LGAT NEWS
Local Government Association Tasmania
APRIL 2015
P.P. No. 100003422

LGAT CEO Moving On

New Playground in Lindisfarne Offers Access for All

Kingborough Leads on Renewable Energy

Leading with Ethics and Integrity

Five Minutes with Lord Mayor Sue Hickey

The power behind progress

Tasmanian Quarry Operations

We work with the world's biggest mining and resource companies.

We process, handle, haul and support millions of tonnes of materials across 75 sites throughout Australia. We're the safest, the biggest and have the best people in the business.

We build big infrastructure and we solve big problems for our clients. And if solutions don't exist, we create them.

Quarry Operations
Our quarry operations have depots strategically located across the Northern half of Tasmania, from St Helens to Burnie. We have fixed crushing assets located at Burnie and Western Junction, and mobile crushing and screening equipment on site at Bell Bay. We also currently provide on site services to Cement Australia at Railton via the Devonport depot.

We have operated quarries in Northern Tasmania since the late 1970's and from July 2008 acquired further mining leases which provides the capacity to supply approximately 1,000,000 tonnes of crushed quarry products per annum. This capability recognises that Bis Industries is one of the largest operators in the extractive industry in Tasmania.

Key Customers
Local Councils, Asphalt/Sealing Contractors, Concrete Suppliers and Cement Australia

Contact Details
Tim Shegog - Northern Business Manager
Phone: +61 (0)3 6398 9001
Email: tim.shegog@bisindustries.com

Technical Data
Bis Industries holds quality certification to AS/NZS ISO9001:2000, AS/NZS ISO 4801:2001 for Occupational Health & Safety Management and AS/ NZS ISO 14001:2004 for Environmental Management for its quarrying operations in Tasmania.

Bis Industries produces materials using Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) from these Australian Standards which will assist our clientele with achieving compliance with the Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources (DIER) standard specifications. The Tasmanian Quarry operations has just achieved an LTI record exceeding 13 years across all business units with the entire Tasmanian region achieving 10 years LTI free this year.

Typical Equipment - Fixed Plant Crushing includes:

- Jaw crusher
- Gyratory secondary
- Vertical impact crushers
- Large screen decks
- Conveyors

ZERØHARM

BIS INDUSTRIES

Inside this issue

6

11

24

26

President's Report 2

Chief Executive Officer's Report 3

Policy Perspectives 4

Faces of Local Government 5

News and Reviews 11

People and Performance 21

Health and Wellbeing 24

Environment 26

Roads and Engineering 29

Cover Photo: *Children enjoying the new play equipment at the accessible playground at Simmons Park, Lindisfarne*

Photography by David Bellamy

Local Government Association Tasmania

Editor: Stephanie Watson
Local Government Association
of Tasmania
326 Macquarie Street,
Hobart, Tasmania 7000
Postal Address:
GPO Box 1521, Hobart, Tasmania 7001
Phone: (03) 6233 5119
Fax: (03) 6233 5986
Email: stephanie.watson@lgat.tas.gov.au
Website: www.lgat.tas.gov.au

LGAT News is circulated to every elected member and council throughout Tasmania. Circulation also includes senior government staff, state parliamentarians, interstate and national Local Government representative bodies, and private companies operating in Tasmania.

The views expressed in *LGAT News* are not necessarily endorsed by the Local Government Association of Tasmania. No responsibility is accepted by the publishers, the editor, or printer for the accuracy of information contained in the text or advertisements. Advertisements must comply with the relevant provisions of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*. Responsibility for compliance with the *Act* rests with the person, company, or advertising agency submitting the advertisement. Neither the publisher, nor the editor accepts responsibility for advertisements.

***LGAT News* Editorial Policy:** contributions must be relevant and suitable for Local Government and will be used at the discretion of the editor, in whole or in part, or not at all, in the next scheduled issue or subsequent issues. The publishers do not pay for editorial submitted. For more information on the *LGAT News* editorial policy, go to www.lgat.tas.gov.au.

COPYRIGHT © Local Government Association of Tasmania 2015.

All rights reserved. Copyright of articles and photographs in *LGAT News* remains with individual contributors and may not be reproduced without permission. Other material may be reproduced, but only with the written permission of the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

Layout & Design by: Mark Media
Ph: (03) 6228 4441 Fax: (03) 6228 9440

For Advertising Enquiries:
Frank Johnstone
Ph: 0408 253 241 Fax: (03) 6228 9440
Email: frank@markmedia.com.au

Emergency Services Delivering Better Outcomes for our Communities

MAYOR BARRY JARVIS, PRESIDENT
Local Government Association of Tasmania

On New Year's Eve, I had the privilege of being asked to join Inspector Darren Hopkins and his police crew who were charged with keeping Bridport and the surrounding area safe and peaceful so the community could welcome in the New Year in the manner we could all enjoy. Little did I know that the evening would turn out to be traumatic, not only for myself, but also for two of the policemen that are stationed in Dorset full-time.

Inspector Hopkins was in control of the police resources spanning a very large area including George Town, Bridport, Scottsdale, St Helens and Flinders Island. Some of these towns experience a large increase in population at this time of year, being popular seaside holiday spots, so a busy night was to be expected.

On the local scene, except for a few hot spots, the evening did not cause the police force too much stress but it showed me how a couple of troublemakers can disrupt people out enjoying the festivities. Also, I was a little taken aback with the hostile manner some of our young folk showed the police.

A couple of incidents demonstrated how important it is, should we need to ring an emergency call centre, to clearly articulate street names and numbers, because to have any of our emergency services sent to the wrong address could prove disastrous to those in need. Also, it was embarrassing that emergency services were required at a street in my home town that had no street sign.

During the evening, Inspector Hopkins had to coordinate searches off the East Coast because distress flares were cited by passing yachts, but thankfully no one was found to be in danger. At about 12.30am, a call came through that an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) accident had occurred at Ansons Bay. Police and ambulance personnel were dispatched from St Helens and vital information was provided to the locals who were performing CPR on the injured person. Later, it was announced that the accident had taken the life of the male driver of the ATV.

As I was about to head home at about 2.30am, our local policeman called me over. I could see that he was distressed when he explained that the identity of the person involved in the accident at Ansons Bay had come through. The person was a friend of his and mine. The strength of the policeman was something to be proud of. Despite having to deal with his own sense of loss, he was still able to do his job as we delivered the sad news to a couple of other close friends in the town.

During the evening, I also saw firsthand the work of our paramedics as they dealt with a couple of incidents. We, as a State, are very fortunate to have so many dedicated women and men who perform at such a high standard in our emergency services.

I am proud that Local Government has a strong relationship with all these services which helps to deliver better outcomes for our communities.

Whoops! In the December edition of *LGAT News*, Mayor Jarvis referred to Clr Ashley Popowski in his column however, it should have read Clr Nakore Popowski. Our apologies for the error.

Photography courtesy of Ambulance Tasmania

Reflections on Reform

ALLAN GARCIA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Local Government Association of Tasmania

Looking at my time in Local Government over the past ten years or so, it's hard to think of a time over that period when the sector hasn't been embroiled in some kind of reform.

Planning reform has been a constant and iterative process for over a decade. We have seen off a large number of ministers, most of whom sought to put their individual stamp on this important function. The current process of moving to a single planning scheme is a little more radical than some past efforts but I am confident that Local Government will contribute to a better outcome, whatever the final product looks like. This is the value of those working in the sector. They actually try to make things work better. Sometimes it takes a while and sometimes it's frustrating for onlookers, but it is often forgotten that Local Government actually has to make this stuff work and it is important to get it right, or at the very least, mostly right.

Local Government itself initiated a foray into financial sustainability which has resulted not only in councils being more aware of their financial circumstances, and the measures that they can take to improve their lot, but the process has resulted in the implementation of long-term financial planning by councils and stringent asset management planning. These latter two elements have become statutory requirements but it was Local Government's recognition of their importance that they become an essential element of sector operations.

Water and sewerage reform took a few goes and while it wasn't initiated by Local Government, the sector fought hard to ensure that the best possible outcome was achieved. Not everyone inside Local Government agreed and not everyone outside agreed, and it wasn't right the first time around. In fact, it may not still be right and may require further tweaking, but I know that Local Government will be putting the shoulder to the wheel if that becomes necessary.

I recall financial reform when there was a huge call by Local Government for State Government to pay rates and contribute its share to the community at the local level via these payments. Discussions ensued, negotiations were had and after a long period of tit for tat, we arrived at an almost revenue neutral outcome, with State Government agencies paying rates and councils meeting the costs of attributable state taxes and charges such as land tax, payroll tax and stamp duty. We didn't get the Hydro rates into the mix but we ended up with a $2 million dollar per annum better outcome than existed previously. Is that still the case? Who knows! It was a point in time exercise that was possible when the respective parties had the goodwill and motivation to embark on what was a national first in financial reform, and Local Government played its part with professionalism and aptitude.

We are currently having a conversation about voluntary amalgamations. It's not the first time we have had the conversation. There was a failed, one-sided conversation, or perhaps, lecture, in the late nineties and an extensive discussion in the early nineties which actually resulted in less councils. While the outcome was not really in line with the conversation that councils would have preferred to have, the exercise did bring about a new way of business for councils, a new governance model, competency powers and a modern legislative structure within which to operate. Of course there has been the need to revise said legislation but it was quite the thing in its day. Critically, despite the forced nature of the structural reform, I have spoken to few who would seek to return to the days preceding this reform.

This is not a plea to jump into the next phase with blind faith. What is evident, is that Local Government will approach this process with the same critical and thorough eye that it always looks to reform. It will determine what is in the best interests of its communities, it will assess the medium and long-term benefits, and consider how much pain has to be taken to achieve the gain.

Councils will have a conversation with their community, with their neighbours and with other stakeholders. Councils will take the data, assess the implications and make judgments based on the evidence available and based on what is in the best interests of ratepayers. Councils will do what they always do with regards to reform - they will ensure that the outcome is sustainable, implementable and provides benefits for the greater good. This is the typical way that councils and the Local Government sector operate.

The year ahead presents a challenge in the reform space but, based on my reflections, I think that Local Government will rise to the challenge, whatever the outcome. It's what it does often and what it does well.

Local Government Association Tasmania

LGAT – A Value Proposition

DR KATRENA STEPHENSON, POLICY DIRECTOR
Local Government Association of Tasmania

I am often asked what exactly does the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) do? With so many new councillors elected at the October 2014 elections, it seems timely to respond to the question in writing.

