



CARAVAN PARK REFURBISHMENT TO ENHANCE HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

Latrobe Council has been fortunate to receive \$2.5 million from the Local Government Loans Program to finalise the implementation of the Port Sorell Caravan Park Master Plan. The program is part of the Tasmania Government’s response to the COVID-19 crisis and is designed to “encourage local governments to invest and employ more Tasmanians to upgrade, renovate and to do necessary maintenance to improve existing local government infrastructure.”

The Port Sorell Caravan Park Master Plan was released in August 2018, following a 5-month study and consultation process led by Sustainable Park Solutions.

The Master Plan included a 30-year financial plan, concept plans and recommendations to upgrade facilities, accommodation, marketing, compliance, and operational aspects of the park. The plan has been adopted by the management committee as a guiding document, with several operational and capital upgrades effected over the last two financial years.

The new funding agreement will allow Council to implement the remainder of the upgrades, including new entrance, main amenities building, office and caretaker accommodation, new cabin accommodation options and additional carparking.

Latrobe Council and the Lions Club of Port Sorell Inc have recently agreed to extend their affiliation agreement, which will see a continued presence of the service club in the caravan park operations and on the management committee for another five years.



The Lions Club of Port Sorell Inc are well known for their popular pancake Sundays and Relay for Life fundraising raffles as well as their Australia Day BBQ and water slide activities. Subject to the final design and tendering, construction is anticipated to begin in October 2020, with site works and the new amenities block being constructed prior to Christmas. The remainder of the project will be undertaken between February and Easter 2021 to avoid the peak holiday periods. Some sites within the park may be unavailable during these periods, including the March long weekend.



YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor Peter FRESHNEY ...	0417 287 006
D/Mayor Graeme BROWN.	0417 598 116
Shayne (Cush) ALLISON ...	0409 792 648
Michael McLAREN	6426 2777
Vonette MEAD	0407 055 180
Sommer METSKE	0409 622 710
Garry SIMS	0419 139 053
Gerrad WICKS	0488 325 590
Lesley YOUNG.....	0419 326 250

FORMAT CHANGE FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

The face-to-face staging of Council's monthly general meeting and openness to community attendance has been affected since March.

To maintain the operations of Council to near normal during COVID-19, Local Government were authorised to conduct its monthly general meetings remotely via teleconference.

For transparency, recordings of the meetings are available on council's website - www.latrobe.tas.gov.au

As restrictions continue to ease, Council is gradually returning to face-to-face meetings but, having seen the benefit of teleconferencing, are pursuing that as an option for physically absent elected representatives to continue to ensure that they capably represent the views of their constituents.

The teleconferencing of operational meetings is expected to play a greater role in Council's general operations due to the greater efficiency and collaboration identified through this mechanism and as we move forward in different times.

The next general meeting of Latrobe Council will be held on a face-to-face on 13 July at the Latrobe Council Chambers, 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe from 5.00pm. Unfortunately, the social distancing requirements do not permit a public gallery however public participation remains available. Please contact Council's Executive Assistant, Mrs Sarah Cairns, on 64264444 for details should you wish to address Council.

IMPROVEMENT SOUGHT TO TEMPORARY MIGRANT HOUSING

Some residents may be aware that Council has made a submission to the Senate Select Committee on Temporary Migration.

The Committee was established to inquire into and report on the impact temporary migration has on the Australian economy, wages and jobs, social cohesion and workplace rights and conditions.

Council's submission was very much a proactive approach aimed at preventing

those issues and concerns recently experienced at both Shearwater and Wesley Vale.

Those locations are among a number of sites where temporary migrants have been accommodated under the Federal Government Seasonal Workers Program and Council is keen to ensure similar issues do not occur at other sites.

Council's aim was to be constructive and to reflect on our experiences in the hope that amendments might be made to the Temporary Migration Scheme that will ultimately benefit both the workers and those companies and industries that they are here to support.

Latrobe Council is keen to acknowledge the contribution made by seasonal workers and temporary migrants but is also acutely aware of its responsibilities to ensure that planning, plumbing and building guidelines are adhered to and further, that the safety of seasonal workers is paramount during their stay in this country.

LATROBE SEWER UPGRADE

TasWater are continuing its major sewer upgrade and augmentation project in Latrobe to address uncontrolled sewer spills which occur during heavy rain events.

In efforts to minimise impacts on Latrobe residents and traffic, TasWater has developed a staged plan.

The area between 159-189 Percival Street commenced on Monday, 22 June and will continue through to Friday, 17 July 2020, weather permitting.

As part of the sewer main upgrade, the contractor will be excavating along the pipeline route, generally within the road reserve.

All planned works will be between the hours of 7.00am and 6.00pm.

During these times, residents along the route may experience some construction-related noise.

In the event of wet weather, residents may notice de-watering pumps operating during the night to prevent worksite flooding.

The construction team will endeavour to minimise noise impacts to nearby residents.

At some stages during construction, public roads may be closed to through traffic although access will be maintained for local residents.

Temporary arrangements will reduce traffic on Percival Street to a single lane during normal working hours and residents may experience some traffic delays because of these works.

TasWater and its contractor will be taking steps to ensure that any impacts to residents are kept to a minimum and any short-term disruption of access to

properties, if required, will be negotiated directly with property occupants.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding the Latrobe sewerage network upgrade project, please contact Nani Clark, TasWater CDO Community Engagement Officer through the Call Centre on 13 6992 or via email to nani.clark@taswater.com.au

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Camp Banksia and the Banksia Centre on the corner of Pitcairn and Anderson Street, Port Sorell have reopened with facilities open to locals and visitors alike. Sport is back in the Banksia Centre and if you would like to engage in some fun (but not competitive) sporting options including basketball, netball, volleyball or badminton contact John House from Port Sorell Indoor Sports (0407 561 283) and he will arrange something for you.

If Table Tennis or Petanque are of more interest, give the team at the Port Sorell U3A (University of the Third Age) a phone on 0499 162 539 or email mail@portsorellu3a.org.au.

With the cancellation of schools camps for a large part of the year, if you have a small family group, sporting or special interest group who would like to get away and catch up after time in isolation, Camp Banksia is offering some great discount deals for June-December 2020. Give them a call and they will see what they can do for you.

And don't forget - now that isolation is over - Camp Banksia is looking to build a library of jigsaws and board games and your donations would be gratefully received.

Camp Banksia and the Banksia Centre is reachable by phoning 6428 6121 or via <http://www.campbanksia.com/contact>



CLUB EXPANSION CATERS FOR GROWTH

Port Sorell Surf Life Saving members work proceeding on the expansion of their clubrooms to better meet continued and sustained member growth.

Numerous stakeholders have been working collaboratively to develop this multi-use facility that also encourages and caters for expanded community engagement.

The building extension includes publicly accessible shower, change and toilet facilities close to the nearby children's Pirate Park and Freers Beach.

