Port Sorell Memorial Hall in Meredith Street."

This new playground will provide for the needs of infant children that live nearer Hawley/Shearwater and provide an entertainment option for younger siblings of members of the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club," said Mayor Mike Gaffney.

It is anticipated that works will commence in Autumn.

User Friendly Walking Trails

In 2010 the Latrobe and Port Sorell Tourism Association (LaPSTA) pursued a partnership with the Latrobe Council, Rubicon Coast and Landcare Inc, Port Sorell Lions Club and Rotary Club of Latrobe to upgrade the current trail network through key attractions in the Port Sorell area including nature reserves, boat ramps, paddling pools, recreational grounds, beaches, foreshore access and food outlets.

Identified as a \$70,070 project, funding support of \$27,470 was sought through Sport and Recreation Tasmania's Trails and Bikeways Grant Program.

The successful application involved -

- track upgrades to a higher quality that is more suitable for shared use
- improved connections for community benefits
- infrastructure that increases usage for a larger range of

users,

- development and installation of interpretive signage and
- production of an associated Port Sorell Walks Guide Brochure that links the various sections of the trail while simultaneously educating trail users on the surrounding flora and fauna.

The completed works were officially opened by the Honourable Michael Polley MP on December 12 and are no doubt being enjoyed by the many residents and visitors to Port Sorell over the summer season.

A "Can Do" Club



The Surf Life Saving season commenced for members of the Port Sorell Club in September with a busy registration day, resulting in many new families joining the club.

Training is in full swing on Thursday nights at 5.30 pm and Sunday's at 10.00 am, followed by a BBQ lunch afterwards. If local folk happen to be walking by while the BBQ is cooking up a storm please feel free to drop in and purchase a sausage or hamburger.

Due to the large number of children joining the surf club, an additional group called Grommets, which is for children who are too old for Flippers but not quite water confident enough to join Nippers, has been introduced.

The Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club will host a junior competition on Saturday, 7 January and spectators are welcome. The children will be participating in sprint, board and iron man races so come along and support your local club and show clubs from around Tasmania what a great community Port Sorell is.

A Strategic Planning session was held a few months ago to develop a plan for the potential growth of the club and some goals to aim for. A copy of this plan is available at the Club Rooms for those interested.

The Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club has approximately 18 members training to achieve either their Bronze Medallion or Surf Rescue Certificate (for U14). This is a fantastic outcome for the club and for the community because it means that Patrols of the local beaches will be well resourced over the summer period. Patrols will occur on both Saturday and Sunday during January and February and Sunday's only during March.

The Club Room is open to the public most Friday nights over Summer from 5.30 pm - see the Club Notice Board for confirmation.

Remember, swim between the flags and check beach and weather conditions with your local Patrol group before entering the water.

The Love of Singing

The Rubicon Variety Singers was formed about 10 years ago as a singing group that performs at Aged Care Homes throughout the region solely for the enjoyment of the residents. During most years a concert is also organised to perform in the Port Sorell Memorial Hall and the Senior Citizen's Club at Latrobe.

The membership of the group



is about 12 people with more men and women welcome to join a fun singing and performing group. The group also performs skits for the aged in the community.

While the bulk of the group's membership is from the Port Sorell area, as a non-profit organisation they needed to best manage their limited resources and, thanks to the generosity of the Devonport-Latrobe Masonic Club, now practice every Wednesday morning (from 9.30 am until 12 noon) in the Masonic Lodge rooms in Edward Street, Devonport. In 2012 there are plans afoot to stage a concert for the enjoyment by the wider community.

If you would like to know more about the Rubicon Variety Singers, please contact their Secretary, Mrs Lynette Stuart, on 6428 6287.

Fencing Tips

Looking to replace an adjoining fence? Here are some tips that could help make the process simple -

- Get your neighbour's opinion about repairing or replacing a fence rather than simply serving them with a Notice to Fence.
- Be flexible in terms of materials to be used and when you want the work completed.
- Be clear about what you propose and get several quotes.
- Put your agreement in writing.
- Know your legal rights but work hard to avoid legal action.

With changes to Local Government Planning continuing, it is highly recommended that you liaise with either Will or Sharon in Council's Planning Department prior to commencing on your fence.