LGAT is the peak body for Local Government in Tasmania and has been supporting its members for over 100 years. LGAT provides a sectoral voice to other levels of government, interested stakeholders and the wider community. In addition to providing policy, advocacy, strategic support to our members, LGAT has a number of specialist services to assist councils.

Some of the valuable services the Association provides for its members include:

- Providing collective lobbying power and influencing State Government policy and legislation in order to make improvements in relation to council implementation;
- Ensuring the State Government adheres to the partnership agreement on consultation and communication, providing opportunity for councils to fully engage on emerging policy or legislation;
- Providing support, advice and advocacy in a range of policy areas including recent matters such as heavy vehicle regulation, award modernisation, financial and asset management, food security, IR matters such as bullying and harassment, climate change adaptation and improvements to the Local Government Act;
- Securing funds for sectoral improvements in relation to staff development, financial and asset management and climate change;
- Leveraging significant savings for councils through collective approaches to procurement, industrial relations and training;
- Providing a low interest loan product for Local Government employees through LGAT Assist; and
- Developing council capacity through the development of tools (such as delegation and compliance registers and workplace behaviours tools) and securing low-cost training opportunities for councillors and staff.

LGAT works strongly with national and interstate counterparts to collectively and singularly lobby for adequate funding to Local Government in Tasmania. The present fiscal environment has obviously resulted in less cash flow in more recent times but significant effort remains in halting further losses or reductions, and the maintenance of Roads to Recovery funding in the face of High Court challenges has been part of the national success story in which LGAT was an equal player.

Additionally, LGAT accesses and streamlines a wide range of information and distributes it via the quarterly *LGAT News* magazine and fortnightly newsletter. These publications keep councils up-to-date on major announcements, grants, professional development opportunities, legislative changes, events, relevant local and national issues and initiatives and research findings. They also provide our member councils an effective avenue to promote council achievements such as awards, partnerships, programs, events and initiatives, and raise awareness of the important and diverse work of Tasmania's 29 councils.

Every year, LGAT coordinates the annual Local Government Conference, providing a valuable opportunity for delegates to hear from learned local, national and international speakers on leadership, innovation and a range of other topics to inspire attendees and help drive the efficiency and resilience of the Local Government sector. LGAT also coordinates a range of other cost-effective professional development and networking opportunities for elected members, council managers and officers throughout the State. These ensure that our members are kept up-to-date on obligations, procedures and policies, allow the building of skills and facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise between member councils.

We have already established a good relationship with the current State Government and this provides the opportunity to get our members' issues heard and responded to. The year ahead will involve a number of critical conversations with regard to mergers and other Local Government reform activities. LGAT will continue to diligently work with and for our members to achieve the best possible outcomes for them and for the communities they serve.

For more information, visit the LGAT website at www.lgat.tas.gov.au, or the LGAT extranet (for members only).

Southern Midlands Mourns the Loss of Deputy Mayor

Sadly missed, Clr Mark Jones OAM

Southern Midlands Council Deputy Mayor, Clr Mark Jones OAM passed away following a short illness on 29 January, aged 65.

Clr Jones was first elected in 2007 and became Deputy Mayor in 2011. Over many years, Mark participated in numerous community groups and committees, often holding senior positions. Together with another colleague, Mark was also responsible for instigating the annual Oatlands Christmas Pageant, and was instrumental in organising the ABC Giving Tree fundraiser in December each year.

In 2001, Mark was awarded with the Southern Midlands Australia Day Citizen of the Year, and in 2006, received a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community of Oatlands through health, social welfare and sporting organisations. In 2007, he was the inaugural recipient of the Tasmanian Rural Health Community Award. Ald Jones will be sadly missed by all.

New General Manager Appointed to West Coast Council

Newly appointed General Manager for West Coast Council, Mr Dirk Dowling

West Coast Council has a new General Manager, Mr Dirk Dowling, who commenced in the position on 1 December 2014.

Mr Dowling comes with a wealth of experience having previously worked for six councils throughout Australia in various executive management roles, designing and implementing programs and structures to tackle economic development challenges and opportunities in partnership with the community. He has also worked for the Queensland State Government, the non-profit sector, the private sector and has owned and operated several businesses.

Mr Dowling also holds a Bachelor of Laws and has a deep understanding of Local Government operations, the tourism sector, mining sector and other key economic drivers for regional Australia.

George Town Council Appoints Acting General Manager

John Martin - George Town Council

John Martin has been contracted until 30 June as Acting Manager of George Town Council whilst Council recruits someone to fill the position permanently. Many would be familiar with John whose Local Government career spans 36 years, including stints as General Manager for Dorset Council and, more recently, as Acting General Manager for Waratah-Wynyard Council. John will oversee the appointment of the new General Manager and the revision of Council's Strategic Plan, and other strategic objectives.

Five Minutes with Sue Hickey Lord Mayor

City of Hobart

After 3 years as an Alderman, what motivated you to run for the position of Lord Mayor at the 2014 Local Government Elections and how are you enjoying your new role?

I felt our Council could be more focused on our core duties and more productive if we worked better together as a team using more business-like, board principles. With a background in marketing, sales, PR, media, business and Local Government, I felt ready to run for the position of Lord Mayor and I'm really enjoying the new role. Every day is action-packed and full of surprises.

If you could leave your mark on the City of Hobart, what advances would you like to see made under your leadership?

I'd like to see more creative architecture in the City, better relations with other tiers of government and greater community involvement. I hope to help build a city that is people-focused, with better toilets, footpaths, signage, public art, access and public infrastructure.

You were crowned Miss Tasmania in 1979, named 2007 Telstra Tasmanian Business Woman of the Year, you have run a successful marketing business since 1991, and in 2012, you gained an MBA. What motivates you in life?

I enjoy learning and I'm fascinated by people and what makes them tick. I love being involved in life and rarely sit on the sidelines. The more I learn, the more I realise how much more there is to learn. I don't want to go to my grave bragging that I watched every episode of Home and Away!

What issues are of greatest concern to Council?

Funding necessary infrastructure into the future and replacing aging infrastructure. Preparing the City for growth in demand for inner city living and accommodation options for the burgeoning tourism industry.

What has been the most memorable moment of your Local Government career?

Meeting the CEO of a large organisation who has lost his vision but does not let it hold him back. He listens to his computer and is able to interpret the profit and loss and balance details on the spread sheets. Meeting the President of China was also fascinating.

What has been your most embarrassing moment during your time in Local Government?

During a recent photo shoot with the press for my clean up the public loos campaign, whilst wearing pink, rubber gloves and clasping a toilet brush, a lady approached me looking a bit concerned at my inappropriate business attire and asked if I was going to clean the toilets. As I was smiling at the camera, the lady emerged from the toilet, tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Dear, the middle toilet was okay but someone has wee'ed on the other two!"

Lord Mayor Sue Hickey, the City of Hobart's second female Lord Mayor enjoying some time out with her "ladies" - Bess and Bonnie

How do you like to spend your free time?

Free time? I don't have my work-life balance in any form of balance at the moment but when there's a free moment, I enjoy catching up with friends and family, and going to the State Theatre in North Hobart.

Three qualities that you appreciate most in people

1) Honesty
2) Integrity
3) Humour

When you were a child, you wanted to be...

A stenography teacher

Name three previous occupations you have held in the past.

1) Check-out cashier at Kmart and chief folder of socks and jocks
2) Public relations officer at Savings and Loans
3) Weather girl at TAS TV

What's the best advice anyone has ever given you?

"Somedays you're the pigeon, and somedays you're the statue."

What word best describes you?

Driven

Tasmania's Local Government Leaders

Meet Tasmania's Local Government leaders from councils across the State. We encourage you to tear these pages out and keep them as a handy reference when attending Local Government meetings and events.

