



Mayor Craig Perkins and Greg Murray, member of the Deloraine Aboriginal Community

MEANDER VALLEY'S KOOPAROONA NIARA TRAIL EMBODIES PARTNERSHIP AND SHARED VISION

In September 2015, Colony 47 approached Meander Valley Council with a concept to create a cultural trail along the banks of the Meander River in Deloraine.

It was envisaged that the trail would recognise and celebrate Tasmanian Aboriginal (Palawa) culture, build community knowledge within about local Aboriginal history and provide an insight into the value and significance of local flora.

As the concept evolved and expanded over time, additional cultural aspects were incorporated and it became the realisation of what was an ambitious dream, giving rise to what is now known as the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail. Meaning 'Mountain of Spirits', Kooparoona Niara is the Aboriginal name given to the culturally significant Great Western Tiers mountain range which forms the backdrop to the Trail.

Strong community partnerships were essential in the creation of the Trail and these connections led to the

development of a shared vision about the social and economic opportunities generated by the project, which has become a tourist attraction in its own right.

The Trail was widely publicised and its development brought people together from a variety of social and cultural backgrounds. Together they participated in planting garden beds with native flora, creating and laying decorative paving and artistic stonework, developing sculptures of native fauna and installing intricate mosaic walls.

The Trail culminates at a Yarning Circle. This culturally significant space incorporates a decorative central fire pit depicting the Central Plateau surrounded by nine boulders representative of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Nations. More intimately, the Yarning Circle provides a gathering space for people to connect, share and nurture one another, strengthening the resilience within the community.

The Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail is a unique asset to the township of Deloraine and the Meander Valley region, showcasing local Aboriginal culture. Its distinctiveness is a drawcard to the area, acting as an invitation to experience the riverbank precinct and showcase the success of cultural and community partnerships. The exceptional quality of the Trail can be attributed to the high degree of external partners' engagement and support, contributions from volunteers and artists, the sharing of a common goal and a joint investiture of effort going above and beyond initial expectations.

The Meander Valley Council was recently recognised for their efforts in establishing the Kooparoona Niara Cultural Trail by being nominated as a finalist in the 2018 Local Government Awards for Excellence (Larger Councils) at the 106th Local Government Association of Tasmania Annual Conference.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of our plenary speakers at the recent LGAT Conference was the President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), Mayor David O'Loughlin.



David reminded us that the next federal election will take place before the middle of the next year and it is important for councils and their communities to make their voices heard and also that "all politics is local". ALGA is soon to begin a national advocacy campaign to advance priorities for the federal election. These priorities are also important to Tasmania and LGAT's election advocacy will build from the ALGA base.

A key focus is funding through Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs). FAGs are untied funding, so can be used on priorities determined by councils, with their communities. In 1996 Commonwealth funding through FAGs was equivalent to 1% of Commonwealth Taxation revenue, but today the figure has fallen to just under 0.55%. The funding has not kept pace with the growth in construction costs, nor the demand for local services and infrastructure. Instead there has been increased pressure on council rates and council budgets, making it more and more difficult for councils all across Australia, to maintain community services and infrastructure.

The underpinning priority for ALGA's election advocacy is the call for Financial Assistance Grants to be restored to at least 1% of total Commonwealth revenue through a "1% plus partnership programs' model. If successful, this call would deliver more funding to every council in Australia. Funding that would support local infrastructure - the roads, parks, halls, sporting facilities, toilets, walkways, bike tracks and so much more that make up the fabric of local communities.

Mayor Doug Chipman
President, LGAT.



The Community Panel

A COMMUNITY VISION FOR HOBART

The City of Hobart has developed a new city vision - Hobart: A community vision for our island capital.

The document will set the City's ten-year Strategic Plan and will be used as the basis for all activities and decisions for years to come.

A lot has changed in Hobart since the last vision was created in 2006, enough to have a new conversation with Hobart communities about the future of the city.

The new vision was created in collaboration with community members and stakeholders between September 2017 and June 2018.

The City of Hobart worked with a team of communications and engagement specialists under the banner of The20 to learn more about what Hobart's communities value about and aspire to for their city. They shared what they love about Hobart, examples of Hobart at its best, what it would break their hearts to lose, and how they would like to see their city move into the future. Their stories and examples included feeling the blast of fresh Hobart air when the aeroplane door opens, making snow angels on kunanyi / Mt Wellington, watching the Sydney to Hobart yachts arrive, and losing keys and wallets only to have them anonymously returned by strangers.

