



LG Tas

Snug Falls

September 2019

KINGBOROUGH COUNCIL TURNING RECYCLING INTO ROAD

You may not know it, but if you're driving in the coastal town of Snug, you could be driving on the equivalent of 173,600 plastic bags and packaging and 82,500 glass bottles! As well as beautiful scenery, Snug boasts Tasmania's first 'recycled road'.

Kingborough Council is the first Tasmanian council to construct a road using waste diverted from landfill. Along with soft plastics and glass, toner from approximately 5,900 used printer cartridges and more than 33 tonnes of recycled asphalt have been repurposed to create 330 tonnes of asphalt. The waste products are melted down into an additive to asphalt, creating a non-polluting product that consumes waste, known as Reconphalt. This recycled and repurposed product has been used to construct the road along Charlton Street in Snug.

The 'recycled road' is a result of a partnership between Kingborough Council and Downer with resource recovery and recycling companies:

Close the Loop and RED Group. Kingborough Council is committed to trying to reduce its environmental footprint through waste minimisation and finding environmentally responsible solutions for waste. Council estimates that the 500 metres of road in Snug is about equivalent to two years of single use plastic collected from the Kingborough municipality. Following a successful trial in Snug, Kingborough Council is now resurfacing further roads with Reconphalt including Baynton Street, Lucas Street, Harris Court and Cleburne Street.

Roads that are built from repurposed waste products are slightly more expensive to construct than standard road surfaces, however they are expected to last 15 percent longer than regular petroleum-based asphalt. In addition to consuming waste and reducing demand on fossil fuel products, carbon emissions are reduced by more than 20 percent with about 14 kilograms of CO2 saved per tonne of asphalt.

The initiative demonstrates the importance of councils, industries and the community working together to create economic, social and environmental value for products that would likely end up in landfill, stockpiled, or as a pollutant in our natural environments.

With councils around Australia starting to use the waste sourced additive to asphalt, Local Government may be able to make a real difference by reducing waste and carbon emissions and providing longer lasting roads.



Snug falls, Road Resurfacing.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In this edition of LG Tas we would like to introduce our new President, Mayor Christina Holmdahl of West Tamar Council.



Mayor Holmdahl has been representing her municipality for ten years, as a Councillor for four years, Deputy Mayor for two years and Mayor for four years. Christina served two terms as a member of the General Management Committee of LGAT before being elected President in July 2019. Mayor Holmdahl is also a member of the ALGA Board, Premier's Local Government Council, the LGAT CEO Appraisal Committee, the LGAT Peer Advisor program for the North West, and the Tamar Estuary Management Task Force.

And now, a few things you may not know about Christina:

I first started in Local Government in: I am in my tenth year in Local Government.

My first job was: My first job was in the fledgling television industry in Tasmania, as a cadet in the production/news department.

I am happiest when: When I can curl up with a good book with my dog Totti cuddled up or watching a sunset with a glass of Tasmania's finest on the river's edge at home. Going to the opera is pretty special.

My favourite film is/or last film I saw was: I have so many favourite films, but two of my favourites are "Cinema Paradiso" and "As It Is In Heaven", closely followed by anything directed by Lasse Halstrom.

My favourite book is/or the last book I read was: Again I have many favourite books, but memorable is an oldie but a goodie "The Leopard" by Guiseppe Tomasi Di Lampedusa. "The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas" by John Boyne and I'm currently reading "A Visit from Voltaire" by Dinah Lee Kung.

My favourite food or meal is: Anything with chilli, two days without chilli and I need counselling.

My favourite place to go on holiday is: Paris.

Life has taught me: Not to take anything at face value.

What I enjoy most about my work is: That I am widely connected with my community and working together we make where we live a better place.

Mayor Christina Holmdahl
President, LGAT



BREAK O'DAY COUNCIL - ONE NIGHT STAND

In 2018 Break O'Day Council hosted the triple j One Night Stand, delivering the event just 12 weeks from St Helens being announced as the winning location!

While Council was advised to expect about 6000 people to attend, the St Helens One Night Stand attracted around 30,000; making it the biggest One Night Stand in history!