Break O'Day Council

PO Box 21, ST HELENS 7216
P: 6376 7900 F: 6376 1551

Mayor Mick Tucker

GM John Brown

Brighton Council

1 Tivoli Road, OLD BEACH 7017
P: 6268 7000 F: 6268 7013

Mayor Tony Foster

GM Ron Sanderson

Burnie City Council

PO Box 973, BURNIE 7320
P: 6430 5700 F: 6431 3896

Mayor Anita Dow

GM Andrew Wardlaw

Central Coast Council

PO Box 220, ULVERSTONE 7315
P: 6429 8900 F: 6425 1224

Mayor Jan Bonde

GM Sandra Ayton

Central Highlands Council

PO Box 20, HAMILTON 7140
P: 6286 3202 F: 6286 3334

Mayor Deirdre Flint

GM Lyn Eyles

Circular Head Council

PO Box 348, SMITHTON 7330
P: 6452 4800 F: 6452 4861

Mayor Daryl Quilliam

GM Tony Smart

City of Hobart

GPO Box 503, HOBART 7001
P: 6234 7109 F: 6323 3001

Lord Mayor Sue Hickey

GM Nick Heath

City of Launceston

PO Box 396, LAUNCESTON 7250
P: 6323 3000 F: 6323 3001

Mayor Albert van Zetten

GM Robert Dobrzynski

Clarence City Council

PO Box 96, ROSNY PARK 7018
P: 6245 8600 F: 6245 8700

Mayor Doug Chipman

GM Andrew Paul

Derwent Valley Council

PO Box 595, NEW NORFOLK 7140
P: 6261 8500 F: 6261 8546

Mayor Martyn Evans

GM Stephen Mackey

Devonport City Council

PO Box 604, DEVONPORT 7310
P: 6424 0511 F: 6424 9649

Mayor Steve Martin

GM Paul West

Dorset Council

PO Box 21, SCOTTSDALE 7260
P: 6352 6500 F: 6352 6509

Mayor Barry Jarvis

GM Tim Watson

Flinders Council

PO Box 40, WHITEMARK 7255
P: 6359 5001 F: 6359 2211

Mayor Carol Cox

GM Raoul Harper

George Town Council

PO Box 161, GEORGE TOWN 7253
P: 6382 8800 F: 6382 3240

Mayor Bridget Archer

Acting GM John Martin

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council

PO Box 6, TRIABUNNA 7190
P: 6256 4777 F: 6256 4774

Mayor Michael Kent

GM David Metcalf

Glenorchy City Council

PO Box 103, GLENORCHY 7010
P: 6216 6800 F: 6216 6400

Mayor Kristie Johnson

GM Peter Brooks

Huon Valley Council

PO Box 210, HUONVILLE 7109
P: 6264 0300 F: 6264 0399

Mayor Peter Coad

GM Simone Watson

Kentish Council

PO Box 63, SHEFFIELD 7306
P: 6491 0200 F: 6491 1659

Mayor Don Thwaites

GM Gerald Monson

Kingborough Council

Locked Bag 1, KINGSTON 7050
P: 6211 8200 F: 6211 8211

Mayor Steve Wass

GM Gary Arnold

King Island Council

PO Box 147, CURRIE 7256
P: 6462 9000 F: 6462 1313

Mayor Duncan McFie

Acting GM Zoe Behrendt

Latrobe Council

PO Box 63, LATROBE 7307
P: 6421 4650 F: 6426 2121

Mayor Peter Freshney

GM Gerald Monson

Meander Valley Council

PO Box 102, WESTBURY 7303
P: 6393 5300 F: 6393 1474

Mayor Craig Perkins

GM Greg Preece

Tasmania's Local Government Leaders

Northern Midlands Council

PO Box 156, LONGFORD 7301
P: 6397 7303 F: 6397 7331

Mayor David Downie

GM Des Jennings

Sorell Council

PO Box 126, SORELL 7172
P: 6269 0000 F: 6269 0014

Mayor Kerry Vincent

GM Robert Higgins

Southern Midlands Council

PO Box 21, OATLANDS 7120
P: 6254 5000 F: 6254 5014

Mayor Tony Bisdee

GM Tim Kirkwood

Tasman Council

Council Chambers, NUBEENA 7184
P: 6250 9200 F: 6250 9220

Mayor Roseanne Heyward

GM Robert Higgins

Waratah-Wynyard Council

PO Box 168, WYNYARD 7325
P: 6443 8333 F: 6443 8383

Mayor Robby Walsh

GM Michael Stretton

West Coast Council

PO Box 63, QUEENSTOWN 7467
P: 6471 4700 F: 6471 4720

Mayor Phil Vickers

GM Dirk Dowling

West Tamar Council

PO Box 59, BEACONSFIELD 7270
P: 6383 6350 F: 6383 6384

Mayor Christina Holmdahl

GM Ian Pearce

Unlock your leadership potential

Designed to enhance your performance and drive your council forward, our *Company Directors Course* has been inspiring success for 40 years.

Monday 25 to Friday 29 May 2015, Hobart

To find out more contact t: 03 6242 2206

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE *of* COMPANY DIRECTORS

04791-1_15

LGAT CEO Moving On

Having served over 11 years in the position, Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) CEO, Allan Garcia, has announced his resignation to take up the role of CEO of Infrastructure Tasmania with the State Government.

LGAT President, Mayor Barry Jarvis, said Allan has provided dedicated and strong leadership to the Tasmanian Local Government sector, leading the review of financial reform between State and Local Government, establishing a framework for councils to progress with financial sustainability, managing the several iterations of water and sewerage reform, and progressing planning reform.

"Allan has provided a strong advocacy voice for Local Government and is respected by his peers within Local Government, as well as those he deals with in State Government, the business community and the public," Mayor Jarvis said.

"I would take this opportunity to wish Allan well in his new endeavours and advise that the Board of the Association will be meeting in the near future to consider the process for the appointment of his replacement," he said.

Mr Garcia will commence in his new role on 4 May.

LGAT CEO, Allan Garcia, has resigned to take up a new position

New Beginnings for *LGAT News*

LGAT News is under new management!

Following a call for expressions of interest in 2014, advertising sales for *LGAT News* are now managed by Mr Frank Johnstone of Launceston, who brings years of sales experience to the role. Mr Johnstone, who has been busy establishing contact with the magazine's many advertisers in recent months, is keen to hear from potential advertisers wanting to reach the Local Government sector and welcomes enquiries.

The design and printing of the magazine is now managed by Martin Guilliamse and his highly experienced team at Mark Media, based at Moonah. Mark Media, formerly known as The Print Centre, has been in operation for 30 years, and the Local Government Association of Tasmania is pleased to be utilising the services of a local business to help keep jobs in the State.

LGAT News, now widely recognised as one of Australia's leading Local Government publications, reaches all elected members and key decision-makers within the Tasmanian Local Government sector, as well as Tasmanian parliamentarians, heads of State Government agencies, key NGOs and affiliated organisations. The production of the quarterly magazine is wholly funded by advertisers for the benefit of LGAT members.

(L-R) LGAT's new publisher, Mr Martin Guilliamse of Mark Media and advertising sales representative, Mr Frank Johnstone

LGAT would like to acknowledge Nova Design and Print and Advertising Media and Associates for their years of dedicated service in publishing the magazine, which first went into production in 2001

For advertising enquiries, please contact Frank Johnstone on 0408 253 241, or email frank@markmedia.com.au.

Attendees enjoying breakfast at LGAT's Hobart event

Regional Breakfast Series a Success

The Local Government Association's inaugural breakfast series, held in Hobart, Ulverstone and Launceston throughout February, has been hailed a resounding success, with attendees looking forward to future instalments.

The Minister for Planning and Local Government, the Hon Peter Gutwein MP, was the guest speaker at each of the very well attended breakfasts. His coverage of the State's fiscal position, the recent conversations on voluntary amalgamations and the status of planning reform was thorough and informative and well received by the respective audiences.

A big thank you to our sponsors, Dial Before You Dig, the Commonwealth Bank and Stornoway who supported the sessions.

Planning is underway for the next series and LGAT welcomes suggestions for future speakers.

Driving your assets for a sustainable ROI

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) will require all Councils to approve permits for oversize and overmass (OSOM) vehicles once the current permits expire at the end of 2015. In particular, this places additional responsibility on Councils to understand the ability of their bridge stock to carry OSOM vehicles. Already Council's technical staff are spending more of their time answering NHVR requests, and this is expected to increase in 2016.

pitt&sherry has developed a simple and cost effective system for assessing Council's bridge stock against OSOM reference vehicles.
We provide a simple chart to Council showing each bridge on their network, and the level of overstress for each reference vehicle. When an NHVR permit request is received, Council can simply review the appropriate reference vehicle against the relevant bridges on their network to determine the permit status, saving Council time and money.

Celebrating 50 Years

pitt&sherry

sustainable*thinking*®

Enquiries:

Northern Tasmania
Ben Hart
03 6424 1641
bhart@pittsh.com.au

Southern Tasmania
Richard Cassidy
03 6210 1480
rcassidy@pittsh.com.au

Offices in: | Hobart | Launceston | Devonport | Melbourne | Brisbane | Canberra

1300 pittsh (1300 748 874) **www.pittsh.com.au** transport | community | mining & industrial | carbon & energy

at+m 53112

Going, going, gone! Kingborough Mayor Steve Wass watches on as the main facade was pulled down at the former Kingston High School site

Flagship Project Underway for Kingborough

Demolition is now complete ahead of schedule on Kingborough's most transformational project in a generation.

The former Kingston High School site has been demolished by Spectran Contracting, ready for its transformation into a town square and promenade, village green, and several new places to both live and do business. The former school gym building will be retained as a community hub.

This highly anticipated and ambitious project, expected to be complete within under a decade, will happen in stages, creating numerous local jobs and ongoing commercial opportunities.

Kingborough Mayor Steve Wass said it's exciting to see contractors and machines in action. "These massive projects obviously need a lot of community consultation and careful planning before the bulldozers go in. The Council's and community's perseverance is now paying-off," he said. "I look forward to the project passing many exciting milestones in the months and years ahead."

Where possible during demolition, steel, timber, brick and concrete has been collected for re-use or recycling. Re-usable salvaged materials have been made available for the general community to purchase

As part of the Council's commitment to close and ongoing community consultation, a virtual-tour video will soon be developed, giving the community a roving bird's-eye view of the final redevelopment. Council will also organise and advertise guided tours of the site during the year between demolition and construction, giving visitors an on-the-spot feel for the redevelopment.

Procurement made easy...

Looking for a specialist tool to streamline your public and select tenders or quotes? Join more than 400 leading Australasian organisations who have chosen TenderLink's effective and easy-to-use online procurement solution.

Reduce procurement administration costs, embed probity and enjoy faster procurement cycles. Realise these benefits in just 48 hours.

TENDERLINK

Patrons enjoying Clarence City Council's Gold Grass Cinema over summer

Summertime Fun at Gold Grass Cinema

Clarence City Council hosted its innovative Gold Grass Cinema over summer, featuring a series of evening films outside on the manicured lawns at Rosny Farm, with a big screen and amazing sound. Just like the Gold Class movie experience, food and drinks were brought to patrons in the comfort of their own bean-bag, fold-out chair, or picnic rug.

A total of 560 patrons attended the screening of four classic films shown throughout January and February, including *Dirty Dancing*, Monty Python's *Life of Brian*, *Mrs Doubtfire* and *Pan's Labyrinth*.

Hobart's newest food van, Wurstwagen by Wursthaus, was onsite providing an amazing array of dishes in bento-style meal boxes and a selection of wines were available by the glass or bottle.

Further information is available at www.clarenceartsandevents.net.

Burnie's First Enclosed Dog Exercise Area

Burnie City Council has just completed a project for the four-legged members of the community - its first secured dog exercise area.

The fully-fenced 100 m x 100 m area in View Road Reserve allows dogs to enjoy an off-leash experience while still being secured. Provision of a larger dog exercise area assists the community to maintain a responsible approach to dog management through regular exercise. Dog owners are still responsible for keeping their dog under effective control at all times.

The new enclosure features tunnels, a drink station and is double-gated at the entry point for extra security. Built in a dog-friendly reserve, the enclosure enables dogs and their owners to enjoy the reserve's natural environment.

The project was fully-funded by Burnie City Council having identified the need for a dog enclosure area which was confirmed through community consultation during a review of Council's Dog Management Policy.

It's all smiles for Burnie City Council's four-legged residents who can now stretch their legs in the City's first fully-enclosed exercise area

New Wayfinding to Show the Way

The City of Hobart has announced a trial of new wayfinding markers designed to improve the ability of visitors to move easily around the City and between destinations.

Hobart Lord Mayor, Alderman Sue Hickey said an effective wayfinding system is critical for any city to ensure people can confidently find their way around. "This project is about ensuring people using the City will be provided with easily digestible information so their visit is enjoyable and productive and the City benefits from a full experience by all visitors," said Ald Hickey.

The introduction of a city wayfinding system was identified as one of 15 priority projects endorsed by the Council in its Inner City Action Plan, developed from the work of Danish architect Jan Gehl and from a comprehensive community engagement program. The trial will involve two markers being installed on the waterfront at Brooke Street Pier as proto-types for a number of weeks.