Over 1100 contributions went into the project, through 214 one-on-one interviews, a City Forum, online surveys, pop-ups, and workshops with key stakeholders and Hobart students.

The engagement process culminated with a Community Panel, a group of 46 community members and business people from across the city. The Panel used the feedback collected throughout the process, alongside information from 59 subject matter experts, to create their draft vision framework.

The City of Hobart worked with panellists to draft the complete vision document, which includes a vision statement, written and voted on by panellists, seven identity statements and eight pillars.

The vision can be used by anyone wishing to learn about what members of the greater Hobart community aspire to for their capital city. It outlines the essential aspects of Hobart identity, as expressed through project engagement, and community aspirations for the future. It provides a depth and breadth of information about the Hobart context that can help policymakers, community organisations, developers and more align their work with these values and aspirations.

Hobart: A community vision for our island capital was endorsed by the Hobart City Council on 23 July 2018. The vision is available on the City of Hobart website at www.hobartcity.com.au/cityvision.



Waste Warrior Craig Reucassel, Key Note Presenter and LGAT CEO Dr Katrena Stephenson, at the 2018 LGAT Annual Conference.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT TAKING THE LEAD ON WASTE

Waste is a fact of life and the evidence indicates that waste levels are only going to increase.

It is time to recognise that just putting rubbish in the bin will no longer work. With changes in world markets and heightened media scrutiny, it is not surprising that community interest in waste has risen significantly. However, while the community has generally embraced the recycling message, current measures are not effective enough to stem the tide of waste generation. As our population grows and the economy expands, we will continue to be presented with new challenges in waste management. In addition to these challenges, there are also many opportunities to be embraced.

Local Government has long been aware of the importance of waste management and already there is significant effort occurring at an individual council level and also at a regional level. We have councils leading the way with ambitious zero waste to landfill strategies, kerbside food and organics collection, innovative education campaigns, single use plastic container bans at council events and the list goes on. In a further show of Local Government leadership in waste management there were five motions related to waste endorsed at the July 2018 LGAT General Meeting. They were:

- A feasibility study into the establishment of a state wide Waste Management arrangement;
- The introduction of legislation to ban the provision of plastic single use take away food packaging;

- A sector response to the recent increase in costs of recycling to Local Government as a consequence of changes to the Chinese government's policies;
- The adoption of reusable and compostable items for use in council sponsored events; and
- Support for the introduction of a container deposit scheme within Tasmania

As a sector we know we need to act now, but we cannot do this alone. Tasmania desperately needs a contemporary State waste strategy to guide how we collectively manage our waste over the next 5 to 10 years.

Local Government has assessed and documented a range of issues and opportunities related to waste management in Tasmania. This work was presented to the State Government early last year and after sustained advocacy we have recently had interest from the State Government in working collaboratively to develop a Waste Action Plan for Tasmania. Local Government already knows we need to embrace the concept of a circular economy, whereby materials are kept in circulation through reuse and recycling and other efforts to divert them from landfill. If we can do this it will not only be good for the environment, but also the economy.

Local Government, industry and the community are ready to forge a pathway forward and we now have a much-needed commitment to action from the State Government on a State waste strategy as a starting point. There is a long and potentially difficult waste journey ahead, but we need to commence that journey and then collectively we can all make a difference.



SLOW DOWN, DEVILS AROUND

There are more reasons than just the fantastic views to slow down in Woodbridge; the area is a hotspot for Tasmanian Devil activity.

Kingborough Council has implemented radar enabled, solar powered speed and message display signs to remind road users to slow down, to try and reduce the number of Tasmanian Devils being killed on the road. The signs show drivers their travelling speed while reminding them that the area is a Tasmanian Devil road kill hotspot. This technology has been used effectively in the Tarkine and is the focus of one of Kingborough Council's strategies to decrease deaths of Tasmanian Devils.

Roadkill is the biggest threat to the survival of Tasmanian devils after Devil Facial Tumour Disease. With its windy roads and good devil populations, the Huon and Channel area is one of the worst areas for devil roadkill, with more than 90 devil road kills reported to the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program since the beginning of 2016.