Blackberry Control

Blackberries may be lovely to eat as jam or blackberry and apple pie but they are also a "*Weed of National Significance*" because they spread so readily and crowd out other desirable plants.

December, January and February are the best times to spray or cut-and-paste blackberry bushes. For expert advice, go to www.weeds.org.au/WoNS.

Over the past two years Rubicon Coast and Landcare (RCLC) members have been working hard to control blackberries in the Rubicon Reserve at the northern end of Shearwater Park. Cradle Coast NRM funded some contract spraying in 2009 and 2010. This year RCLC members have been grubbing out new seedlings, planting native species in their place, and will soon start this summer's round of cutting-and-pasting the remaining canes.

A wonderful walkway is meanders through Rubicon Reserve, enabling you to walk through this beautiful remnant patch of paperbark and banksia habitat. It is home to a wide variety of native plants, birds and mammals, including bandicoots and potoroos.

If you would like to join Rubicon Coast and Landcare and help with the care of native vegetation in the Port Sorell area, you would be most welcome. Maybe you can spare a couple of hours a month for planting or weeding and/or would like to join the monthly meetings at Camp Banksia. If so, contact Robin Garnett (Secretary of RCLC) at rubicon_inc@hotmail.com

Men's Shed

Are you a male with time of your hands and looking for something to do?

Back in the day, you'd find many a man busy in their shed, tinkering away at this and that. A mate would call around and there they'd be chatting away while working on a little project or two for hours on end.

There is a perception that this does not happen as much in today's society for one reason or another and that the community is all the poorer for it. Where do you learn a hands on skill? What do you do if you are new to an area? What if you have always had a shed but downsized your property and now don't have the room?

The Port Sorell Advisory Committee has suggested to Council that there may perhaps be a few men in the Port Sorell community looking for an outlet such as a Men's Shed.



Part of a national model, Men's Sheds provide a local, informal location where men in a community can spend time engaging in manual crafts such as woodworking, metal working or the

restoration of old furniture, objects, machines etc, or to simply follow the needs and interests of its members. The shed is a place for men to be socially active and form friendships, and allows new opportunities for activity and interaction in their lives post-work.

If this is something that you think may fit the bill for you, Councillor Dayna Dennison would like to hear from you.

Councillor Dennison is contactable on 0409 587 844 or email crdennison@bigpond.com.

Filling Generational Gaps

"There are some kids that think that a mouse is only an electronic device used to manoeuvre around a computer screen! It's not that mice no longer exist, it is just that many people these days are so electronically focused that they are simply unaware of the wider environment," said Mrs Rosemary Lincolne of Geneva Christian College at Latrobe.

In an endeavor to dispel such limited understandings, the Geneva Christian College is developing partnership to reintroduce such basic knowledge and skills sets throughout its student community.

Last year the Northern Tasmanian Driving Society ran a 6-week Introduction to Carriage Driving, starting with a small pony and gradually progressing to a full sized horse.

"This course was introduced to girls in Grade 5 and, due to the positive outcomes of it, will be offered to other classes this year," said Mrs Lincolne.

Participants Ashley Eyles, Taylah Mott, Monique Turner, Laura Rogers and Sahara Howe commented that they enjoyed *"getting the horses to move around the cones, clean out their hooves, grooming and brushing them and putting the harness on the horses and attaching it to the carriages."*

Throughout the course, the girls also learnt how to hold the

reins and steer the horse, take the horse in and out of the float, look after the horse if it is sick and control it with verbal commands.

Mrs Lincolne added that along with extending this course this year, they plan to work with a qualified arborist to teach students all about trees and maintaining its health.

Additionally, Geneva have an outdoor education centre at Interlaken that students are taken to throughout the year where they get to experience first-hand the skills associated with canoeing, fishing, camping, lighting a fire and spotlighting wildlife.

Remodelling Bass Highway and Gilbert Street Junction

Identified during the compilation on the Tasmania Government's Community Roads Program, the Bass Highway/Gilbert Street junction is scheduled to undergo some modernisation and simplification to improve the safety for all traffic at this junction.

These junction improvements will extend to include work on the junction of Henry Street with the Bass Highway due to the influence of one on the other.

The works will include -

- Dedicated right turn lanes off the Bass Highway for both Gilbert Street and Henry Street.
- Rationalisation of the Gilbert Street junction to a single point of entry/exit.
- Improvements to the Henry Street junction to facilitate movements of semi-trailers.