During the trial period, Council will call on interested members of the public and visitors to provide feedback on the newly installed markers, with community comments to be used to inform any necessary amendments to the design and messages," Ald Hickey said.

The design of the trial markers includes a distinctive orange band containing the name of the location, directional information, a map including distance markers and graphics of primary and secondary destinations for identification purposes, plus a directory listing of places of interest such as transport options, public toilets, major retail, emergency services, parks and playgrounds. There is also an opportunity to display a QR code to link to digital information and this can be tailored for people with impaired vision and to accommodate multiple languages.

Following the trial period and evaluation, Council will consider a City Wayfinding Strategy which proposes the installation of a total of 61 markers in researched locations across three distinct zones – the waterfront, inner city and outer city, with a view to having the majority of makers installed by the end of 2015.

For further information visit hobartcity.com.au

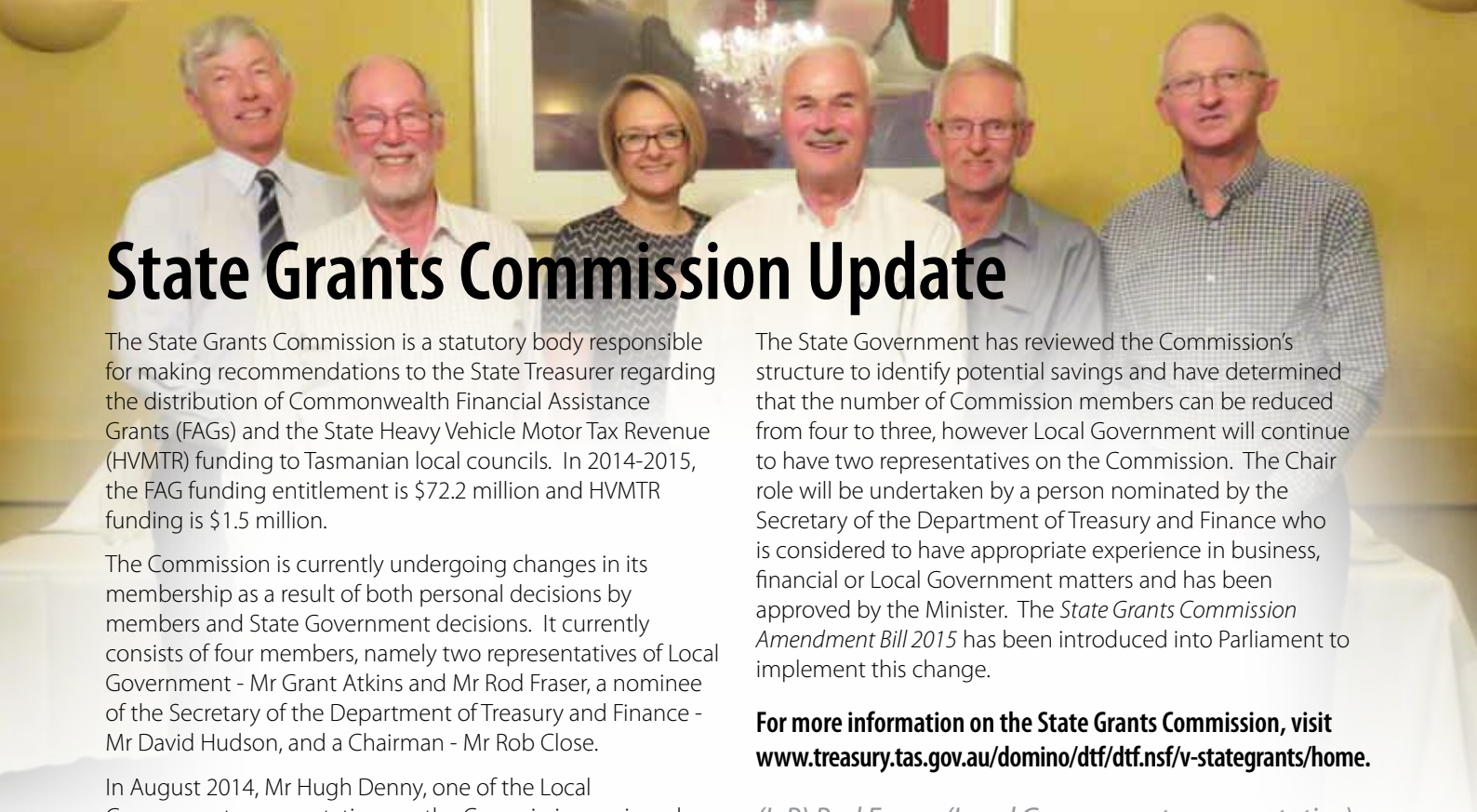
COOL HOT DEAL
From $ 135

Includes Accommodation with B/F for Two, Car parking and WiFi Available from 01st April 2015 to 30th September 2015.

CONDITIONS:
• Non refundable • Subject to availability
• Excludes AFL week-ends
• Breakfast in the Restaurant Only
• Maximum parking for 01 Car

HOTEL GRAND CHANCELLOR
LAUNCESTON

TA1609795



State Grants Commission Update

The State Grants Commission is a statutory body responsible for making recommendations to the State Treasurer regarding the distribution of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) and the State Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax Revenue (HVMTR) funding to Tasmanian local councils. In 2014-2015, the FAG funding entitlement is $72.2 million and HVMTR funding is $1.5 million.

The Commission is currently undergoing changes in its membership as a result of both personal decisions by members and State Government decisions. It currently consists of four members, namely two representatives of Local Government - Mr Grant Atkins and Mr Rod Fraser, a nominee of the Secretary of the Department of Treasury and Finance - Mr David Hudson, and a Chairman - Mr Rob Close.

In August 2014, Mr Hugh Denny, one of the Local Government representatives on the Commission, resigned. Having provided over 11 years of valuable service, the Commission wishes thank him for his commitment to the role and for his collegial approach during his term. Mr Denny is the third longest serving member of the Commission since it was established in 1976 and has been replaced by Mr Rod Fraser, who retired from Launceston City Council in 2011.

The State Government has reviewed the Commission's structure to identify potential savings and have determined that the number of Commission members can be reduced from four to three, however Local Government will continue to have two representatives on the Commission. The Chair role will be undertaken by a person nominated by the Secretary of the Department of Treasury and Finance who is considered to have appropriate experience in business, financial or Local Government matters and has been approved by the Minister. The *State Grants Commission Amendment Bill 2015* has been introduced into Parliament to implement this change.

For more information on the State Grants Commission, visit www.treasury.tas.gov.au/domino/dtf/dtf.nsf/v-stategrants/home.

(L-R) Rod Fraser (Local Government representative), Hugh Denny (retired Commission member), Pam Marriott (Secretary), Rob Close (Chairman), David Hudson and Grant Atkins (Local Government representative)

stlukeshealth

Switching. It's easy.

It's where you end up that's most important.

We understand that it can be hard to get the ball rolling when changing or choosing health cover that suits you.

- Gap free preventative dental* for the whole family with your choice of dentist
- Mobile claiming from your iPhone or Android phone
- No excess on hospital treatment for children covered on the policy and no excess for same day treatment for adults on most hospital covers
- Business Development Officers that can visit you at a time convenient to you

To get covered please contact:

Northern Tasmania:
Courtney Osborne
0417 563 546
cosborne@stlukes.com.au

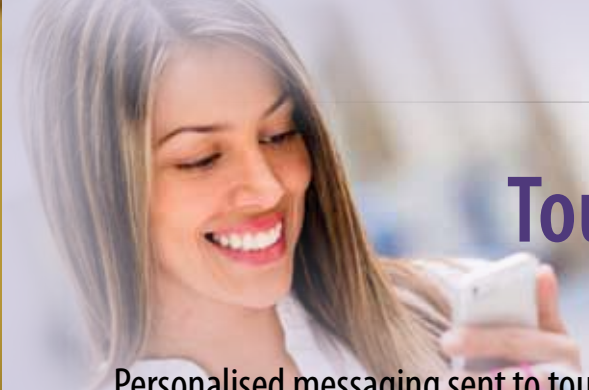
Southern Tasmania:
Brent Scolyer
0417 561 948
bscolyer@stlukes.com.au

Southern Tasmania:
Caroline Farquhar
0439 392 453
cfarquhar@stlukes.com.au

North West Tasmania:
Jan Hooper
0459 022 553
jhooper@stlukes.com.au

1300 651 988
general@stlukes.com.au
www.stlukes.com.au

*Available on selected products. ABN 81 009 479 618



Tourism Industry Urged to take Adventurous Approach

Personalised messaging sent to tourists' Smartphones when they cross virtual boundaries is the new weapon being investigated by the tourism industry to entice Australians to holiday at home.

Smart mapping company, Esri Australia, has released technology which enables tourism operators to place an invisible perimeter, or geofence, around a destination such as a city or entire region. When a tourist crosses the boundary, personalised offers such as tour details, promotions, or accommodation packages are delivered directly to their phone via a downloaded app. The service can also provide historic and cultural facts about key tourist destinations.

Esri Australia Industry Solutions Manager, Gary Johnson said the 'geotriggered' messages would allow the industry to start tailored conversations with tourists at crucial moments during their holidays.

Unlike SMS or email campaigns, the technology doesn't bombard tourists with random material at an inappropriate time or place. Instead, by taking advantage of Smartphone GPS features, smart mapping technology can provide tourism operators with the opportunity to interact with tourists at the right place and right time.

"Much like our tourism attractions, Australia needs to be adventurous and lead the world in enhancing the visitor experience," Mr Johnson said. "Imagine a tourist entering one of Australia's renowned wine regions and being sent a detailed schedule and map of the day's premier tastings."

Councils can take the opportunity to deliver in-depth knowledge on the must-see attractions in their area, providing information on some of the secret hot spots only a local would know. On the broader scale, the technology offers statewide tourism authorities the opportunity to have sustained conversations with tourists, helping them to plan activities based on specific interests in particular regions. Participation would be voluntary, with tourists needing to 'opt-in' before their personal data and location are shared.

For further information, Esri Australia at https://esriaustralia.com.au

Make a night of it!

Travelodge Hobart is centrally located in the heart of the business district and close to many dining spots. Prices start from **$110** (room only) or **$120** (including breakfast).

Travelodge Hobart Airport is an ideal gateway to Southern Tasmania and is the only hotel located at the airport. Prices start from **$105** (room only) or **$115** (including breakfast).