The additional new and enlarged change facilities for member use will allow the release of space in the existing clubhouse for equipment storage and surf lifesaving patrol rooms.

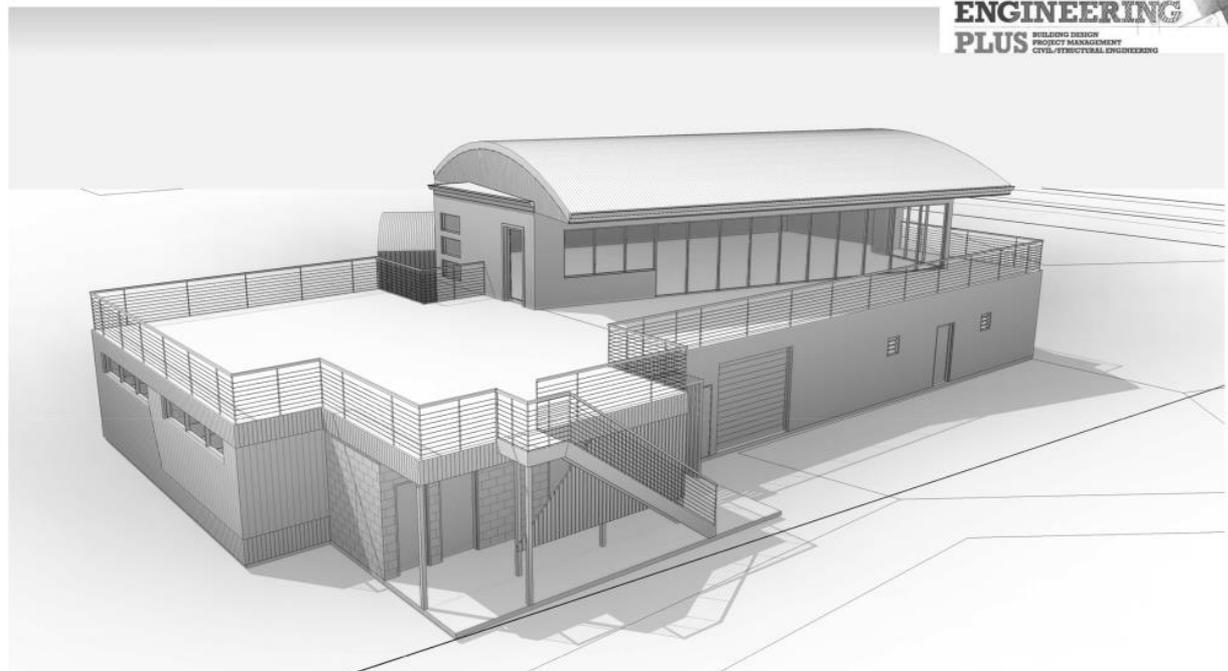
The upper deck will be significantly enlarged, providing extra space for club, community, and private activities.

A small area of degraded bushland immediately to the south of the club has been cleared for the building footprint and a fire break established between the clubrooms and North Freers Reserve. While clearing low level vegetation in this process, numerous significant trees have been able to be retained.

Lengthy consultation with TasWater and the Tasmanian Fire Service has been required and, while it has been a long time in the planning, the club is now eagerly looking forward to using the new facilities in the coming season.

In an interview with Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club President, Mr Haydon Coates said "our motto at the surf lifesaving club is *Bringing the Community to the Beach*.

Once this redevelopment is complete, in time for the start of the 2020-21 surf season, the new facility should certainly be able to



ENGINEERING PLUS
BUILDING DESIGN
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
CIVIL/STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

the public to enjoy their time at the beach and utilise the support of our patrol teams over the summer."

"Throughout this process we have had fantastic support from local businesses, who have steered us in the right direction, and we are grateful for the financial support received through grants from all levels of government including the Australian Government's Community Development Grants Programme, the Tasmanian Government through the Tasmanian Community Fund and the Levelling the Playing Field Grant Program, as well as Latrobe Council," he added.

The Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club provides surf lifesaving services to the Port Sorell community from October to March each year.

If you are interested in learning more, check out the club online at portsorellslsc.org.au, on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/portsorellslsc/> or email portsorellslsc@gmail.com.

THE FORGOTTEN HEROES OF PORT SORELL

Port Sorell has a rich history of community involvement in the defence of Australia in times of war.

Local boys served Australia by joining the armed forces in all the conflicts Australia has been engaged in.

Those left behind also served in ways that are in danger of being forgotten.

During World War 2, volunteer locals manned the air observer and coast watch posts, manned radios, all the while reporting and assisting the Australian Government in any way possible.

They also were members of the Women's Land Army, provided essential agricultural support, raised funds for Red Cross and other organisations.

Comfort packages were sent to soldiers overseas, and the CWA made record breaking quantities of camouflage netting. Mrs Julie Best is compiling a photobook, to be kept in the Port Sorell Memorial Hall, to honour all these locals that contributed to the defence of Australia in any of the above way.

Any photos of local soldiers or civilians that are reflective of how much the Port

Sorell community contributed, would be appreciated.

If you can assist, please contact Mrs Best on 0419 776 821. She does not wish to keep the photos, simply copy them for inclusion in the photobook.

FINAL STAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

In some positive news in these challenging times, trail building contractor Trailscapes has started construction of the final stage of the Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Trail project.

More than 55kms of new trails will be built in the Badgers

Range, north of Sheffield, taking the total distance of the trail network to over 90kms.

At this early stage Council anticipates approximately 20kms of new trails will be open in time for the end of year holiday period.

If you have been to the Warrawee Reserve in recent weeks you may have noticed the bridge

across the Mersey River (at the end of Shale Road) has been replaced.

The new bridge is more resilient to flooding than the previous design and makes for a better experience, reducing the amount of shale rock to ride over. Next Level MTB has also spent some time on the bike trails upgrading bridges on the Railton Express and repairing drainage lines and brake bumps on the three descent trails.

To keep up to date with the project look up Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Trails on Facebook or go to www.ridewildmersey.com.au.



LATROBE'S HIDDEN GEMS

It never ceases to amaze how surprised many people are when they first visit the walking tracks and associated recreational options on Pig Island, Thompsons Park, Dooleys Hill and to a lesser degree Kings Park in Latrobe.

Pig Island provides wonderful opportunities for walking or cycling, fishing and exercise, with or without one's canine friends. The island and adjoining parks are a credit to the Hedditch Family, particularly Ron and Phillip who have given so much time and effort to ensure locals and visitors engage with Mother Nature. Council's Green Spaces staff are also to be commended for their contribution and in particular, the work done in and around Bells Parade. I encourage residents of the municipality, their friends and families, and visitors alike to explore and enjoy the wonderful outdoor recreational options in and around the Mersey River and to encourage families in particular to share some quality time on bikes or on foot in the Mersey River Precinct.

Don't forget to include a visit to the Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame while you are in are at Bells Parade, to explore this amazing structure and indulge in its delectable delights.