Source: www.dier.tas.gov.au

Tenders closed for this project on December 16.

It is anticipated that works will commence very soon with motorists asked to obey directional signage.

As an alternative to accessing Earltown from the west, the route along Moriarty Road, Bradshaw Street and Gilbert Street may be a time saving option.

Literacy Focus for 2012

2012 has been declared the National Year of Reading - an ambitious campaign to help turn Australia into a nation of readers.

Throughout the year, State and public libraries are collaborating to support three goals:

- For all Australians to understand the benefits of reading as a life skill and a catalyst for well-being
- To promote a reading culture in every Australian home
- A call to action for adults to share books with children

Various activities are being planned for the Latrobe Library.

For more information visit <http://www.statelibrary.tas.gov.au/nationalyearofreading> or contact the Latrobe Library and Online Access Centre on 6426 1697.

The Latrobe Library is located in Gilbert Street, Latrobe, alongside the Latrobe Post Office. It is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm.



Summer Discovery Ranger Program

The annual Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service Discovery Ranger program will be operating throughout the state again this summer.

A number of free activities will be held at the Narawntapu National Park including a sunset stroll every Wednesday from December 28th - February 1. Meet at the "Discovery Den" (opposite the park information centre) at 8:00 pm (duration 1.5 hours).

Discovery Ranger John will guide you on a stroll as light fades - when Narawntapu's native wildlife including wombats, Forester kangaroos and wallabies come out to play and you can learn more about these amazing creatures.

For further information about the full range of summer Discovery Ranger programs at Narawntapu National Park please contact the park information centre on 6428 6277 between 8:30 am and 3:00 pm.

For further information on other programs throughout the state please visit www.parks.tas.gov.au.



Tourism and Business Voice

The Latrobe and Port Sorell Tourism Association (LaPSTA) is a non-profit association which supports, promotes and represents local tourism businesses throughout the whole of the Latrobe Municipality.

Forging partnerships with council, government and non-government tourism bodies, LaPSTA coordinates, facilitates and communicates the views of members whilst promoting Latrobe and Port Sorell as tourism destinations with numerous tourism attractions, facilities, events and activities.

Membership is open to all businesses, groups and individuals with an interest in tourism within the Latrobe Municipality.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month with membership fees for 2011-12 set at \$75 with an option for Associate Membership by non-business members at \$35. For more information, please contact Keith Moylan (President) on 6428 7580.

Council Works Report

The followings works are scheduled to be undertaken by Latrobe Council through to March -

Roads

- Reconstruction of Victor and Cotton Streets
- Reconstruction of Club Drive near the Quinlan Crescent roundabout
- Floodway upgrade at Coal Hill Road
- Bridge replacement at Beer Street
- Piping the open drain in Cotton Street
- Install kerb and channel in Anderson Street
- Footpath installation in Anderson Street, East Esplanade and Reibey Street

Buildings

- General maintenance to community facilities

- Maintenance and capital upgrades to Council's elderly persons units

Parks and Reserves

- Footpath works in Kings Park
- Ground preparation for community events and activities
- Maintenance associated with numerous parks and reserves throughout the Municipality.

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean Up Australia Day is a simple way you can take action to clean up your environment.

In 2011 an estimated 565,510 volunteers cleaned up 16,454 tonnes at 7,479 sites right across Australia. Can we can do better in 2012?

Clean Up Australia will be on Sunday, 4 March.

Get involved by registering your own Clean Up Site or volunteer at a site near you.

Latrobe Council's Engineering Department can assist you with identifying public land that may benefit from your hands on approach.

If you would like to conduct a clean up on private land, you will have to get the landholder's permission.

Register on www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au by choosing Create a Clean Up Site. Previous registrations are not retained by Keep Australia Beautiful.

When you have registered, a Clean Up Kit containing everything that you will need will be forwarded to you. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

Looking for somewhere to volunteer? Simply go to www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au.



In 2012, all Australians are being called on to celebrate Year of the Farmer - an opportunity to appreciate the vital role farmers play in feeding, clothing and housing us all regardless of where we live.