Book online and use booking code **LOCALGOVT** or call **03 6248 3555**

From $105* per night

TFEhotels.com/travelodge

*Conditions apply, subject to availability. Valid until 25 December 2015.

Travelodge Hotels

Adequately Funding our Water and Sewerage Infrastructure - A Fine Balancing Act

MIKE BREWSTER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
TasWater

As we await the outcome of the Economic Regulator's final determination following the public comment period for TasWater's proposed *Price and Service Plan 2015-2018 (PSP2)*, I take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of the delicate balance involved in setting prices, funding infrastructure and ensuring long-term sustainability. TasWater has focused on delivering equity and fairness for all customers and delivering better services and outcomes for the long-term.

Recent water quality issues and outages in Hobart, and sewer overflows following storm events, are examples of the need for long-term investment in our infrastructure.

Our submission to the Regulator last August proposed price changes over the next three years that will see all residential customers achieve parity by 2018, two years sooner than required under the legislation covering TasWater's establishment. Any remaining business or trade waste customers will achieve parity by 2020. These charges are set on the basis of managing price shocks to consumers and achieving revenue for operating costs and critical infrastructure investment.

The regulator has proposed a number of key changes to our submission including:

- All customers currently above the target rate move to parity on 1 July 2015;
- A fixed, flat service fee for water statewide by 1 July 2015. Sewerage charging continues to transition as proposed;
- A recalculation of the building blocks that form the basis of upper, statutory and lower revenue limits, critical to our long-term sustainability;
- An alternative headworks methodology based on fixed fees and serviced land;
- A different approach to setting, measuring and reporting on customer service standards.

TasWater has been assessing the basis of the Economic Regulator's findings and we look forward to working through their proposal to understand how they believe the plan will achieve sustainable long-term outcomes. Our concerns so far indicate if the Regulator's proposal is implemented, it may put funding of essential upgrades at risk and compromise the long-term sustainability of Tasmania's water and sewerage services.

Over the next decade, we need to invest around $110 million per year to upgrade, renew and repair infrastructure. For example, it is estimated that $68 million in upgrades will be required over the next five years to ensure our dams meet minimum safety standards. Data shows that only 43% of treated sewage outflows meets Environmental Protection Agency standards and even by reaching our target for improvement this financial year, almost half of our plants will still fall short of acceptable levels. Also, there are still 26 communities on 'boil water' notices or 'Do Not Consume' alerts that we must address as a priority through the upgrade of water treatment systems or service replacement.

TasWater remains committed to maintaining our planned level of infrastructure development over the next three years (the period covered by PSP2) and we look forward to continuing to work with the Economic Regulator to ensure this outcome remains achievable.

Successful Submissions: Adapting to the Changing Landscape

COLIN STEELE, MANAGING DIRECTOR
Section51

The grants and funding system has changed in focus, first as a result of the Tasmanian election outcome, then South Australia, Victoria, and now Queensland. The recent Canberra political environment has added to the complexity and changed the way councils should be preparing applications for the National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF) and other grant programs out of Canberra.

Using the National Stronger Regions Fund as an example, under the current government, while the funding program is primarily about infrastructure, the reality is that the Commonwealth is seeking to use the program to achieve national policy outcomes. Therefore you need to know what those outcomes are before writing an application.

Minister Warren Truss recently said, "The future also requires investment in social and economic assets that grow the economy and make it more efficient — particularly through productive infrastructure. Our vision coming into government is focused on building new infrastructure and improving existing infrastructure across Australia to boost the economy."

Therefore, grant applications will need to be presented in a way that demonstrates how the funding will grow the economy and make it more efficient. Applying for funding for a road, a bridge, or improvements to the main street will need to show how that improvement will make the region, state and nation more productive, and achieve national policy outcomes such as employment. Saying it will be a well-constructed bridge that will benefit the local community may not be enough.

Now is a good time of year to get your grant applications started. There is a fair indication of what is on the way from the Federal Government in 2015-2016 with NSRF in May, bridges renewal, environment programs with landcare and a billion trees, with potential for natural disaster resilience funding depending on the response to the recent Productivity Commission Report.

The guidelines for early rounds of most of these programs are available and are unlikely to change much between rounds. The guidelines for the first round of NSRF give a clear indication of the work you will need to do for round two. By getting started now, you can make sure you have a project that fits, start the process of having matching funding approved by council or from other sources, and work your way through the attachments such as business plans. This will put you well ahead when the funding round opens.

Do not take the application for granted simply because you are located in a marginal seat and are on good terms with the local MP. After the Queensland election, every Federal seat in Australia could be classified as marginal. Competition is fierce and you need to get the application right. Good luck and happy grant writing!

Section51 conduct Grants and Funding Workshops across Australia. For enquiries, visit www.section51.com.au, phone (02) 6162 2092, or email admin@section51.com.au.

Section51

Just add funding

Need more funding and wondering how? More councils across Australia are submitting applications for smaller buckets of funding. The competition is fierce, so how do you really become competitive? Section51can show you how with our workshops, or with in-house personalised training on the grants and funding system and how to get that winning edge. See our website for details.

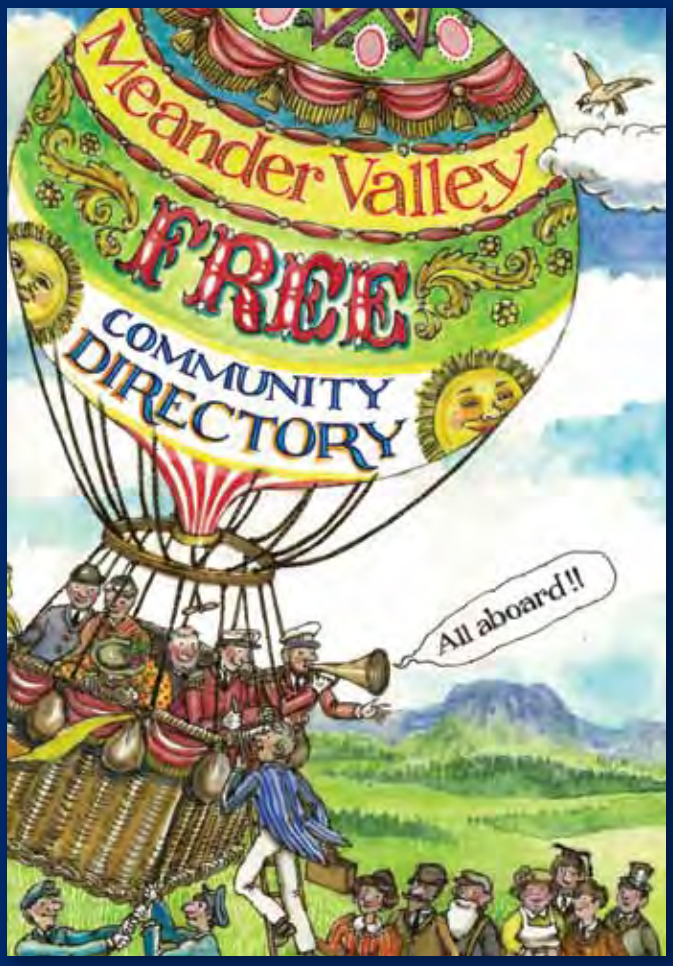
To have that edge you have to prove that you can deliver. The funding Departments know who you are. If you have any old grants that you haven't quite finished the paperwork yet, that makes you less competitive. Call Section51 and we can clean up the Funding Agreement and reporting paperwork to make you look good.

Contact **Colin Steele on (02) 6162 2092** or **admin@section51.com.au** or via **www.section51.com.au**

News in Brief

Free Online Directory Takes off

Meander Valley has launched an online community directory, a free service designed to assist all community groups within the Municipal Area and to recognise the vital role community volunteers play. Registration is easy and groups or services can create and maintain a personalised homepage. There are options to upload photos, information and contact details, including a map and links to a website, social media pages and videos. The event calendar clearly displays the details of upcoming activities, and groups can offer equipment and skills for loan, hire, or sale through the resource-sharing network. People can search for services, print extracts and follow up items of interest. It is also a springboard to strengthening links with other local groups. The Community Directory is a Meander Valley Council initiative in partnership with Meander Valley Online. The initiative is supported by Deloraine & Districts Community Bank and Medicare Local Tasmania.
Visit www.meandervalleycommunitydirectory.com.au.



Infrastructure Guidelines Strengthened

Guidelines ensuring the integrity of Australia's major infrastructure projects have been further strengthened with the release of the Building Information Models (BIM) guidelines. BIM is an electronic interface using one common format that designers, architects and engineers use simultaneously to produce the plans that builders follow to construct major infrastructure like high-rises, commercial structures and factories.

When applied, the new guidelines, *Framework for the Adoption of Project Team Integration and Building Information Modelling*, will improve the quality and delivery of major infrastructure and construction projects. The guidelines were developed jointly by the Australasian Procurement and Construction Council (APCC) and the Australian Construction Industry Forum. The guide is available free of charge at www.apcc.gov.au/SitePages/Home.aspx.

J Wright Technologies
Audio Visual • Security • Data • Communications
Audio Visual
• Projectors & Displays
• Interactive Technology
• Video Conferencing
• Board/Function Rooms
• Sound Reinforcement
• Public Address Systems
• Automation and Control
• Performing Arts
• Consumables
• Consultation & Design
Security
• Access Control
• Alarm Systems
• CCTV / Surveillance
• Integrated Solutions
Data & Comms
• VOIP Solutions
• Networking Hardware
• Telephone & Data Cabling
• Repairs and Additions
◇ Sales
◇ Install
◇ Service
◇ Training
◇ Support
1300 598 324
www.jwtech.com.au

*"An industry survey of 5000 people travelling around Australia found the recreational facility they valued most was .... **the communal BBQ!**"*
CHRISTIE PARKSAFE 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

1300 135 227
www.christieparksafe.com.au

Leading with Ethics and Integrity

DIANE MERRYFULL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Integrity Commission

Strong leadership is essential to building a robust ethical culture in any agency. Leading with integrity means not only ensuring that systems are in place to support an ethical culture but also that ethical behaviour is modelled by those at the top, setting the tone for the organisation as a whole.

In a Local Government context, this has significant benefits for both the council and the broader community. The Integrity Commission is committed to supporting council leaders as they strengthen their council's ethical culture.

There's no doubt that a community expects ethical leadership from its elected members. Community members also expect that their council will put in place good governance arrangements and that its staff and elected members will act in the best interests of the community, at all times. It's up to council leaders to create the ethical culture that will meet those expectations.