AXEMANS REFURBISHMENT

The Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame in Latrobe is currently undertaking a refurbishment with an investment of over \$65,000 allocated by Latrobe Council to complete the project.

Local business, Hawke Designs from Shearwater, has been contracted to complete the graphic design component of the upgrade.

The Hall of Fame display will be expanded and modernised to include additional wood chopping related themes to broaden visitor appeal.

The Legends component will be modernised with new graphic panels and memorabilia cabinets, fitted with LED lighting.

A touchscreen will be available for relatives and friends to search for anyone who has been inducted into the Hall of Fame from all over Australia and a large screen will showcase wood chopping short films and more.

It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of the year. The Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame Exhibition will be closed until the refurbishments have been completed. The Thai Imperial and the Axeman's Makers Emporium are continuing to operate during this time.



Picture: © Jen Archer 2020

REDECORATING IN DOWN TIME

Relocating the Thai Imperial from Devonport to the Australian Axeman's Hall of Fame complex at Bells Parade, Latrobe in the latter half of 2016 was an interesting year but one without regrets for Owner Amanda Atkins-Cock.

"The Thai Imperial has been providing excellent food and service to the Devonport-Latrobe community for over a decade now and find that the mix of in-house and take away dining as well as the ability to cater for special occasions of any size, subject to government restrictions, and the regular Axeman's Makers Emporium in such a unique space provides so many opportunities.

One of the key features of the venue is the central arena due to its capacity to seat large gatherings.

The arena, atrium and café are in the process of being redecorated and will be worthwhile calling in to see this transformation," said Mrs Atkins-Cock.

The Thai Imperial is open Wednesday-Sunday for lunch (11:30am-1:30pm) and dinner (Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday 5.00pm-7:30pm, Friday and Saturday 5.00pm-8.00pm). In-house dining bookings and take away orders can be made by phoning 6426 2099.

COASTAL PATHWAY ON TRACK

The section of Coastal Pathway linking Ambleside to Latrobe has seen significant progress since February.

A retaining wall has been completed on River Road, close to the intersection with Oakwood Drive, as well as realignment of the road in this area allowing for improved line of sight for vehicles going around the corner.

One kilometre of pathway has been laid to date including the construction of rock embankments to allow for the creation of extra width for new sections of path while providing protection to the existing road.



The Latrobe to Ambleside section is part of the Coastal Pathway project being managed by the Cradle Coast Authority across the Latrobe, Devonport and Central Coast municipalities. The project is jointly funded by the three relevant Councils, and the State and Federal Governments.

CAN YOU FIND WALLY OR BLUEY AND FRIENDS?

Latrobe Playgroup, for pre-schoolers, commenced in February only to have COVID-19 step in and call a halt to physical get togethers. They have however remained active on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/latrobeplaygroup/>.

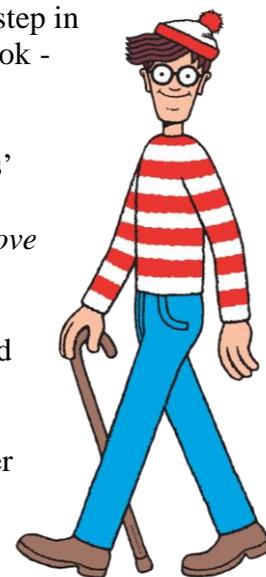
While restrictions continue to ease, to remain connected and active, Latrobe Playgroup volunteer, Kathryn Laphorne, has been installing laminated Wally or Bluey and friends' images throughout the community on a type of treasure hunt.

"My idea was to get the families to go for walks and find Wally and Bluey and either move them to a different spot or, if they really wanted to, to take one home", said Mrs Laphorne.

Once gathering numbers are sufficiently eased and Latrobe Playgroup have developed a COVID-19 Safe Plan, they will reopen for activities.

At that time, you will find this community based, parent lead playgroup each Friday from 10:00am at the Latrobe Baptist Church Hall, 125 Gilbert Street, Latrobe. Enter through the Gilbert Street gate.

In the meantime, please see how many Wally's and Blueys you can find with your children and remain connected with Latrobe Playgroup via Facebook.



RESIDENTIAL GROWTH AND DEMAND BEFORE CONSTRUCTION STIMULUS

The Latrobe Municipality continues to experience significant growth, particularly with residential building.

Council is encouraged that so many people are now choosing to move to our community, but also that so many existing community members are looking to establish new homes both in Latrobe and the greater Port Sorell area.

The town of Latrobe continues to experience rapid growth in the Stanley and Fenton Street areas along with the continued development of Calthorpe and Bradshaw Streets formerly farmed by the Perkins family.

Similarly, the Port Sorell area is experiencing significant growth in the Glyde and Joyce Street stages of the major subdivision being constructed by the J.A.C. Group and referred to as Hawley Beach Estate.

Rural Residential growth has also been experienced at subdivisions off Milldam Road and Charles Street Squeaking Point and, to a lesser extent, Banksia Rise off Port Sorell Main Road.

New residents and those relocating within the municipality are certainly adding to the vibrancy of our towns and communities and the economic stimulus provided to the building industry is welcomed at a time when many sectors have experienced a major



downturn.

Council's Development and Regulatory Services team are always receptive to any approach or enquiry regarding development and construction and look forward to assisting potential developers, home builders and the like.

OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BUILDING WORK

With the announcement in early June that the restrictions on the Tasmanian Government's \$20,000 First Home Owners Grant were expanded to any owner-occupier until the end of this year and the Federal Government also announcing the availability of \$25,000 grants to eligible persons for new home builds or big renovations, the opportunity to take advantage of a potential \$45,000 boost will certainly add demand on the construction industry.

But if you are about to head into a build project, where do you start?

The Department of Justice - Consumer, Building and Occupational Services has a great checklist that can help guide you through this process.

This and other informative fact sheets are available on Latrobe Council's website - www.latrobe.tas.gov.au/services/building-and-planning-services/building.

NEW BUILDS

Once you have identified a property for your build, you should see Council's Planners to make sure that there are no inhibitors to what you want to do.

If all is in order, then you need to work with your bank, solicitor, and real estate agent to finalise the property purchase.

A new build is classed as medium to high risk and requires the engagement of a licenced builder.

While the builder will facilitate the build process, there are two other important people that you will must also engage -

- a licenced building designer who will draw up your plans; and
- a licenced building surveyor who ensures that all approvals are in place

before work starts and sees it through to final sign off.

Details of all licenced individuals and organisations in Tasmania are detailed at <https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au/topics/licensing-and-registration/search-licensed-occupations/find-a-licensed-tradesperson>.

LARGE SCALE RENOVATION

Don't want to build but thinking of renovating your principle place of residence?

An option under Prime Minister Morrison's HomeBuilder program, valued at \$680m but being uncapped and demand driven, is that the \$25,000 grant can be expended on big renovations.

It comes with conditions including using external tradesmen and spending at least \$150,000.