"Agribusiness is crucial to the Australian way of life and economy. Each year, farm related industries inject more than \$405 billion into our economy, that's 27% of Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Farming and related industries employ more than 1.6 million Australians, which is 17.2% of the Nation's workforce and more than half of these jobs are located in capital cities. This is more than double the economic contribution and employment opportunities created by the mining industry," said Mr Philip Bruem, Chairman of Australian Year of the Farmer 2012.

More details can be found at <http://www.yearofthefarmer.com.au/>.

Picton Grange Pine Trees

The next meeting of the Latrobe Sport and Recreation Controlling Committee will consider the arborist's assessment of the pine trees located within Picton Grange at the Latrobe Recreation Ground.



Celebrate Australia Day

Step back in time and celebrate with friends and family the quirkiness of Australian culture at Henley-on-Mersey on January 26 - Australia Day - at Bells Parade, Latrobe.

Australia's proud heritage will be on display at various locations throughout Bells Parade with the pioneering spirit well and truly setting some challenges.

Pick the winner of the ferret races, try your hand at whip cracking, sheaf tossing, egg throwing or spud picking.

Barrack for the wood choppers, get on board for the Betta Boat Race, join in the Great Aussie Cherry Spit or see how far you can throw a gumboot.

Aspiring Robin Hoods will be challenging for the title, and associated trophy and prize, of Henley-on-Mersey Champion Archer. All you need do throughout the day is to shoot three golds out of six attempts at the target. Everyone that does, is entitled to shoot off for the Champion title - winner takes all.

There will be plenty of food and wine featuring the best of Tasmania produce, including cooking demonstrations.

It all gets underway at 9.00 am and continues through to 4.00 pm.

Admission is only \$5 adults and \$1 children with U5's free. Funds raised through gate entry assists the undertaking of future major project works at Bells Parade.

If you are seeking a seaside celebration of Australia Day, then you can't go past the historic waterslide event at Port Sorell from 9.30 am.

An annual tradition, hosted by the Port Sorell Lions Club, this event is held on the banks of the Port Sorell Bowls Club hill with face painting and food options available in and the grounds of the Port Sorell Lions Caravan Park in Meredith Street, Port Sorell.

Funds raised on food sales assists the provision of community projects throughout Port Sorell.

Sassafras Heritage Farming Weekend

The Sassafras Heritage Farming Weekend will be held over the March long weekend - 10-12 March.

Whilst it would be difficult to miss with all the displays, if you look for the Fergie on the pole as you drive through Sassafras, you can't miss it.

The committee has enthusiastically embraced "*The Year of the Farmer*". Throughout the three days, there will be displays and demonstrations covering all aspects of heritage farming including harvesting and processing, sheep shearing, dairy, tractors, stationary engines, chaff cutting and baling, rope making, stone wall building, vintage cars, bikes, model engineering and even an animal nursery. A new feature this year is a miniature railway offering rides for adults and children.

The disabled and elderly care catered for with transport

around ground.

There will be plenty of food and refreshment stalls and shaded seating with live music by Reno and Jade Morea.

Admission is \$20 Family, \$8 Adults and \$4 Children.

For more information, contact Brian Scott 0400 248 044, Allan Wilton 0409 516 290, B & K Ling 0418 513 431 or Phil Weeks 0408 330 813.

School Returns

It only seems like yesterday when school broke up for the 2011-12 Summer holidays. How fast they fly!

Many families are nearing the time that students return to school.

St Patrick's Catholic School in Latrobe is the first to start the 2012 year on February 8. All other schools return on February 15.

2012 will be the last year that three terms will be offered in schools throughout Tasmania as a four term system is introduced from 2013. Locally, Geneva Christian School already operates on a four term basis.

What's On

Information on regular, weekly activities is detailed on Council's website at www.latrobe.tas.gov.au (under tourism).