It is important to know that certain Local Government leaders have obligations under the *Integrity Commission Act 2009* to ensure that training and education in ethical conduct is given.

Section 32 of the *Act* states that public officers to be given education and training relating to ethical conduct.

(1) The principal officer of a public authority is to ensure that public officers of the public authority are given appropriate education and training relating to ethical conduct.
(2) In particular, the education and training must relate to:
    (a) The operation of this Act and any Act that relates to the conduct of the public officer;
    (b) The application of ethical principles and obligations to public officers;
    (c) The content of any code of conduct that applies to the public authority; and
    (d) The rights and obligations of public officers in relation to contraventions of any code of conduct that applies to public officers.

Under the *Integrity Commission Act*, the mayor is the principal officer for councillors and the general manager; the deputy mayor is the principal officer for the mayor; and the general manager is the principal officer for the staff of the council.

In addition to meeting their legislative obligations, council leaders are increasingly recognising that having a strong ethical culture assists council to achieve its objectives, prevent misconduct, retain quality staff and build a relationship of trust with its community. There are a number of ways a council can build such a culture including:

- Having clear guidelines through codes of conduct and council policies;
- Clarifying expectations of staff and councillors in terms of their conduct;
- Providing ethics and integrity training;
- Providing opportunities to openly discuss ethical issues; and
- Encouraging people to speak up when they see misconduct.

The Integrity Commission continues to work closely with councils to provide support and assistance. We are currently running ethics training for councillors and we have a number of training resources that can be customised by councils to address particular areas of misconduct risk. In particular, Module 1 of the Ethics and Integrity Training program has been designed to assist principal officers to meet their education and training obligations under the *Integrity Commission Act*.

The positive response of councils to the Commission's *Speak up* campaign, driven by council leaders, demonstrates a strong commitment by the Local Government sector to building ethical cultures. With a number of recent changes across the State in terms of council leadership, now is the ideal time to refocus on ethics and integrity for the benefit of the council and the community.

For more information about the Commission's education and training resources, email mper@integrity.tas.gov.au, or call 1300 720 289.

Data Shows the Gaps in Women and Work

The inaugural findings from comprehensive gender data provided by Australian employers to the Workplace Gender Equality Agency has been released, painting a comprehensive picture of the extent of workplace gender equality in Australian workplaces.

The findings show just 13.6% of employers have a strategy for flexible working conditions and only 13.2% of employers have a strategy to support employees with family or caring responsibilities. Economic Security4Women, a national alliance of women's organisations, has identified this as one of the biggest barriers to women progressing into senior management positions and executive ranks.

The findings also reveal that less than one in four employers has done a gender remuneration gap analysis to check for potential pay equity issues. Employers are encouraged to undertake an analysis and to work with the Agency to identify areas where steps can be taken that will ensure greater female workforce participation at all levels.

To access Australia's Gender Equality Scorecard, visit www.wgea.gov.au.

Ethics Training Videos for Local Councillors

Helping local councillors make ethical decisions is the aim of three new training videos, jointly launched by the Integrity Commission, the Local Government Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

The training videos feature seven common ethical scenarios regularly faced by local councillors, highlighting the often complex issues they face such as being offered gifts and benefits; maintaining confidentiality; use of power and authority; and use of social media. The ethical training videos present these dilemmas in an easily understandable format.

Integrity Commission CEO, Ms Diane Merryfull said, "The video scenarios are a good way to start discussion about some of the key risk areas and how councils can manage them."

The *Councillor Legal and Ethical Decisions* training videos can be accessed via the LGAT website at www.lgat.tas.gov.au.

Local Government: Australia's Economic and Workforce Powerhouse

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government has launched Australia's first, extensive profile of the Local Government workforce.

Centre Director, Associate Professor Roberta Ryan says the report explodes the myth that Local Government is only about roads, rates and rubbish. "Local Government is, in fact, an Australian powerhouse, punching above its weight in terms of its contribution to the nation's economy and social fabric, particularly in regional, rural and remote Australia," she said.

"Local Government is a big business. Australia's 556 local governments employ nearly 200,000 people in a diverse range of roles across the country. Together, Australia's local governments spend more than $30 billion annually," A/Prof Ryan said.

In a number of rural and remote Local Government Areas across Australia, Local Government is either the top, or one of the top employers.

The key findings also reveal that the Local Government workforce is ageing and, on average, is older compared with other government and industry sectors. According to the ABS Census, 37% of the Local Government workforce is aged 50 years or over, compared to the Australian labour force average of 29%. Correspondingly, the proportion of Local Government employees aged under 35 years is much lower than the Australian average.

The *Profile of the Local Government Workforce* is free to download from www.acelg.org.au.

UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA
Active TASMANIA

Would your community benefit from health promotion programs?

Would you like support to set up health and wellbeing initiatives in your municipality?

Through the Active Tasmania health promotion initiative, the Univeristy of Tasmania seeks to partner with others to improve health and wellbeing of communities through a capacity building process. Active Tasmania provides consultancies, resources, and event and project management for organisations and communities.

How can we help your local government area?

Visit www.activetasmania.com.au or contact Lucy Byrne 6348 8177

14887 • 37

New Playground in Lindisfarne Offers Access for All

Clarence City Council was the proud host of the 2014 International Day of People with Disability celebrations, held at Simmons Park in Lindisfarne. The event, dubbed *Access All Areas,* was a collaborative celebration by the Clarence, Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils, and Tascare.

Clarence City Council Mayor, Ald Doug Chipman said that rotating the location of the day showed the commitment of the Greater Hobart councils to providing resources and opportunities for all members of the community.

The day also marked the official unveiling of the new, accessible playground at Simmons Park, Lindisfarne - designed to provide opportunities for people of all abilities to play together.

Mayor Chipman said Council believes that universal design is good design and endeavours to include access and amenity for users of all abilities in all its park and playground developments. "Our designers have cleverly combined pathways, plantings, play equipment and picnic areas that everyone can enjoy. The picnic table settings were selected as they allow for wheelchairs to be pushed right up to the table, which is also great for prams," he said.

Clarence City Council is continuing to improve the park, with the design and construction of an accessible toilet block, a community performance structure, mini-amphitheatre, irrigation and pathways.

Children enjoying the new play equipment at the launch of the accessible playground at Simmons Park, Lindisfarne.

Photography by David Bellamy

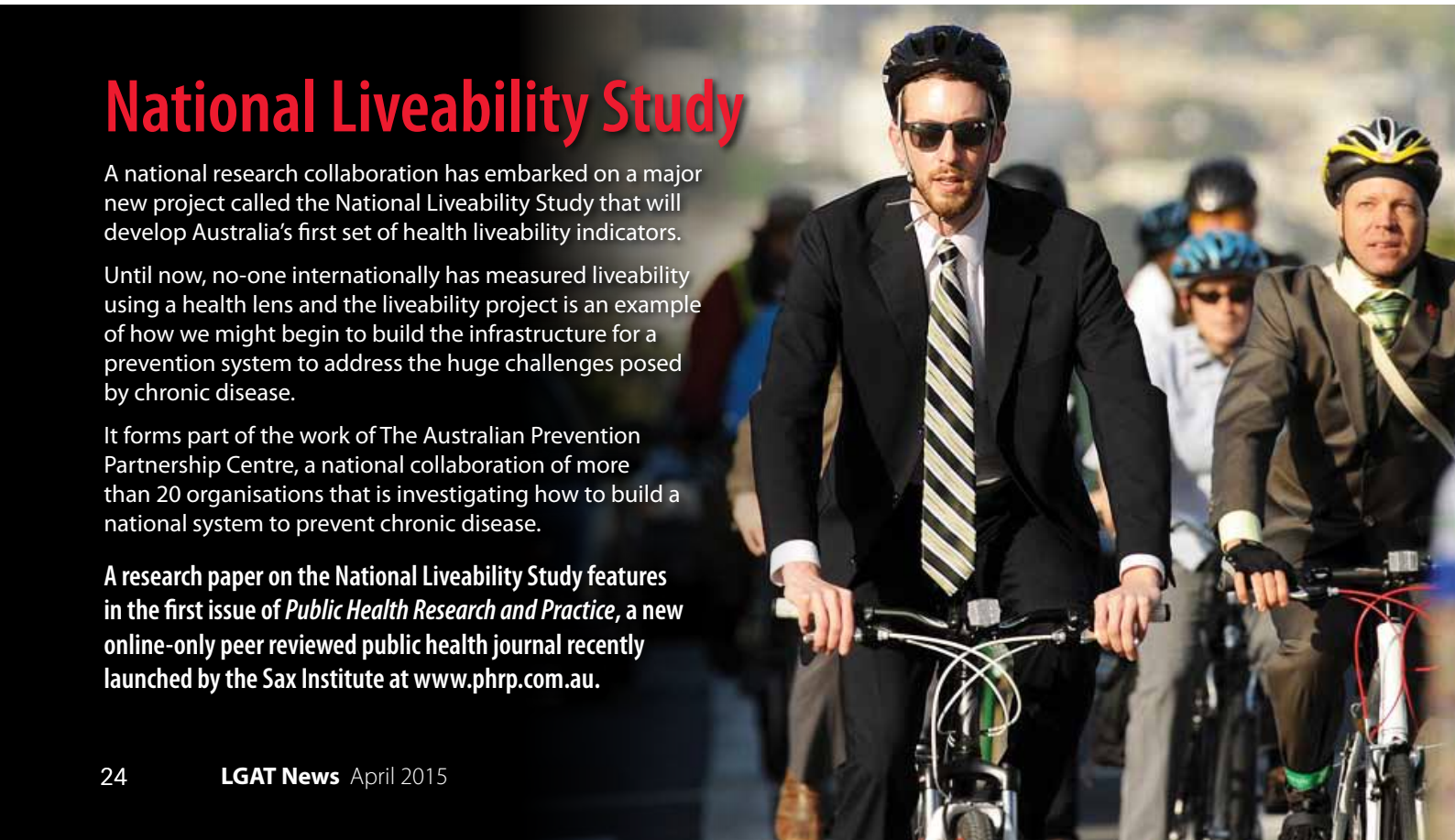
National Liveability Study

A national research collaboration has embarked on a major new project called the National Liveability Study that will develop Australia's first set of health liveability indicators.

Until now, no-one internationally has measured liveability using a health lens and the liveability project is an example of how we might begin to build the infrastructure for a prevention system to address the huge challenges posed by chronic disease.