The renovation works must be to improve the accessibility, safety, and liveability of the dwelling. It cannot be for additions to the property such as swimming pools, tennis courts, outdoor spas and saunas, sheds, or garages (unconnected to the property).

Details are available at treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/homebuilder As with new builds you must remember to check if planning, building, or plumbing approvals are required before you commence work.

BUILDING PERMIT EXPIRY

Some old building permits, generally issued before November 2012, were issued without an expiry date.

A two-year expiry date was introduced in November 2012 for all building permits issued after that time.

With the introduction of the current Act, all permits now expire after 2 years, unless they are completed or extended. In December 2018, to allow more time to deal with these older permits, the expiry

date was extended to 1 July 2020.

These permits recently received an extension to 19 December. Refer to <https://bit.ly/3hOmSj0> for details.

ILLEGAL BUILDING WORK

Illegal building or demolition work is building work that is done without the correct permit/s (building and/or planning). It also means that the building work done does not meet the standard of the National Construction Code.

One of the most common illegal building works throughout the Latrobe Municipality are sheds.

The *Building Act 2016* takes a risk-based approach to building approval with low, medium, and high-risk categories for building, plumbing and demolition works. It is important to initially discuss your construction project with Council to determine whether a building and/or planning permit is required.

As the permit authority, Council's Planning and Permit Authority Officers can guide you through the process to ensure you follow legislative procedures and are not penalised for non-compliance. Council's Development and Regulatory Services Department are contactable by phoning 64264444 or by appointment at the Latrobe Council office, 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe (open from 8.30am until 4.30pm Monday to Friday).

BUILDING UPDATE

A total of 98 building, plumbing, and commercial applications and notifications of works were received by Council from February to April inclusive.

They comprised of 29 dwellings; 9 dwelling additions/alterations; 8 outbuildings; 4 commercial/industrial; 43 plumbing applications and 5 other applications with a value of \$13,369,043.

HOME CARE PACKAGES SUPPORT AGEING IN HOME

One of the consequences of COVID-19 has been an increase in the number of older people wanting to remain living in their home rather than move to nursing home care.

While nursing homes have their place to meet a need, especially when one becomes lonely, is experiencing failing health or are less able due to circumstances beyond their control, if you are actively independent and just need a bit of a hand to remain living in your home, there are many day-to-day tasks that can be accessed and funded through the Federal Government's My Aged Care (myagedcare.gov.au).

Accessing My Aged Care service will also take the pressure off your family when they visit, enabling you all to enjoy each other's company and make some more memories while leaving the chores to someone else.

Accessing My Aged Care is available to those aged 65+ and is subject to a need's assessment.

If you need some help, the My Aged Care team can answer most of your questions over the phone (1800 200 422).

If you are simply unable to manage living in your family home, another option may be to downsize to a unit.

Latrobe Council manage 64 community and social housing units for the actively independent aged throughout the town of Latrobe.

The one- or two-bedroom units are designed to meet the needs of the aged, they are not disability units.

Units are co-located across multiple blocks of land meaning that tenants live in alongside persons of a similar age which can help support social connectedness.

SEAT DEDICATION RECOGNISES CONTRIBUTION

Do you know about Council's seat dedication program?

This program enables relatives, friends, or groups to recognise a person/couple that has contributed to the Latrobe Municipality over many years.

Through the purchase of a seat dedicated to their memory and installed in an appropriate area in the Latrobe Municipality, their contribution will be remembered for many years to come.

A recent seat installation at the Latrobe Cemetery (pictured) recognises Mr John Guest.

Amongst Mr Guest's vast community involvement, he was also an inaugural member of the Latrobe Cemetery Committee in 2003 and remained an active member until his passing in 2018 - the seat's placement is certainly fitting.



Details of all seat dedications, along with guidelines and applications forms are available on Council's website at www.latrobe.tas.gov.au.



Located within easy walking distance of numerous facilities and services, life tenancy is offered provided certain criteria are met. There is a waiting list for tenancy.

Individual applicants are prioritised for one-bedroom units and couples prioritised for two-bedroom units.

Even if you aren't quite ready now but may be in the next 3-5 years, going on the waiting list may be a good option for you.

This way you can work your way up to be in a position of readiness when a unit is offered to you.

If you would like to know more, please contact Latrobe Council on 64264444 for an information kit and application form.

FUNDING FINDER

Businesses, community groups, sporting clubs and not-for-profit organisations operating in the Cradle Coast region are now able to find and apply for grants and government funding using the Cradle Coast Funding Finder.

In a user-friendly initiative, the information on this website is specific to the North West Coast. This saves you time wading through grants only to find out that it is not applicable to you.

Users can search for and filter funding opportunities by specifying a location, industry, and type of project, and view key eligibility information immediately. The website also provides the ability to sign up for email alerts and other tools to maximise your awareness of funding opportunities.

This free service is provided through the Cradle Coast Authority website at www.cradlecoast.com/fundingfinder/.

ALL AHEAD WITH CAMP BANKSIA REDEVELOPMENT

During 2019 Latrobe Council was advised that it was to receive \$4m from the Commonwealth Government to redevelop Camp Banksia and the Banksia Centre. With the administrative processes for the funding now completed, Council engaged architectural consultant Design Intent to prepare the preliminary designs.

The designs will be based on the concepts of the Camp Banksia Master plan prepared in 2019.

This will see the camp experience enhanced for visitors with new accommodation options, improved facilities, and new activities.

The local community will also benefit from new opportunities to connect with the camp facilities with new play spaces and a redeveloped oval.

As part of the project, the Banksia Facility is to be expanded to enhance the performing arts and create a new space for our local history to be preserved and displayed.

The project continues to work through the planning and design phase with construction expected to commence during 2021.

PORT SORELL'S PARKS AND PATHWAYS

Council has received some wonderful feedback from new residents and families who have been utilising the shared pathways and reserves throughout Port Sorell during the COVID-19 restrictions. Pitcairn Reserve, the Aub Luck Reserve and Panatana Rivulet (locally known as Muddy Creek) have drawn warm praise and the foreshore pathway has been hailed a godsend.

Council is encouraged by the positive feedback and extensive use of our parks and reserves and will be considering the allocation of funding for further upgrades during the 2020-21 budget deliberations. Compliance with Public Health directions has enabled restrictions to be eased and consequently greater use of community facilities can be enjoyed.

RECOVERING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

As restrictions continue to ease in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been simultaneous activity in the recovery sector.

Typically, recovery is based on four keys areas - social, infrastructure, financial and environmental - and may be one or more of these, depending on the disaster.

In recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a specific focus on the economic and social impacts to enable our community to emerge the other side stronger, healthier, and more positive.

To ensure a localised and strategic response, a Municipal Recovery Committee has been established.

It is vital that recovery activities facilitate and support individuals, groups, and communities to identify, prioritise and implement their own recovery processes utilising short, medium- and long-term strategies.