january

- 4 Lady Gaga and Rhianna** tribute performances at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Show only \$20 pp. Bookings essential to 6428 6205
- 7 Port Sorell Surf Fiesta** at Shearwater Park from 11.00 am until 4.00 pm. Gold coin admission.
- 8 Georgina Harvey**, local Jazz Singer performs at Ghost Rock Vineyard, 1055 Port Sorell Main Road, Northdown from 1.00 pm. Small cover charge applies. Bookings recommended. ☎ 6428 4005
- 13 Outdoor Cinema**, Bells Parade, Latrobe from approximately 8.30 pm. Film to be advised. BYO chair and warm clothes. Admission charges apply. ☎ 0427 264 037
- 22 Gypsy Rose** performs at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Free admission. Bookings essential to 6428 6205
- 23-28 Latrobe Art Exhibition** at Australian Axemans Hall of Fame from 9am until 4pm daily. Entry details available online at www.latrobe.tas.gov.au and close on January 13. ☎ 0400 578 746
- 21 Fuso Truck And Bus Australian National Super Sedan Series Speedway Racing** featuring Super Sedans, Tassie Sixes (State Title), Lightning Sprints, Modifieds, Wingless Sprints at Bendigo Bank Arena, Speedway Drive, Latrobe. Gates open at 3.00 pm. Racing starts at 6.00 pm. ☎ 0417 593 518
- 26 Legends Induction** to the Australian Axemans Hall of Fame, Bells Parade, Latrobe at 9.15 am. ☎ 6426 2099
- 26 Henley-on-Mersey** at Bells Parade, Latrobe from 9am until 4.00 pm. ☎ 6426 1442 or 6424 7822
- 26 Port Sorell Lions Australia Day Waterslide** and community activities at the Port Sorell Lions Club Caravan Park, Meredith Street, Port Sorell from 9.30 am. ☎ 0408 144 163

27 Outdoor Cinema, Shearwater Park, Port Sorell from approximately 8.30 pm. Film to be advised. BYO chair and warm clothes. Admission charges apply. ☎ 0427 264 037

27 Latrobe Speedway featuring Tassies six state title lighting sprints modified (wingless). Racing starts at 6.00 pm. ☎ 0417 593 518

february

3-4 Bendigo Bank Super Sedan Grand Prix Speedway Racing featuring Modifieds, Junior Sedans (Rnd 7), Wingless Sprints, Formula 500s, Speedkarts. Super Sedans (Rnd 6), Tassie Sixes, Lightning Sprints, Street Stocks (Rnd 7), Speedkarts at Bendigo Bank Arena, Speedway Drive, Latrobe. Gates open at 3.00 pm. Racing starts at 6.00 pm. ☎ 0417 593 518

4 Creedance tribute performance at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Show only \$20 pp. Bookings essential to 6428 6205

10 Outdoor Cinema, Bells Parade, Latrobe from approximately 8.30 pm. Film to be advised. BYO chair and warm clothes. Admission charges apply. ☎ 0427 264 037

12 "Love Child" aka Neil Gray, Bruce Mansfield and Jess Outram perform at Ghost Rock Vineyard, 1055 Port Sorell Main Road, Northdown from 1.00 pm. Small cover charge applies. Bookings recommended. ☎ 6428 4005

13 Port Sorell History Tour commences at the Port Sorell Bowls Club at 9.30 am. Great for learning more about your back yard and includes a light lunch. Cost: \$25 per person. Bookings essential to 6428 6199 or 6428 6503

15 Chat 'n Choose Registration Day from 10.00 am until 12 noon at the Latrobe Baptist Church Hall, Gilbert Street, Latrobe. ☎ 6426 1220 or 6426 1740 (refer separate article)

16-19 Tasmanian AARMCMCC (remote controlled model cars) 1/8th Off-Road State Title at Latrobe Speedway, Latrobe. ☎ 0400 890 732

18 Rod Stewart tribute performance at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Show only \$20 pp. Bookings essential to 6428 6205

18-19 Latrobe Flower and Vegetable Show at Latrobe Memorial Hall from 9am until 4pm both days. ☎ 6428 4170

24 Outdoor Cinema, Shearwater Park, Port Sorell from approximately 8.30 pm. Film to be advised. BYO chair and warm clothes. Admission charges apply. ☎ 0427 264 037

march

2-3 9/11 Bottleshop Classic Speedway Racing featuring Sprintcars (Rnd 8 Final), AMCAs, Street Stocks (Rnd 8), Tassie Sixes, Lightning Sprints, Modifieds, Junior Sedans (Rnd 8), Formula 500s, Sidechairs, Speedkarts (State Title) at Bendigo Bank Arena, Speedway Drive, Latrobe. Gates open at 3.00 pm. Racing starts at 6.00 pm. ☎ 0417 593 518

3 Daryl Braithwaite and others in concert at Ghost Rock Vineyard, 1055 Port Sorell Main Road,

Northdown from 1.00 pm. Admission \$40 per person. Bookings essential. ☎ 6428 4005