It forms part of the work of The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre, a national collaboration of more than 20 organisations that is investigating how to build a national system to prevent chronic disease.

A research paper on the National Liveability Study features in the first issue of *Public Health Research and Practice*, a new online-only peer reviewed public health journal recently launched by the Sax Institute at www.phrp.com.au.



Healthy Food Access Tasmania Supporting Local Councils and Communities

The Healthy Food Access Tasmania project, funded by Tasmania Medicare Local and being delivered by the Heart Foundation, called for expressions of interest for projects to improve access to locally grown fruit and vegetables in communities across Tasmania in September 2014. The recipients of the funding have now been advised and Local Government has emerged as a strong partner or lead agency in four of six of the projects.

The Heart Foundation has long enjoyed its partnership work with local councils and looks forward to supporting these exciting initiatives which are now underway. The four successful funding recipients working in partnership with Local Government are:

Delicious Dorset: A partnership between Dorset Primary Health, Community House and Dorset Council, working with local producers, wholesalers and retailers to promote, raise awareness and increase access to locally grown fruit and vegetables for local residents.

Mersey Leven Food Hub: A partnership between the Central Coast, Devonport, Latrobe and Kentish Councils and other key partners to build a hub model that strengthens the connection between local growers/producers and retail opportunities, to increase access to affordable fruit and vegetable through strategic relationships and the use of information systems. This project is aligned with several other economic development projects planned or underway in the region.

Kingborough Food Chain Project: To be led by Kingborough Council, this community partnership project (with growers, Council and Maranoa Community House) will establish a box scheme for affordable, locally grown fruit and vegetables, a mid-week farmers' market, and support networks for growers and producers across the Kingborough and Huon Council areas.

Huon Producers Network: Huon Valley Council working in partnership with Geeveston Community House and a network of 70 growers/producers to increase the availability and access of locally grown fruit and vegetables through their 'pop up' produce shop and exploring new options for selling their produce across the region.

For other details about the Healthy Food Access Project, visit www.heartfoundation.org.au, or phone (03) 6220 2210.

Are you interested in
Active & Healthy Living?
UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA
FREE STUDY

Are you a council employee or elected member looking to improve your knowledge of active and healthy living?

Interested in supporting your community?

Would you like an exciting, FREE professional development opportunity?

In 2015, the Active Tasmania health promotion initiative presents;
CXA003 Foundations of Active Living.
A FREE university unit designed to increase knowledge of physical activity, nutrition and hydration, and mental health.

Get more info or enrol

Email: SOHS.enquiry@utas.edu.au

14887 • JF

Kingborough Mayor Steve Wass inspects the newly installed solar panels on the roof of the Kingborough Civic Centre

Kingborough Leads on Renewable Energy

Kingborough Council has become the first Southern Tasmanian Council to install solar panels on its headquarters and Council Chambers.

The investment builds on Council's local leadership in helping to combat climate change and embrace sustainable energy. The 168 photovoltaic panels have been installed on the roof of the Kingborough Civic Centre at Kingston and they are expected to save the Council $17,000 a year in power costs – resulting in long-term savings for ratepayers.

Mayor Steve Wass said as a largely coastal community, Kingborough is determined to show strong leadership on climate change. "This investment is good for the planet and good for Kingborough ratepayers," Mayor Wass said. "It complements our leading Tasmanian programs on climate adaptation and promoting sustainable development."

"As a local council, we can only make a small overall contribution against climate change but every small contribution and act of leadership is vitally important," he said. "The efforts we make now are so important for the future of our communities, and we're determined to make a sustainable difference at local level."

The state-of-the-art solar system has been provided and installed by the Tasmanian solar company, DMS Energy, at a cost of just under $100,000. Each panel is 1.6 metres long by one metre wide and will generate almost 70,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each year - about one-fifth of the Council's current usage. By those calculations, the panels will take about six years to pay for themselves and start generating an overall saving for the Council, and therefore ratepayers. It's understood that Glamorgan Spring Bay Council is the only other Tasmanian council to install solar panels on its chambers however, Kingborough Council's system is much larger. Solar panels have also been installed on the function centre at the Twin Ovals sports complex at Kingston.

Principled design.

Landmark applies Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles to every restroom we produce:

- Visibility
- Natural internal lighting
- Surrounding external lighting
- Natural access control
- Anti-vandal materials
- Water run off and ventilation

We can provide you the optimum solution for your restroom requirements. For more information check out our website or call today.

KIT FORM ENGINEERED

Call 1300 768 230
landmarkpro.com.au

Landmark

Introducing Climate Tasmania

Efforts to address climate change received a boost in December 2014, with the launch of Climate Tasmania, an expert body committed to strengthening climate change action across the government, business and community sectors in Tasmania.

Climate Tasmania takes the place of the Tasmanian Climate Action Council (TCAC) – an advisory body originally established by the Lennon State Government to provide independent advice on climate change and abolished by the current government during a round of cost cutting measures.

The importance and urgency of responding to climate change has not gone away, with former TCAC members recognising the ongoing need for an independent, informed body to keep climate change policy on the political and community agenda. Additional members have joined Climate Tasmania, providing a diverse range of expertise spanning scientific, legal, economic, health, social and policy aspects of climate change.

Key activities for the group will involve engaging business, government and the community, improving understanding of climate change, monitoring efforts to address challenges, and capture opportunities and advising on effective responses. Tasmanian councils will have an essential role to play and are invited to develop links with Climate Tasmania.

Further information, including member profiles, can be found at http://www.climatetasmania.org.

Climate Tasmania members (from L-R) Phil Harrington (Co-convenor), Jess Feehely, Jan McDonald, James Risbey, Margaret Steadman (Administrative Support), John Hunter, Lesley Hughes (National Climate Council), Matthew Pitt (Co-convenor) and Chris Harries. Dr Nick Towle not present

Photography by Michael Harries

Celebrating the City of Hobart's Bushcare Success Story

To mark 21 years of Bushcare in the City of Hobart and to pay tribute to the hundreds of individuals who have dedicated their time, expertise and passion to making a difference in Hobart's bushland areas, Council has produced a commemorative book entitled *Bushcare: Celebrating the City of Hobart's Bushcare Success Story*.

In 21 years, volunteers have contributed $1.65 million worth of labour to Hobart's bushland areas which equates to 55,000 hours of labour. Currently, there are a total of 450 people in16 volunteer groups from Cornelian Bay to Mount Wellington.

Bushcare groups such as Friends of Knocklofty and Valley Street Bushcare have assisted in the eradication of the last major stands of gorse in Knocklofty Reserve and Leonard Wall Valley Street Reserves, as well as rehabilitating frog dams. Wellington Park Bushcare have protected populations of threatened species such as Coral Heath.

All current and future volunteers will receive a copy of the book. The book is also available for viewing at the Hobart Council Centre.

Renewable Energy Generation Back on the Agenda

ESTHER FOX

The Deloraine Power Station: restored and re-commissioned

With the development of the national electricity grid, local renewable energy generation has a newfound relevance because it can displace that generated by polluting, coal-fired power stations.

Located close to the centre of town, the Deloraine Power Station was originally built in 1907 by the Deloraine Council to provide light and power to the township. It is the oldest power station to have been built and operated by a local authority in Australia.

The restoration of the Deloraine Power Station has been managed by a Kingborough engineering business. Whilst it is a heritage restoration, when it comes to the turbine and pipe work for the power house, it has the benefit of modern technology. Fifty Tasmanians have worked on the project. The restored power station has a nominal power output of 20kW, enough to power a planned café and visitors centre onsite as well as ten homes. The power will be sold into the national electricity grid.

Clr Flora Fox of Kingborough Council says, "There are opportunities for councils to invest in local, economically viable electricity generation schemes such as this one to benefit their communities."

Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

Analytical Services Tasmania

NATA
ACCREDITED FOR TECHNICAL COMPETENCE

18 St. Johns Avenue
New Town 7008
Phone: 61 65 3300 Fax: 6230 7001
Email: astproduction@environment.tas.gov.au

Contact us for all of your analytical needs including

- Chemical analysis of water and soil
- Algal counting and identification
- Chemical testing of soil for remediation and waste classification
- Nutrients and general water chemistry testing

Home Energy Audit Toolkits Made Easy With Instructional DVD

The popular Home Energy Audit Toolkit (HEAT) which helps households understand how they use energy and where savings can be made is now easier to use through the development of an instructional DVD.

Feedback showed that whilst the kits were very popular, there were sectors of the community who had trouble understanding the instructions on how to use some of the kit's electricity measuring tools. This prompted the City of Hobart and the City of Launceston to partner and, using a Tasmanian Government grant, develop the instructional DVD. The addition of a voice over and closed captions make it accessible to those with visual and hearing impairments.

HEAT was developed by the City of Hobart in collaboration with Think South. The toolkits may be borrowed from every Tasmanian council for free.

For more information on either the kits or to view the DVD, visit the City of Hobart website at www.hobartcity.com.au, or City of Launceston website at www.launceston.tas.gov.au.

abs
SPORTS FIELDS
Australia's most respected Synthetic Sports Field Company
AJ Berry Pty Ltd
Mobile: 0417 946 102
Email: info@berrysportsurfaces.com.au
Websites: www.berrybowlingsystems.com.au
www.berrysportsurfaces.com.au

Brooker Highway Junction *Upgrades*

Apart from the Tasman Bridge, the Brooker Highway carries the highest volumes of traffic in the State. Plans have been on display this month at the Glenorchy City Council of the proposed $32 million Brooker Highway Junction Upgrades at Elwick, Goodwood and Howard Roads.

The upgrades will improve the efficiency of the Brooker Highway, improve traffic flow, minimise peak-time bottlenecks, and improve connections between local communities.

Proposed works include realigning the junctions at Elwick and Goodwood Roads to form one signal-controlled intersection, replacing the Howard Road roundabout with a new signal-controlled intersection, and coordinating the traffic lights at both intersections for efficient traffic flows.

The Australian Government has committed $25.6 million towards the $32 million project and the Tasmanian Government will contribute $6.4 million. The project was identified as a high priority in the 2012 Strategic Review of the Brooker Highway.

Further information and artist's impressions of the upgraded junctions are available from www.transport.tas.gov.au/infrastructure_projects.

engineering products
bamford
designed to work
32 Gleadow Street Invermay (03) 6336 9666
19 Strahan Street Burnie (03) 6440 9999
Contact Tony Blyde 0417 399 320
Bamford Engineering is a Tasmanian owned business committed to providing sales, support and advice to Tasmanian industries for Fluid power, Compressed air systems, Specialised electrical, Mechanical, Fluid and Gas piping requirements and OEM industry related products. Brands include Kaeser, +GF+ (Georg Fischer), Parker, Danfoss, Kraus & Naimer, Airmac, Macnaught, Acromet and Wampfler.