Representation on the Municipal Recovery Committee, chaired by Latrobe Council's Recovery Coordinator, involves persons that have experience across a wide range of fields including government, economic development, tourism, business, agriculture, employment, health, youth, seniors, community, sport and pastoral support. Details of those representatives will be made public in due course to enable effective engagement across the whole of community, restoring confidence and subsequent growth and development economically and socially.

HARDSHIP SUPPORT

In recognition of the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our community, Council has recently developed and adopted a Hardship Policy.

In doing so, the Mayor of Latrobe, Councillor Peter Freshney said *"so many people have been adversely impacted by this pandemic; some have lost jobs, clientele or their entire business. This has resulted in significant personal and financial hardship.*

The Hardship Policy has been designed

to provide support and options for those experiencing genuine and serious financial hardship and Council encourages those experiencing such hardship to view the policy on our website and consider making an application should their personal circumstances dictate.

COVID-19 aside, it is recognised that serious financial hardship can occur at any time and this policy addresses a range of circumstances for both residential and commercial ratepayers. This policy will only apply to rates levied in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, not any rate or charge collected on behalf of other authorities such as the Fire Service contribution."

To apply for financial hardship assistance from Council, complete the application form available at www.latrobe.tas.gov.au and lodge it with Council either in person at the Council office, 170 Gilbert Street, Latrobe, via email to council@latrobe.tas.gov.au or post to P O Box 63, Latrobe, 7307.

All applications will be treated with the strictest of confidence with assessment based on their merit.

The applicant will be advised as early as possible so as not to exacerbate the hardship.

LOCAL STIMULUS GRANTS

To support of the COVID-19 recovery process, Council has established a COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program. A new Business Recovery Assistance grant has been added to the grant portfolio that includes Council's existing Events and Emerging Needs small grants with all focussing on supporting activities that respond to recovering from COVID-19.

The Business Recovery Assistance will enable eligible small and medium local businesses to -

- rapidly transition to alternate models of commerce, outreach, and engagement, including digital solutions and/or
- support circular economy initiatives from simple re-use to repair, re-make and revalue ideas.

The event assistance seeks to assist cultural, community and sporting groups to develop local events for an audience of 100 people (or more if restrictions ease further) for staging within the Latrobe Municipality prior to 30 June 2021.

Support is also available for existing events that cancelled their function prior to 16 March (conditions apply).

Emerging Needs funds to eligible community groups/organisations will support COVID-19 recovery in the fields of health and community welfare, sport and recreation, environment as well as minor capital works.

Details will be available on Latrobe Council's website -

www.latrobe.tas.gov.au - in July.

Applications are scheduled to close in August with the successful applicants advised in September.

REVIEW YOUR FINANCES

The world as we know has gone through a huge change - where the things that are important to us become more real.

Its time to look at what is working for us and what is not.

Are all your financial affairs working for you and are you shopping locally?

If not, it may be time to approach your local branch of the Port Sorell and Latrobe Community Enterprises Limited (PS&LCE) - Bendigo Bank.

Your local branches are still operating and are available to assist you with your financial needs.

Are you in the market for a re-finance on your home mortgage, a new insurance quote, personal loan, term deposit, open a new bank account or any of the many products available at comparable rates? Your business will ultimately assist growth in your community in the form of sponsorship for your sporting group or emergency service, community event or similar activity. Without your business those sponsorships are not available.

Your support is vital to the success of the PS&LCEL, so make a visit or phone call to the Shearwater branch or Latrobe agency today.

HELP TO DEVELOP YOUR COVID-19 SAFE PLAN

As part of the Tasmanian Government plan to 'Rebuild a Stronger Tasmania', all workplaces and community facilities accessible by staff, customers, members and the wider community are required to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan that complies with the minimum COVID-19 safety standards.

Templates are available at coronavirus.tas.gov.au/business-and-employees/covid-19-safe-workplaces-framework to support small and medium-sized businesses to assist in the development of COVID-19 Safety Plans based on sector-specific guidelines. This template is also a useful tool for community use.

Additionally, many sporting codes are developing plans specific to their sport. Developing a COVID-19 Safety Plan is the best way to demonstrate compliance with the minimum standards and ensure a safe operating environment until a vaccine for COVID-19 is developed and widely distributed.

If you require assistance to complete your COVID-19 Safe Plan, Latrobe Council's Environmental Health Officer is available - please ring on 6426 4444.



SOCIAL SERVICES HELPING HAND

While there are many organisations that provide support to the community, business, individual or group, one of the most difficult processes is finding them. FindHelpTAS provides a wide ranging, publicly accessible, independently managed dataset of services and activities that support the health and wellbeing of Tasmanians and our communities in the fields of -

- Alcohol and Addictions
- Children and Families
- Community and Culture
- Coronavirus COVID-19
- Disability
- Education and Employment
- Emergency
- Health
- Housing
- Legal and Financial
- Mental Health
- Older People
- Young People

The list however is not exhaustive.



If you belong to an organisation whose services could or should be included on this website, you are invited to become a member (which is free during COVID-19 and all of 2020). After that, there will always be a free membership with the option of upgrading for additional features.

The registration process is available online at <https://www.findhelptas.org.au/>

IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH EXERCISE

North West Tasmanians living with chronic health conditions now have access to a free, strength-based exercise program designed to boost their quality of life.

The Exercise Treatment Program is a 14-week course designed to improve activity levels of older people who have a long-term health condition, such as arthritis, osteoporosis, heart disease, Parkinson's disease, depression and more.

The Australian Government has committed \$500,000 in funding for the North West program up to June 2022 with Tasmanian-based workplace health organisation, Healthy Business Performance Group (HBP Group), selected to deliver the program.

The group exercise program targets people living in North West Tasmania who have or are at risk of developing a chronic health condition, and are:

- aged 60 or older, or
- an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person aged 45 or older

As part of the Exercise Treatment Program, eligible participants will be guided through individually tailored exercises at weekly sessions, as well as have access to healthy living advice in a safe, non-judgmental environment. The education sessions - covering topics such as how to prevent falls, tackling sedentary habits and staying motivated to pursue your goals - will be delivered in an informal manner, with simple 'take home' messages.

Participants start the program by undergoing an individual assessment in their first week, designed to help determine their general health, program goals, and functional capacity.

A further assessment is conducted at the end of the program to measure improvement, review their goals and achievements, and give them ideas for

how to keep active and healthy moving forward.

The Exercise Treatment Program is now open for referrals through a GP or other healthcare provider and is being delivered locally in Latrobe.

MAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF

In the March-April edition of this newsletter, participant interest was sought in a free, community yoga, meditation, and mindfulness program in Latrobe.

While sufficient people responded to this initiative and moves were underway to commence, COVID-19 came along.

Since then, Ms Cornish has secured employment and is unable to provide this activity in person but recommends this free, online Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction course (MBSR) - academy.happiness.com/collections.