It was a bold move for a small community, but Council recognised that hosting the event aligned with two key strategic goals: to strengthen the sense of community and lifestyle through opportunities for people to connect and feel valued and to foster innovation and develop vibrant and growing local economies.

The event provided numerous opportunities for the local community including fundraising for not-for-profit community groups, increased spend for local businesses from increased visitation, local and national media exposure for the area's tourism profile and an event for youth in the area (and the whole state).

The scale, tight budget, short timeline and strict requirements required by ABC for the project meant Council had to seek innovative and cost-effective ways of delivering solutions. Challenges included a lack of public transport, a shortage of accommodation, road safety concerns and helping local businesses to harness the opportunity. Strong collaboration between Council, the ABC, State Government, local businesses, the school, local service providers, emergency services as well as the local community, enabled all of these challenges to be overcome to deliver a very successful event.

The impact of the 2018 One Night Stand was as much cultural as it was economic. It gave local community members the opportunity to step up and become leaders and gave the local business community the opportunity to expand their usual focus and markets. Council has many learnings from hosting the large community event and has already been sharing this knowledge with other councils.

Painting the town orange for the 2018 triple j One Night Stand resulted in a significantly enhanced local pride and a confidence boost for the Break O' Day community and has certainly put St Helens on the map. LGAT congratulates Break O'Day Council on winning of the 2019 Local Government Award for Excellence (smaller councils) for their One Night Stand initiative.



Dementia Friendly Connect Cafe

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CENTRAL COAST

In recognition that the number of community members with dementia is predicted to rise, Central Coast Council set out help those living with dementia to enjoy a high quality of life with meaning, purpose and value.

A progressive brain syndrome that affects memory, thinking, behaviour and emotion, Dementia can lead to memory loss, loss of cognitive abilities and loss of control over emotions and behaviour. Dementia also has broad social impacts beyond those experienced by the individual, affecting many in the community.

Council's "Dementia-Friendly Central Coast Framework" is the first of its kind to be adopted by a Tasmanian council. The Framework provides a roadmap to achieve the vision of a dementia friendly Central Coast as well as a practical toolkit of initiatives to meet local priorities, based on global case studies.

Council embraced a whole of community approach to developing the Framework, driven by local concerns and aspirations. Six themes for change were identified including increasing knowledge about dementia, improving attitudes and interactions, enhancing access to services, facilitating social integration, improving spaces and places; and supporting carers.

A successful initiative of the Framework has been the 'Connect Café', run by community volunteers. The pop up Connect Cafés are based on the 'Memory Café' concept which provide a community café space with an encouraging environment for people living with dementia, carers and the broader community to share stories and dementia journeys.

Under the Framework, Council also conducted dementia inclusion training, targeting local businesses and community groups to improve knowledge and understanding of dementia as well as aiming to reduce stigma and social isolation.

Expertise and support from the Tasmanian Health Services (THS), and from within the collaborative network of the Working Group, has also enabled the development of inclusion training resources. Businesses that have undertaken the training are able to be identified by a window decal, featuring Dementia-Friendly Central Coast branding, identifying them as Dementia friendly businesses.

LGAT congratulates Central Coast Council on winning the 2019 Local Government Award for Excellence (Larger Councils) for the Dementia-Friendly Central Coast Framework.



AWARD WINNING KAYAK TRAIL

The City of Clarence Council's Kayak Trail details eight coastal paddle trails around Clarence suitable for beginners through to advanced kayakers.

Council has produced a waterproof, tear-proof brochure, divided into nine coastal sections to explore from Risdon through to South Arm. Detailed information for each trail includes information about the estimated distance and skill level required, what to see along the way, launch points, hazards and warnings, and facilities to access off the trail.

The first trial of this nature in Tasmania, the Kayak Trail was created following extensive consultation with kayak groups who identified the routes and the level of difficulty required. In 2018 the innovative Clarence Kayak Trail won the Award of Excellence for Parks and Open Space Projects in the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) (Tasmania) Awards.

The AILA panel said that the Clarence Kayak Trail builds on best practice international case studies and provides a model for other coastal communities to follow. It highlighted that the Trail inventively challenges pre-conceived notions of what a constructed park experience should look like, balancing demands for recreation, culture and the environment. The project now moves on to the AILA National Awards which will be announced in October 2019. We wish City of Clarence good luck for these awards!



SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL – HERITAGE AND BULLOCK FESTIVAL

Southern Midlands Council worked with their community to develop an event to showcase the heritage buildings of Oatlands as a living historic village.

With Oatlands featuring the largest number of intact Georgian buildings in a village environment in Australia, Southern Midlands Council has a major commitment to heritage and restoration work, with heritage a high priority in the Southern Midlands Council Strategic Plan 2018-2027.

Council engaged closely with the community and established an event management committee lead by local experts, tapping into local pride in the region and with a strong focus on supporting the business community to benefit from the event. The resulting Heritage and Bullock Festival was a successful, free of charge, family event.

The Heritage and Bullock Festival aimed to increase knowledge about the local history, local tourism and visitor experiences in the region as well as to increase tourist expenditure in the area. Hosted during the traditionally quieter winter period, the event drew over 5200 people across two days and involved over 653 volunteer hours.

Economically, it is estimated that around \$260,000 was invested in the local community over the two days and the Bullock Committee was able to make a donation of \$7000 to the Midlands Multi-purpose Health Centre.

Equally important was the sense of community pride in hosting the event and in seeing the delight in visitors faces as they attended the event. The successful Heritage and Bullock Festival will now be held as an annual community event.



MAKE SURE YOUR COUNCIL IS FUNDED TO DELIVER EXCELLENCE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

Across Australia, Local Government is delivering excellence for its communities through award winning public spaces, buildings and recreation spaces, community programs, festivals and events, services and leading innovation in areas such as waste and recycling.

Did you know, however, that even though councils are responsible for 33 percent of Australia's public infrastructure, including three quarters of the nation's roads, Local Government only collects just over three and a half percent of Australia's total tax revenue?

The Australian Government collects about 80 percent of Australia's total tax revenue via income tax. Commonwealth funding for Local Government is really important. Every year, councils receive Financial Assistance Grants to help deliver important community activities and projects. This funding is essential to enable councils to keep providing the quality infrastructure, services and programs that communities need now and the capacity to plan and deliver for the future.

Councils are working directly with their communities every day. Through councils, communities can have a voice about what they need to prosper, now and in future years. Councils can help other levels of government achieve their objectives and enable our communities and economy to thrive; if they receive the levels of funding needed to make this happen.

Talking to our Federal Members of Parliament helps them to understand what local councils do for communities. Have you got a great local park, aquatic centre, mountain bike track, community centre or local café catering for people with dementia? Is there a new local program that has created jobs? Tell your local Member what you love locally and what your community needs. Help us convince the Commonwealth Government that the way to help Australia's communities and our economy to thrive is by activating the potential in Local Government with increased levels of funding. Ask them to give communities a fairer share.



the paranable centre

DEVONPORT LIVING CITY AND AWARD WINNING PARANABLE CENTRE

Devonport City Council's Living City is the largest urban redevelopment plan ever undertaken in regional Tasmania.

The 10-year strategic plan aims to transform Devonport through the creation of new retail, business, service and waterfront precincts. Living City focuses on highlighting tourism, arts, food and services and aims to capitalise on Tasmania's only passenger ferry service through the creation of a major tourist gateway.

Living City has a major arts focus, with Council opening the paranable centre in September 2018. The paranable centre is a multidisciplinary arts facility crafted to house performing arts, visual arts and visitor services under one roof. The paranable building itself is impressive, winning the Australian Institute of Architects Tasmanian Architecture Awards for 2019 awards for Best Public Architecture and Best Urban Design. The centre now progresses to the national Architecture Awards to be announced in November 2019.

Rather than simply develop a strategy or master plan, Council actively purchased required land parcels, during the initial planning phases. These properties were managed as an investment portfolio returning positive cashflows to Council in the years prior to construction. Community consultation was also key to the project.

Stage one of Living City was delivered \$1 million under budget and has directed investment in the food and beverage sectors, office redevelopment and arts sectors. A new cooking school to be run by TasTAFE Drysdale is now open. Stage 1 is also home to public services, including a new library, service Tasmania, Online Access Centre and Council offices. In the seven months since the new Devonport library opened, almost 1500 new members joined, representing a 127% increase on the same period in 2017-2018.