4 Clean Up Australia Day (refer to separate article)

9 Outdoor Cinema, Bells Parade, Latrobe from approximately 8.30 pm. Film to be advised. BYO chair and warm clothes. Admission charges apply. ☎ 0427 264 037

10-12 Sassafras Heritage Farming Weekend at 7648 Bass Highway, Sassafras (refer separate article)

11 Historic Vehicle Display from 8.00 am - 9.30 am at Bells Parade, Latrobe

11 Gypsy Rose performs at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Free. Bookings essential to 6428 6205

23-25 Gemboree at Latrobe Memorial Hall

24 GW Landscaping & Timber Supplies Grand Slam Speedway Racing featuring Super Sedans (Rnd 8 - Final), Street Stocks (Rnd 10 - Final), Formula 500s, Modifieds, Junior Sedans (Rnd 10 - Final), Lightning Sprints, AMCAs, Sidechairs, Speedkarts at Bendigo Bank Arena, Speedway Drive, Latrobe. Gates open at 3.00 pm. Racing starts at 6.00 pm. ☎ 0417 593 518

30 - 1 Tiara Country Music Festival and Awards in and around the town of Latrobe. ☎ 6426 2099

31 Rocky Horror performance at Shearwater Resort, Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater from 6.30 pm. Show only \$20 pp. Bookings essential to 6428 6205

Plan Your Promotion

Future article deadlines and distribution dates are -

Deadline.....Distribution Date

23 February.....6 March

12 April.....8 May

7 June.....25 June

Articles may be submitted to Michelle Dutton via email michelled@latrobe.tas.gov.au; facsimile 6426 2121 or mailed to PO Box 63, Latrobe 7307.

Contributions must be relevant to the Latrobe Municipality and suitable for inclusion. They will be used at the discretion of the editor, in whole or part, or not at all, in the next scheduled issue or subsequent issues. The Council does not pay for editorial submitted.

Information supplied is correct at the time of printing. Although all care has been taken in the production of this newsletter, Latrobe Council accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy or error contained in this newsletter as a result of information supplied.

Your Elected Representatives

The following are your current elected representatives -

Mayor Mike Gaffney,
43 Gilbert Street Latrobe 6426 1797

Deputy Mayor Rick Rockliff,
90 Churchills Road, Sassafras..... 6426 7283

Rob Beveridge, 65 Esplanade, Hawley Beach... 6428 7693

Dayna Dennison, 3 Colin Court, Shearwater..... 6428 7844

Peter Freshney, 87 Shearwater Bvd, Shearwater 6428 7004

Michael McLaren, 37 Gilbert Street, Latrobe.... 6426 2777

John Perkins, 26 Palmers Road Latrobe 6426 2585

Garry Sims, 300 Wesley Vale Rd Wesley Vale 6428 4019

Lesley Young, 265 Greens Creek Road, East Sassafras
..... 6426 7235

BENDiGO BANK PORT SORELL SURF FIESTA

SATURDAY, 7 JANUARY
11.00 AM - 4.00 PM

SHEARWATER PARK (OFF FREER STREET), SHEARWATER
ENTRY BY DONATION

Feast on food offerings from the ocean and the land

Indulge in an array of award winning wines and local produce

Art, history and cultural displays

Singers, circus performers and local bands

Kid's activities including mini jeeps, pirate ship and face painting

On the foreshore, representatives from surf clubs throughout Tasmania will highlight their extensive skills and abilities in a variety of competitions during the day.



Photo credit: Latrobe Council, Darren Rist Photography and The Advocate

FOOD, FUN, FERRETS AND FITNESS HENLEY-ON-MERSEY



9.00AM - 4.00PM 26TH JANUARY
BELLS PARADE, LATROBE



- › FERRET RACES
- › AXEMANS CARNIVAL
- › STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TRIATHLON
- › BETTA BOAT RACE
- › GREAT CHERRY SPIT COMPETITION
- › WOODEN BOATS
- › GUMBOOT THROWING
- › HISTORIC DISPLAYS
- › FINE FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
- › COMPETITIONS FOR ALL AGES
- › AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

ADULTS \$5.00 - KIDS \$1.00
CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE



Rotary Club of
Latrobe



Lions Club of
Latrobe



Latrobe Council