Ms Cornish advises that *"the content is similar to what we would be doing together as a group ... It offers body scans, yoga classes and meditations and practices to do each week. The course is self-paced and has some excellent videos."*

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) is an approach that incorporates mindfulness to assist people struggling with life's difficulties, demands, stresses and physical or mental illnesses. MBSR is the first course on the home page and is *"great for beginner and advanced meditators alike, this course is designed to help you:*

- Respond rather than react to stress
- Change habitual reactivity patterns
- Cultivate self-awareness
- Learn the most established secular mindfulness program"

While COVID-19 restrictions continue to ease, it is important that you look after more than just your physical body.

Through MBSR Take the time to nurture your mind and move towards the best headspace you can have, enabling you to deal with whatever life throws at you.

DEVELOPING A HEALTHY MIND IS AS IMPORTANT AS A HEALTHY BODY



The Department of Health and Human Services, under its Healthy Tasmania branding, provides guidance to help you get healthier - be it eating well, moving more, achieving a healthy weight or being smoke free. During COVID-19, they have expanded in to the field of mental health and wellbeing, making a series of online presentations to provide a better understanding of mental health and what it means, learn about stress management, mindfulness, find out about online tools and their favourite session 'laughter is medicine'.

Recordings of these presentations are now available on Healthy Tasmania's website - www.healthytasmania.com.au - scroll down to the 'Need a Quick Link' section to find the 'Mentally Well' episodes and on their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/healthytasmania).

Pictured: Laughter Group at OneCare's Rubicon Grove, Port Sorell. Photographer - Rob Burnett

LATROBE DOG PARK INCLUDED IN BOSWORTH PARK DEVELOPMENT

In conjunction with the Stanley Street road widening project at Bosworth Park, Stanley Street, Latrobe, a dedicated and fenced dog park is currently being constructed.

The dog park is being located at the Gilbert Street end of Bosworth Park and covers an area of just under 4,000 sqm. The dog park will be fenced to two metres high, including a concrete plinth at the base to prevent digging. It will include two separate yards - for small and large breed dogs.

Both yards will feature airlock access, grass and soft fall surfaces and activity areas including ramps, tunnels and jumps.

Off street parking, lighting, water and garbage facilities will also be provided.



Pictured: Brian sending Taak to retrieve a dumbbell over a solid jump

While a dog park allows for the expending of some of your dog's energy and socialisation with other dogs off leash, there are also opportunities to fine tune your dog's obedience.

One such duo doing just that is Brian Patrick and his Border Collie, Taak.

Brian is an experienced Obedience Instructor with the Tasmanian Dog Training Club and trains Taak for 30 minutes every day which has resulted in Taak being at the highest level of Obedience Training (UDX) in Tasmania.

Council is currently considering whether to offer a series of one-hour, low cost dog obedience class on Sunday mornings, at the Latrobe Dog Park when it opens.

If this is of interest to you, please register with michelled@latrobe.tas.gov.au.

Due to the nature and potential hazards associated with the construction works, the Bosworth Park playground and public toilets remain closed to users until mid-July, subject to weather delays.

DOG REGISTRATIONS DUE FROM 1 JULY

The *Dog Control Act 2000* requires that all dogs aged from 6 months must be microchipped and registered.

Registration not only allows Council to keep better control of the dog population but also to provide improved facilities and conditions for responsible dog owners. Some benefits include:

- Positive identification of your dog
- Reuniting lost or injured dogs with their owners
- Investigation and resolution of dog problems
- Funding of educational programs to encourage responsible dog ownership
- Operation and maintenance of animal pounds
- Dog patrol services to reduce the number of stray dogs on streets and in public places
- Encouragement of de-sexing of dogs through discounted registration fees
- Reduced registration fees for early registration

If your dog/s is/are already registered in the Latrobe Municipality you will receive your registration renewal notice the first week in July.

The introduction of lifetime tags in July 2019 has now made it possible to renew your registration online. Payment options will be outlined on your renewal notice.

If you have moved into the Latrobe Municipality with your dog or you get a dog throughout the year and it is

6 months or older, it must be registered with Latrobe Council.

New registrations will be accepted at the Council office from 1 July with the discount period ending on 31 July. From 1 August, the full fee applies.

SCOOP THE POOP

Being a responsible dog owner involves the unpleasant task of picking up dog faeces if they defecate whilst out in public to ensure that public areas, footpaths and grass verges are a pleasant place to walk for ourselves and others without fear of treading in dog faeces. Section 45(1) of the *Dog Control Act 2000* requires a person in charge of a dog to immediately remove and dispose of any faeces left by the dog in a public place or in a place not owned by the person (except guide dogs).

Fines equalling 1 penalty point are applicable which is currently \$168.



There are several dog bag dispensers and dog poo loos strategically located throughout the Latrobe Municipality. Additionally, cheap and discreet dog tidy bags are available for purchase at

supermarkets or you could even use an empty plastic shopping bag to pick up the faeces, bag securely and put in a dog poo loo.

CUNNING CATS

Do you have a stray cat hanging around that you aren't sure whether it is a stray or just making the most of your generosity?

It can be a very hard situation to judge, as most cats are masters of the art of coming across as starving even if it isn't true.

While cats are meant to be microchipped and kept inside for their own safety, and the safety of wildlife, reality tells us that not all of them are.

Just because they are wandering though does not mean they don't know where home is but how can you possibly know?

If you have no success with your enquiries, why not make a paper collar and write on it "*I am worried this cat is a stray and needs rescuing, if this is your cat please contact me on (your contact details)*". Cut out the collar and secure it around the cat's neck with a piece of tape at one end or attach to a collar it may have on. Do not tape the entire collar because if it gets caught on something it could harm the cat.

If nobody calls and/or the collar is still on next time you see the cat, then the next step should be to have it scanned for a microchip. Finding its family is always preferable to putting it through a potential shelter situation.

Source: Tasmanian Lot Pets Facebook

WHY REPORT A NEAR MISS?

A near miss, in a motoring context, is an unplanned event that did not result in injury or accident but had the potential to do so.



As road users we generally do not report near misses - after all, no one was hurt, however, if an accident or damage had occurred, the incident would have been reported to Tasmania Police and an investigation could have been carried out. So, why is reporting a near miss important? Near misses can be regarded as early warning signs that something may be wrong somewhere. A record of near misses at a location could lead to corrective action that may prevent more serious injuries or accidents at that location in the future. A near miss is your early warning system. Don't wait for an accident or injury before you act. To report a near, contact Tasmania Police on 131 444, email tasmania.police@police.tas.gov.au, report to the Community Road Safety Committee on 6491 0200 or email council@latrobe.tas.gov.au. If you would like to know more about the Community Road Safety Committee, please contact Councillor Lesley Young on 0419 326 250.

HIGH BEAM HEADLIGHTS

With the longer nights during the winter months in Tasmania, it is worth thinking about the best ways to stay safe on the road - especially in times of poor visibility.

Whenever you are driving at night, on an empty road with no streetlights, it is advisable that you have your headlights on high beam so that you can see ahead and watch for any obstacles.