A collaboration between the three tiers of government with funding provided by the Devonport City Council, and the Tasmanian and Australian Governments, Living City is well on its way to transforming Devonport.



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL - BELL BAY ADVANCED MANUFACTURING ZONE INITIATIVE

A collaboration between George Town Council, State Government, Industry and Local Business is developing strong economic foundations for future generations and has been nationally recognised.

The Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone Initiative recently won the Australian Government's 2019 National Award for Local Government in the 'Contributing to Regional Growth Category'.

The Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone is located at the Port of Bell Bay. As Tasmania's premier centre for manufacturing, it exports 59 per cent of Tasmania's manufactured goods.

The Bell Bay Economic Development Group consisted of twelve businesses that represented a workforce of 1180 full time equivalent jobs, George Town Council, the State Government through the Coordinator General's Office and Regional Development Australia (RDA) Tasmania. This four-way partnership joined forces with a desire in the region for better collaboration, and to grow the region's capabilities by supporting existing businesses, encouraging investment and promoting the benefits of the region as a place to live and work.

Key achievements include: a branding strategy, joint procurement for training and safety, the establishment of the Key Education and Employment Network (KEEN Partners Pty Ltd) to enhance employment opportunities and provide skilled labour for the region, an Intern Program for long-term unemployed, community engagement and an education and Investment Attraction strategy resulting in two companies being attracted to set up operations in Bell Bay.

The recent award for the Bell Bay Advanced Manufacturing Zone Initiative has helped put George Town in the spotlight nationally and celebrates how this initiative has helped build a strong sense of community pride in the George Town area. This industry lead place based model provides an approach which could be adopted by other Local Governments to foster local economic growth.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AND LEADERSHIP - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AWARDS

Earlier this year, LGAT partnered with the State Government and the Tasmanian Council of Social Services (TasCOSS) to host an awards event to celebrate excellence and women's leadership in the Local Government, Community Services and Public Service Sectors.

The event jointly celebrated International Women's Day, with the theme #Balance for Better.

Despite some recent gains, Local Government in Tasmania is still very a male dominated industry, both at officer and Elected Member levels.

There has been a slow but steady increase of women elected to council



over the last decade, even though the proportion is still not on par with the general population.

In 2018, we saw a 25 percent increase compared to the 2014 election with women making up 40 percent of all Councillors elected, and thirty-six percent of Mayors in Tasmania.

We have some way to go at senior officer level, with currently only two of 28 permanently appointed General Managers, women.

LGAT and nationally the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), have a strong interest in increasing diversity in the Local Government sector. LGAT has a

Memorandum of Understanding in place with the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Tas to support collaborative efforts in this regard and ALGWA Tas were partners in candidate information sessions organised by LGAT in the lead up to the 2019 council elections.

Our International Women's Day event was designed to inspire and recognise excellence being achieved by women in the Local Government Sector, the Community Service Industry and the State Service in Tasmania.

We were thrilled to have Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania and Kat Henry (NIDA Corporate) as our key speakers and to offer workshops following lunch and the awards ceremony.

A key feature of the day was the presentation of six Excellence Awards (two for each sector) sponsored by Tasplan, with each winner receiving \$1000 for professional development.

The award winners were:

Local Government Inspirational Leader – Elected Member: Bec Enders, Mayor, Huon Valley Council

Local Government Inspirational Leader – Officer: Erica Lowry, Community Services Project Officer, Break O Day Council

Public Sector Inspirational Leader: Susan Cannon, Executive Director of Operations South, Tasmanian Health Service

Public Sector Aspiring Leader: Lauren Parr, Manager Ministerial Support Unit, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Community Sector Inspirational Leader: Julie Dunbabin, Executive Officer, Tasmanian School Canteen Association

Community Sector Aspiring Leader: Emily Briffa, CEO, Hamlet Inc



LGAT Procurement helps Tasmanian councils undertake best practice procurement and deliver value for money for their communities by leveraging the combined purchasing power of councils around the country whilst buying locally.

Save time, save money, reduce risk by accessing contracts managed by procurement experts.



www.lgat.tas.gov.au/procurement