JOHNSTONE McGEE & GANDY

incorporating **Dale P Luck & Associates**

JMG Engineers & Planners

"Your Vision is Our Mission"

Established in 1960, JMG is Tasmania's longest established totally Tasmanian owned multi-discipline Engineering and Planning practice. With 60 staff between Hobart and Launceston we are able to provide Engineering, Planning and Environmental Services on projects to meet the needs of Tasmania throughout the state, in all market sectors, from investigation, feasibility studies, design and documentation, pursuing approvals, through to the administration and management of contracts.

Engineering

- Commercial and Retail Buildings
- Roads and Bridges
- Hydraulic Infrastructure
- Maintenance Management
- Sustainable Developments
- Risk Management
- Green Star & NABERS Accreditation
- Business Continuity Management
- Hospital & Health Care
- Education & Research
- Industry
- Mining
- Sports Facilities

Planning

- Strategic and Land Use Planning
- Statutory and Legal Planning
- Development Planning and Submissions
- Infrastructure Planning
- Health and Aged Care Planning
- Planning Appeals
- Master Planning
- Town Planning
- Community Consultation and Mediation

Environmental

- Environment Impact Assessments
- Environment Management Systems
- Certified EMS Auditing (ISO 14001)
- Environmental Management Plans
- Construction EMP's
- Stormwater and Waste Management
- Waste Water Design and Reports
- Climate Change Action Plans
- Greenhouse Gas Compliance
- Contaminated Site Assessments
- Noise, Air, Water Quality Management
- Community and Stakeholder Consultation

For further information visit www.jmg.net.au or phone Ian Johnston on (03) 6231 2555

• Business Cards • Statements • Advertising Flyers • Note Pads • Quote Books • Diaries • Corflute Signs • Posters • Menus • Logos •
• DL Promo Cards • With Compliments • Receipt Books • Booklets • Postcards • Books • Stickers • Bookmarks • Christmas Cards •
• Boxes • Angle Pads • Banners • Invoices • Labels • Desk Pads • Programs • Greeting Cards • Invitations • Calendars • Letterheads
• School Magazines • Stickers • Newsletters • Yearly Planners • Annual Reports • Raffle Tickets • Letterheads • Presentation Folders
• Packaging • Cheques • Vouchers • Balloons • Novels • Envelopes • Magnets • Rubber Stamps • Followers • Adverts • Billboards •

MARKMEDIA

"Creating design and print that is intelligent, influential and inspirational."

1 Sunderland Street, Moonah TASMANIA 7009 P: 03 6228 4441 E: admin@markmedia.com.au www.markmedia.com.au

Learnings from the IPWEA New Zealand Asset Management Study Tour

ROB LITTLE, ASSET MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Meander Valley Council

The 2014 Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) New Zealand Asset Management Study Tour was held in Auckland late last year and was attended by 11 representatives from around Australia, including three from Tasmania - namely Emilio Reale from Huon Valley Council, Frank Chen from Hobart City Council and Rob Little from Meander Valley Council.

The tour began with an Advanced Asset Management Forum that covered all aspects of asset management including; 30-year long-term plans, the new ISO 55000 standard, risk management, understanding customer needs, data management and the human element of asset management. A key message from the forum was the focus on leadership, culture and organisational involvement.

The next day began the road trip part of the tour, with visits to Matamata and Hauraki District Councils. At Matamata, we saw what can be achieved by embracing a whole-of-organisation approach and the benefits of working together as an organisation. A highlight was hearing their Works Crews discussing depreciation of their assets. At Hauraki District Council, we were shown their work in developing a statistical model to determine useful lives of long-lived assets.

The following day, the tour was back in Auckland, with visits to Auckland City Council and Auckland Transport. Auckland City Council places a great deal of importance on asset management which is well ingrained throughout the organisation. They are facing strong growth demands, with a predicted population of two million in 2030. Auckland City Council is placing a lot of emphasis on good strategic planning and linking delivery of its strategic plan through its asset management frameworks.

Auckland Transport delivers a wide range of transportation services, with strategic planning playing an important role in its asset management practices. Auckland Transport places a high importance on asset data which is used to guide its renewal forecasting. This informs their 30-year long-term plan, while balancing the quality of the services they deliver against risk and costs.

The tour wrapped up with visits to Watercare and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). Of interest at this meeting was Watercare's approach to risk. They shared with us their experience of customer expectations of 24/7 services and how 'sunny day failures' can cause significant issues. NZTA are challenging how asset management has traditionally been delivered by looking at it from the customer's point of view. NZTA are working closely with Local Government to deliver cost-effective renewal programs, while managing risk to acceptable levels.

Three key lessons learnt from the study tour included:

- The importance of leadership. New Zealand demonstrated to us that to be successful in asset management, you need a whole-of-organisation approach to get the best from your existing resources;
- The human aspect of asset management. Utilising people and their knowledge who have day-to-day involvement with assets and how this can improve the accuracy of data and inform decision-making; and
- The need to continue to improve. Even New Zealand still has room to improve in some areas which highlighted that we should not become complacent with what we have done.

Each of the Tasmanian attendees received grant funding from the Public Works Engineering Foundation Trust to assist with the cost of the tour, which was made available through the IPWEA.

SEMF

Hobart
Launceston
Melbourne
Sydney
Christchurch

ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
PROJECT MANAGERS

SEMF Pty Ltd
www.semf.com.au
1300 357 363
info@semf.com.au

2/162 Macquarie Street
Hobart, 7000

70 York Street,
Launceston, 7250

Local Government Association Tasmania
LGAT NEWS

For Advertising Bookings contact
Frank Johnstone *Independent Sales Agent*
Mobile: 0408 253 241 Email: frank@markmedia.com.au
Fax: 03 6228 9440
Northern Office: 87 Westbury Rd, Launceston TAS 7250
Southern Office: 1 Sunderland St, Moonah TAS 7009

Reaching Tasmania's decision-makers since 2001

Advertiser's index

ABS Sports Fields Pty Ltd 29
Activ Tas - UTAS 23/25
Analytical Services Tasmania 28
Aust Institute of Company Directors 10
BIS Industries ..... Inside Front Cover
Brighton Council 30
Christie Park Safe 20
Clennetts Mitre 10 22
HMB Engineering 29
Hotel Grand Chancellor 15
Johnstone McGee & Gandy 30
JWT Technology 20
Landmark Products 26
LGAT News Advertising 32
Pitt Sherry 12
SEMF 31
Section 51 Pty Ltd 19
St Lukes 16
Tasmanian Mountain Waters 22
Tasplan Super ..... Back Cover
Tenderlink 13
The Training Consortiumn ..... Inside Back Cover
Travel Lodge Hobart Airpoirt 17

The Training Consortium

Excellence in Learning and Development

Exciting Changes for the Public Sector Management Program in 2015

PSM program

The Public Sector Management Program (PSMP) has been a key manager development program for over 20 years. Over 9000 managers from all tiers of government have developed their knowledge, skills and networks and gained a Graduate Certificate qualification.

In 2015 Queensland University of Technology (QUT) will take on the delivery of the program—an exciting development that will modernise the program and enable delivery through an innovative work-based blended learning framework. QUT will be retaining the aspects that have long been valued by participants—face to face workshops, case studies, work-based projects, the four core units— and will blend this with a virtual on-line environment and a refreshed curriculum.

The Training Consortium (TTC) will continue to promote and support the program in Tasmania and if you have any queries about this transition contact Gabrielle Palmer on 6232 7261.

Local Government Scholarships

TTC have secured a scholarship for a two for one offer for Local Government in the 2015 intake. This means there are two local government places on offer at a 50% discount! To find out more contact Gabrielle Palmer at TTC on 6232 7261.

Enrolments for 2015

The 2015 program commences on 17 July with the first workshop scheduled for 3-6 August. Applications close on 19 June but we suggest you get your enrolment in early to secure a place.

For more information visit www.qut.edu.au/study/psmp
or contact QUT on 1800 145 041, email psmprogram@qut.edu.au

QUT Business School
Queensland University of Technology
Brisbane Australia

Australia's first business school with triple international accreditation

Comments from recent local government graduates

My long overdue return to academia was both stimulating and rewarding. The PSM program was the perfect re-introduction to higher level thinking, writing and learning, and gave me a supported space for mid-career reflection and self-assessment. It's uniqueness in providing sustained networking and relationship building under the shared pressure of expectation was highly motivating.

Felicity Edwards, Senior Environmental Health Officer, City of Hobart

The PSM Program has given me a deep and broad understanding of the complexities of governing at all tiers. The program has increased my skills in the area of management and more crucially, self-management.

It was a great opportunity to develop new contacts through the workshops and study group sessions. Being employed in the Local Government sector, it was extremely beneficial to gain an insight into both State and Federal challenges.

I would highly recommend this course to anyone who desires to learn more about Australia's system of government, improve their employability and gain a significant qualification, all in a supportive environment.

Taryn Townsend, Acting Manager Accounting Operations, City of Hobart

Photo: Taryn Townsend receiving her certificate at the 2014 Graduation Ceremony at Parliament House

I wanted to be involved in specific training aimed at working life in the public sector, and I was impressed by the level of practical engagement in the program structure, combined with academic study. Being able to connect with other people from different federal and state government agencies was also fantastic. We quickly became a dynamic working group over the 18 months I undertook the program.

One of the best aspects of the program for me was to be able to undertake the work-based project, bringing together elected members and the organisation, to deliberate over community development in local government.

Having participated in the PSM Program has opened up a number of other projects, and I am now undertaking my Masters in Public Administration with Flinders University.

I highly recommend the program to anyone who is considering broadening their knowledge and skills in their area of expertise in Council.

Julie Andersson, Community Planning and Development Officer, Clarence City Council

When your Super is with Tasplan, it's not about the size of the drop, it's about how far we can make it go.

Tasplan is Tasmania's biggest industry Super fund.

And anyone can join Tasplan, anytime. Call us for advice.

Tasplan Super

FIND OUT MORE > Customer Service 1800 005 166 | tasplan.com.au

To consider whether Tasplan is appropriate for you, obtain a Product Disclosure Statement by calling 1800 005 166.

Tasplan Ltd: ABN 13 009 563 062, AFS Licence No. 235391.