The Tasmanian Road Rules say that you are not allowed to switch on your high beams if there are any vehicles less than 200 metres ahead of you, whether they are driving in the same direction or on the other side of the road.

You should also not use your high beams when it is raining heavily or in thick fog as high beams can reflect back in this type of weather and make seeing even more difficult.

It is a good idea to test your high beams every now and then just to make sure they are working properly and won't let you down when you need them.

If you would like to know more about the Community Road Safety Committee, please contact Councillor Lesley Young on 0419 326 250.

Source: motorama



KNOW YOUR DRONE

Australians are flying drones in record numbers.

With more drones in the sky, it's important that users understand the rules that keep us safe.

CASA-verified drone safety apps and web applications provide customised location-based information with easy to use maps about where you can and can't fly your drone in accordance with aviation legislation.



You will also need to check your local and state government for any local rules or regulations before you fly.

Quickly running through the rules for the leisure drone user -

1. You can't fly your drone over another person or crowd of people and must keep your drone at least 30m away from them.
2. When flying your drone, you must not fly it higher than 120m above ground level.
3. Drones weighing more than 100 grams must remain at least 5.5kms away from a controlled airport but if you are near a helicopter landing site or smaller aerodrome without a control tower and there are no manned aircraft nearby, you can fly your drone within 5.5 kilometres.
4. Importantly, you must not fly your drone over or near an area affecting

public safety or where emergency operations are underway.

5. You must not fly your drone at night or through cloud or fog; and
6. Your drone must always be in your line-of-sight.

There are additional requirements should you be flying your drone for commercial activities.

Non-compliance with the above could result in you being fined \$10,500.

For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/3075S0X>

COUNCIL'S WORKS REPORT

The following works are scheduled to be undertaken throughout the Latrobe Municipality during July and August:

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Road seal maintenance
- Rural roadside drainage maintenance
- Road shoulder maintenance

TOWN SERVICES

- Shearwater Park playground shelter
- Bosworth Park playground shelter
- Water fountain installations at Port Sorell jetty and Hawley Esplanade
- General buildings facilities maintenance

- Footpath maintenance

GREEN SPACES

- Bosworth Park Stage 2 landscaping and improvements
- Port Sorell Recreation Ground upgrades to drainage
- General parks tree and garden maintenance

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Operations Manager on 6426 4453.

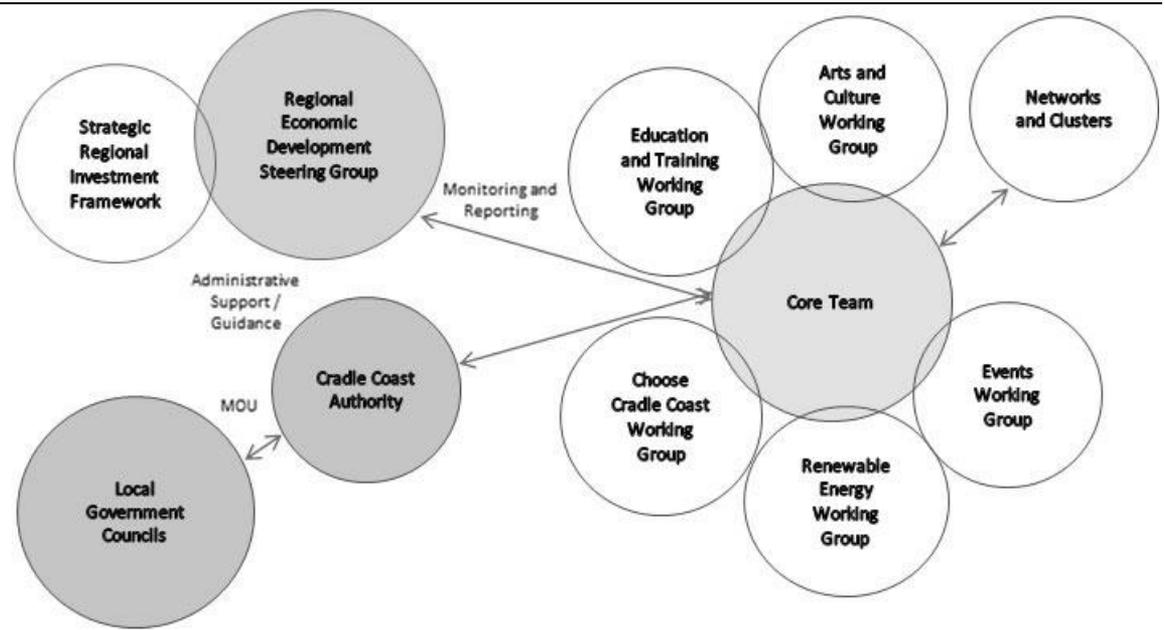
REGIONAL FUTURES PLAN

During 2018, Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) facilitated the development of the Cradle Coast Regional Futures Plan (the Futures Plan), on behalf of its Member Councils and the broader region. The Futures Plan was endorsed by Member Councils in late 2018 and forms the basis of a collaborative approach to economic development activities in the region. The consultation that led to the development of the Regional Futures Plan identified some deeply embedded systemic, structural challenges that need to be overcome to ensure the workforce is well-placed to provide the skills and capabilities to take on the jobs that are coming including:

- High unemployment rates
- Low educational attainment levels
- Shrinking working-age population
- Regionally dispersed population
- Significant labour demands

The Cradle Coast Regional Futures Plan (Futures Plan) was created in response to these challenges. It establishes a shared narrative to guide collective regional and local action, aimed at improving living standards in the region by boosting regional growth and fostering a more resilient economy - with a sharp focus on creating more jobs and better jobs. More information on the challenges and strategic response summarised from the Futures Plan is available at <https://bit.ly/3cySbL3>.

The Futures Plan and governance arrangements provide a crucial platform for working collaboratively across sectors, organisations and boundaries on the complex challenges that are not effectively being dealt with separately. While the responses to these challenges often need to be industry led, the Cradle Coast Authority and member councils have an important role in championing



these new ways of working better together.

Source: cradlecoast.com

KINDNESS AND FRIENDSHIP ARE KEY PILLARS

The U3A Port Sorell Committee have continued working hard behind the scenes after all face-to-face classes were suspended mid-March due to COVID-19. The challenge has been to keep members connected and up to date while sharing information and having fun - it is about keeping everyone "INFOCUS". To achieve this, Port Sorell U3A established "INFOCUS" a new look fortnightly newsletter and sent it to current and past members until face-to-face classes resumed.

Members have been offered 34 free U3A online courses, from Kings and Queens of England, Training your Brain to Maths Theory and more! A great way to keep minds active.

The craft group's project of knitting and crocheting 20cm x 20cm squares for a cause and their goal of 200 squares was picked up and further promoted by Latrobe Council resulting in wider community participation and making this goal more attainable.

More squares are needed through so, if you can knit or crochet, you are more than welcome to participate.