Using infrared cameras to monitor the presence of devils in Kingborough Council's natural reserves at Tinderbox hills and Barretta, is another strategy to improve devil numbers. This information is being shared with the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program as part of Local Government's ongoing collaboration with the Program.



BEACONSFIELD YOUTH AND COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Each April, for the past three years, the West Tamar Council has hosted the annual Beaconsfield Youth and Community Festival, during Tasmania's Youth Week.

Celebrating youth from our municipality and more broadly in the north of the State, the successful festival is co-ordinated by Council's Youth Development Officer with assistance from the West Tamar Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

Features of the Festival include a skate park competition facilitated by Red Herring Surf, free BBQ cooked by the Rotary Club of West Tamar, a collaborative artwork component, information about various youth service providers, and the 'Can You Play?' live music event with performances from young people across the West Tamar region.

The 2018 Festival included a ninja warrior course, bubble soccer, and a watermelon eating competition as part of the youth group challenges which saw youth groups from northern Tasmania compete for bragging rights through a series of games and challenges. Over 700 people were in attendance with a positive vibe taking over Beaconsfield's RSL Park.

The West Tamar Council notes the importance of the festival being hosted in Beaconsfield as it draws people of all ages to the area, and enhances the town for those residing there. YAC play an integral part in the event, organising key aspects such as running family games and races, providing information to the patrons and m'ing. YAC are made up of 20 like-minded young people aged between 12-25 years, who have a passion to make a difference in the West Tamar.

The Beaconsfield Youth and Community Festival supports bringing the community together, celebrating the talent of local young people, and most of all, having fun!



Council General Managers: Scott Riley - Circular Head, Shane Crawford - Waratah-Wynyard and Andrew Wardlaw - Burnie City

SHARING SERVICES TO DELIVER VALUE FOR COMMUNITIES

Circular Head, Waratah-Wynyard and Burnie City Councils have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to explore the development of a shared services entity to deliver IT and business process services on behalf of the three Councils.

The process commenced more than 12 months ago, with a number of councils in the north and north-west region forming a consortia and commissioning a study to understand the opportunities and challenges around a shared services model.

Peter Carr Advisory provided a report to the councils, and found that while significant challenges existed, there was also a significant opportunity around the development of a shared services model.

Representatives of the councils made a visit to Brisbane to the Corporate Administration Agency (CAA), a shared services provider to smaller Queensland Government agencies. CAA demonstrated the value that could be provided by a shared services entity and provided confidence that despite the challenges, it was possible to establish a shared services model.

Following further discussions, a more detailed analysis of possible models was undertaken to provide some certainty that a shared services model similar to the CAA could work within a Local Government environment.

The three councils are now undertaking detailed work on developing a shared services entity, including the development of a shared services catalogue and cost model, governance arrangements and undertaking a resource sharing trial.

It is expected to take approximately nine months to undertake this work, with the councils then being in a position to determine if establishing a shared services entity will produce the desired outcomes. This project also considers recommendations from a recent shared services study facilitated by the Cradle Coast Authority. It is hoped that the work completed by the three councils can be of benefit to other councils in the region, and across Tasmania.



Council Waste Management Coordinator and video personality
Martin Conlan

USING VIDEO TO ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY ON RECYCLING

Huon Valley Council, Australia's southernmost municipality, recently developed an engaging and effective strategy to address a common problem facing Local Government areas; contamination rates in their recycling.

As the news of the recycling ban from China reached Australia, with the obvious subsequent increase in costs for recycling, the Huon Valley Council realised the key to preventing an increase in costs for residents was to keep the rates of contaminated recycling low. Council also recognised that within the municipality of nearly 17,000 residents, literacy levels are lower in the Huon Valley than the rest of Tasmania.

Council's Media Officer and Waste Management Coordinator developed an educational campaign by producing a series of educational videos around waste management for social media and the Council's website. By using video, the message became widely accessible, with literacy no longer a barrier.

This ongoing campaign has resonated with locals, proving incredibly popular. The Council's Facebook page has 3,500 followers and the videos have reached 60,178 people and have been viewed more than 23,500 times.

Eight videos have been produced looking at topics such as:

- What types of plastic can be recycled?
- What can and can't go in your wheelie bin?
- What's the story with China and recycling?
- Recycling and small items
- What happens to your recycling?
- Plastic Free July

The feedback from the community has been very positive. Community members indicated they found the whole subject of recycling confusing and that Council's short videos have been helpful and informative and have they requested more!

The main message from this experience is that if your Council has a complicated issue they want to relay to their ratepayers and residents and you want to use social media as a communications channel, then consider producing in-house videos. If the Huon Valley Council's experience is anything to go by, you may be positively surprised!

The videos may be viewed at www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au/services/waste-2/recycling-guidance-videos



FUN, FITNESS AND FOOD THROUGH THE AGES

The Devonport City Council's *Fun, fitness and food through the ages* Program is a perfect example of the old saying 'that from little things, big things grow'.

The Program is a collaboration between Council, the State Government, community service organisations and clubs, TasTAFE and the Devonport community and aims to increase physical activity and provide the means for healthy nutritious food, fun and social interaction for disengaged/isolated members of two sectors of Council's community, disadvantaged young people and seniors.

The focus of this Program is centred around two programs - the East Devonport Boot Camp and the Ageing Stronger, Active Longer program. Both provide a wide range of positive outcomes for the community, as they each involve physical activity, sharing of healthy food and a chance to build positive relationships, connections and engagement.

Interestingly, both began as short-term projects which have now grown into year-round programs.

The weekly Boot Camp is held in East Devonport's Recreation Centre and targets disadvantaged/at risk young people who come from a low socio-economic area and would not normally have access to a trainer, fitness gear and a structured program, particularly at their back door.

The patient approach of Council staff has ensured that positive relationships have been built and children are given the opportunity to play, kick a ball and have fun in a safe place.

The Ageing Stronger, Active Longer program was initially designed as an eight-week program offered as part of Senior's Week 2017.

It is divided into two 30-minute blocks, a light to moderate exercise session for all abilities followed by a community guest speaker and a healthy afternoon tea. Speakers have included Tasmania Police, a dental hygienist, counselling service Choose Life Services, Centrelink and a nutritionist.

Three weekly classes are now held with each session having up to 45 attendees ranging in age from 55 to 85.

FOGO IS A GO GO IN CITY OF LAUNCESTON

Food and garden organic waste deposited in landfill takes up valuable air space, reduces the lifespan of landfill cells and produces harmful greenhouse gases that leak into the environment.

Following a 2014 audit, conducted by the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group, City of Launceston Council found that up to 50 per cent of the waste in kerbside wheelie bins in Launceston was made up of food and garden organics.

To reduce organic waste going to landfill and following significant planning and community engagement, the City of Launceston developed a new food and garden organic waste kerbside collection service for residents, known as FOGO.



In October 2017 Council implemented the voluntary FOGO kerbside collection service, the first of its kind in Tasmania.

The initiative required the establishment of a dedicated, purpose-built 'Organics Processing Facility' at the Launceston

Waste Centre, which itself boasts a raft of new technological firsts for the State. The FOGO facility, which opened in March 2018, enables aerobic composting to Australian Standards, resulting in an extremely high-quality end product that can be used as composting material in parks and gardens.

The voluntary FOGO kerbside collection service has been extremely well received by the community. Council's original projections were that 10% of residents would take up the voluntary service in its first year of operation, however, just seven months after the program's launch, more than 23% of residents are participating.

Already, more than 1,000 tonnes of FOGO has been collected in Launceston's FOGO bins and diverted away from landfill. At peak operational level, the FOGO collection service will extend the life of landfill cells by an additional four years. In financial terms, this is an annual saving of \$245,500, which offsets the ongoing cost of the collection service.

The City of Launceston was recently recognised for their FOGO initiative by being nominated a finalist in the 2018 Local Government Awards for Excellence (Larger Councils) at the 106th Local Government Association of Tasmania Annual Conference.



Australian Government
Australian Digital Health Agency

My Health Record An online summary of you key health information



A secure system

My Health Record has various safeguards in place to protect your information.



Personally controlled

It's your choice who sees your My Health Record and what's in it.

This year, you will get a **My Health Record** unless you tell us you don't want one by 15 October 2018.

For more information go to:

MyHealthRecord.gov.au
Help line 1800 723 471

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.