The squares can be plain or fancy, as long as they are in 8 ply and are 20cm x 20cm.



Kindness and friendship are key pillars of why U3A exists and were demonstrated when a milestone birthday was not forgotten.

Over 30 cars paraded past a member's home with horns and balloons and presents - a celebration that will forever be remembered. That is how they are keeping the bonds alive that U3A creates. With the easing of restrictions, Port Sorell U3A are actively preparing for a return to face-to-face classes in Term 3. For more details please contact Gail Woodgate at communication@portsorellu3a.org.au.

NEW TOURISM WEBSITE FOR LATROBE AND PORT SORELL

Latrobe Council continues to progress the developing a new tourism website for the local area.

The website will be modern and colourful and highlight the wonderful tourism assets that we have in our area.

Local accommodation and food providers will be featured along with the region's fabulous towns and our natural and built attractions.

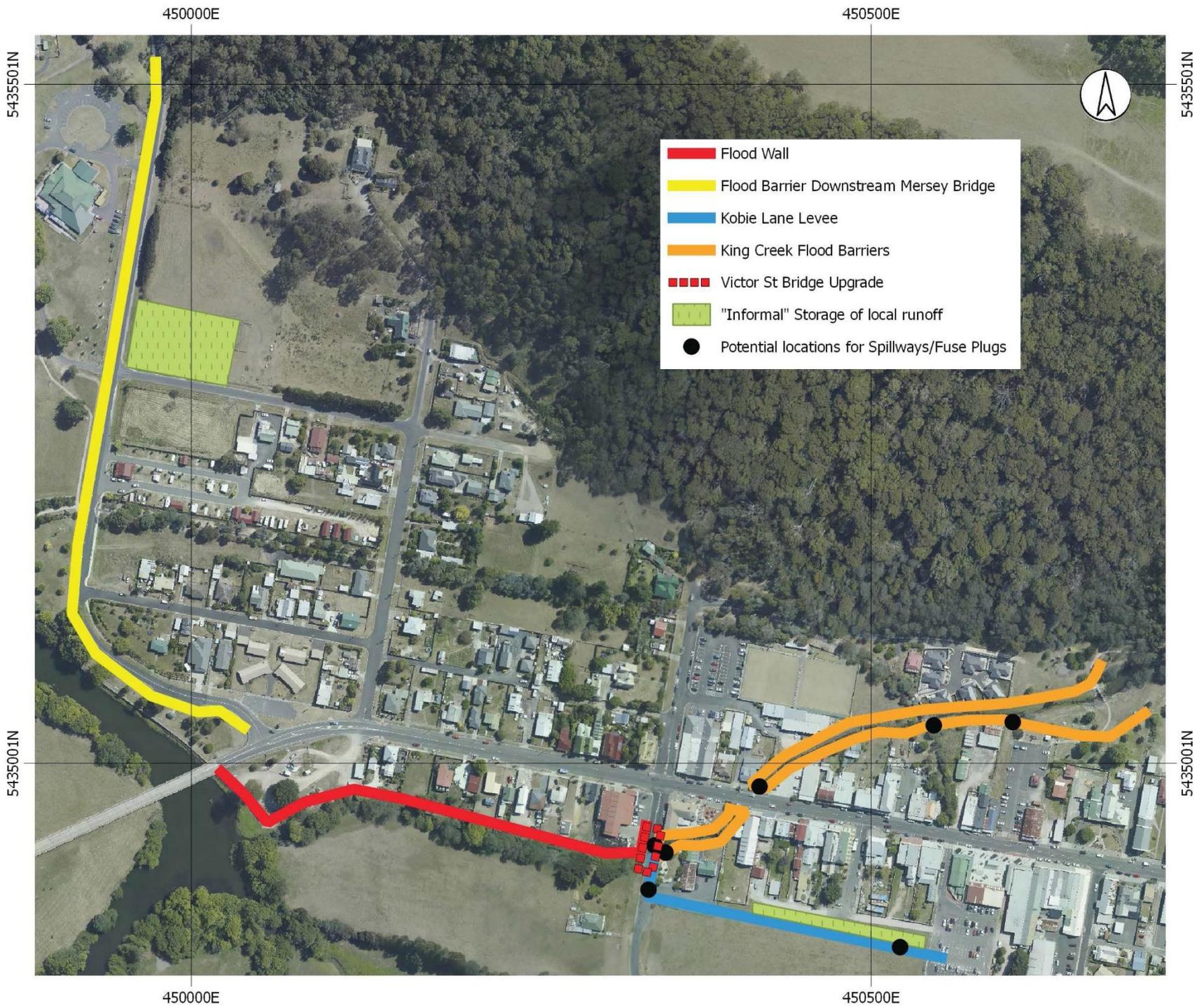
The website is due to be completed by the end of July to assist in reinvigorating and stimulating the recovery process.

This will be one of the last projects Jennifer Archer completes before finishing up with Council.

Its website address will be www.latrobeportsorell.com.au



The Latrobe-Port Sorell area is wonderfully diverse - from rich heritage, to seaside towns with golden beaches, to unique wilderness - you'll fall in love with this special area.



Mersey River Flood Mitigation Options Assessment
Short-listed mitigation options - Option D
 E306743 - P513029



entura | The power of natural thinking
 Hydro Tasmania

LATROBE FLOOD MITIGATION UPDATE

While the implementation of Latrobe Flood Mitigation measures post 2016 Latrobe floods is taking a fair amount of time to reach the construction phase, there is a mountain of work going on behind the scenes to ensure that no short cuts are taken and a quality product is delivered that is able to stand the test of time, for which no apology is made. In May, Latrobe Councillors received an update of this project including details of the potential timetable. Entura have now finalised the Dam Works Permit documentation and are working through the detailed design. Work has also started on the preparation of the tender documentation, which is expected to be completed at the end of July, enabling tenders to be called in August. In September the Dam Work Permit is expected to be granted then work starts on the Commonwealth approvals process. A preferred contractor should

then be identified for the project through an open tender process. By October it is anticipated that the Commonwealth approvals will have been received and the tender contract adopted with an announcement in November and the site becoming available then. The progression of this timetable is subject to everything falling in to place by the various deadlines meaning that groundwork will get underway this coming summer period. The best time to undertake these works is from December to the following April. Subject to contractor capacity and lead time, works will initially focus on Kings Creek, from the Miles Ford Bridge to Victor Street (red), before progressing to Kobie Lane (blue), Kings Creek above Gilbert Street (orange), and along River Road (yellow). It is anticipated that the construction project will run over more than one Summer construction season.

FUTURE EDITIONS

Article deadlines and distribution dates are provided to assist contributors with their forward planning promotion -
 Deadline Edition
 30 Jul Sept-Oct
 1 Oct Nov-Dec
 Articles may be submitted to the editor by the relevant deadline date via email or post.

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 e. michelled@latrobe.tas.gov.au
 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.

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