

2022

FREE

GREAT OYSTER BAY Community News

Tuesday 18th Jan 2022

Issue 02.2022

TASMANIA'S BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS 2022.

With the bushfire season now upon us, Tasmania is well prepared to respond and keep Tasmanians safe.

While the overall assessment for the 21/22 Bushfire Season is for a "normal" fire season, this means we will, and already have had, bushfires and Total Fire Ban days – because that is "normal" for our state during the summer months.

To better respond to bushfires, protect our communities and to support our hardworking and dedicated firefighters on the ground, the Government recognises the importance of having access to a sophisticated, flexible, aerial firefighting capability.

This is why our firefighting capacity has already been bolstered with the addition of our summer aviation fleet, through the collaboration of the Tasmanian and Australian Governments who jointly fund the aircraft through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre.

Tasmania now has an additional 12 specialised aircraft on hand to help fight fires from above, including a mix of firebombing, air supervision and aerial intelligence gathering aircraft. Eight are helicopters and four are fixed wing planes.

Importantly, the aircraft are strategically positioned right across Tasmania so that they can be moved quickly to respond to fires, with 20 local aircraft also available to call on to assist when required, taking our total firefighting aircraft available in Tasmania to 32.

This will ensure a rapid response to bushfires when they start, keeping fires small until our ground crews arrive.

The Tasmania Fire Service, Parks and Wildlife Service and Sustainable Timber Tasmania have also been preparing for this season through our Fuel Reduction Program, which is nation leading in its tenure blind, strategic risk-based approach.

This Government has already invested \$55 million in fuel reduction, and over the forward estimates we will deliver another \$48.3 million to reduce the risk of bushfires.

As we have seen from the recent Sisters Beach fire, fuel reduction burns greatly assist to reduce the impact of bushfires. The Sisters Beach fire was halted by three fuel reduction burns that had already been undertaken by the Parks and Wildlife Service and TFS.

The Government is also diversifying its approach to fuel reduction, with \$2.5 million provided through the Program to support mechanical clearing in places where burning isn't appropriate.

Our specialist remote area firefighting capability has also been bolstered, with 144 TFS Remote Area Firefighters trained and capable of supporting our partner agencies in remote and isolated areas, such as the Parks and Wildlife Service who have approximately 134 personnel trained to fight fires in remote areas.

While the TFS, Parks and Wildlife Service and Sustainable Timber Tasmania are well prepared for the bushfire season, we are urging the Tasmanian community to do the same, because we cannot afford to be complacent about the dangers of bushfire.

To help keep our community safe, Tasmanians are encouraged to complete their own 5-minute bushfire plan.

An easy-to-use template is available on the TFS website and is an excellent resource to get Tasmanians of all ages thinking about what you will need to do if a bushfire occurs near you.

Being prepared can make it less stressful and may reduce the impact it has on you and your loved ones if a bushfire does occur near you.

Don't wait until it's too late, please go to fire.tas.gov.au to do your 5-minute bushfire plan now.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is committed to keeping Tasmanians safe from the threat of bushfires, which is why

we are investing \$111.5 million over the forward estimates for bushfire prevention, response and safety measures.

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management Jacquie Petrusma

COMMENTARY – ON THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED AT THE COUNCIL AGM IN DEC. 2021

A positive Report was presented but the "Elephant in the Room" was ignored. Other than a couple of remarks about "the difficult but responsible decisions made by Council" not a single mention of the pathetic lack of sound local governance. The Report goes on "We function as a best practice governance organisation. We are fit for the future!" Hopefully GSBC has learnt from its mistakes and this statement will come true.

In the middle of a pandemic Councillors accepted the advice, regarding the supposed "Financial Precipice", from the financial consultant and General Manager and then with no community involvement/consultation and a high degree of stealth voted to accept their solution of changing the rating methodology from AAR to AAV.

Councillors were told that the continuing usage of AAR was not possible as GSBC did not have a valid Annual Certificate from the Director of Local Government (to authorize AAR) and there was insufficient time to get that Certificate as well as complying with the extensive list of directives under The Local Government Act 1993 for using AAR.

Informal advice from a legal entity was used to validate the information despite there being no verbal transcript of that advice provided and certified by the General Manager – a legislated requirement. A hard copy of further advice from that legal entity, dated 31st May 2021, was finally produced but not shown to Councillors until it was printed in the Council meeting Minutes some 4 months after the

Continued page 7

OPENING TIMES**SWANSEA ONLINE
ACCESS CENTRE
Inc.**

swansea.oac@education.tas.gov.au

**GREAT OYSTER BAY
COMMUNITY NEWS**
gobcnews@gmail.comFranklin St. Swansea (at library)
Phone: 0424 425 908**OPEN 10–3pm MON-FRI**
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social distancing required.**SWANSEA
LIBRARY**Franklin St. Swansea
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TUES/THURS 10am–2pm
SAT 10am–Noon
CLOSED ALL OTHER DAYS
+PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**OPENING TIMES****GLAMORGAN -
SPRING BAY
COUNCIL**9 Melbourne Street, Triabunna
operating normal hours of operation,
Monday to Friday
9.00am – 4.30pm**BUT** with some changes, go to
[https://gsbc.tas.gov.au/services-facilities/
public-notices/](https://gsbc.tas.gov.au/services-facilities/public-notices/) for details**WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRES
(WMC)****SUMMER OPENING TIMES****BICHENO WMC** – 2km south of the
town, on the Tasman Hwy.**COLES BAY WMC** – turn off Coles Bay
Rd, about 5kms from the township.**ORFORD WMC** –Tasman Hwy, just
north of Raspins Beach.**SWANSEA WMC** – top of Maria St.**All four WMCs are open from**
Monday–Friday 2:30pm–4:30pm
10.00am–2.00pm on Sundays
Open all Public Holidays,
except Good Friday and Christmas Day.
Closed Saturdays**EAST COAST HERITAGE
MUSEUM**22 Franklin Street, Swansea
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be COVID-19 Safe)**OPENING TIMES****SPRING BAY
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Triabunna, Tasmania 7190
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springbay.oac@education.tas.gov.au**OPEN 10-2pm MON-FRI**
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Trading hours:
Monday — Saturday 10 am—2 pm
Closed Sunday
Donations most welcome
Gloria Willis manager
All Saints Op Shop for Anglican
Parish of East Coast**POP UP BOOK STALL****Open: Wednesday to Sunday**
11am -2.30pm plus Public Holidays.
N.B. During summer holidays
27th December
PURSES**TEMPORARY
CLOSED**C
A
Enc. **0472 511 136**
Beth 0407571181
www.facebook.com/PopUpBookStall;
email popupbookstall@hotmail.com**GREAT OYSTER BAY COMMUNITY NEWS TEAM**

The current Swansea Online Access Centre volunteers and our coordinator

Advertising, Stories & Copy Deadline: STRICTLY 12 NOON FRIDAY**The Great Oyster Bay Community News is printed on Mondays/Tuesdays.**
Please ensure your ads are in early to meet your advertising deadline dates.Advertisements costing **\$20 or less MUST BE PAID IN CASH** at the Swansea Online Centre prior to publication
Please provide adverts in PDF, JPG or Word format. Articles, letters and photographs of events are most welcome!**Phone: 0424 425 908 Post: PO Box 308 Swansea 7190 Email: gobcnews@gmail.com****Website: www.gobcnews.weebly.com****Facebook: www.facebook.com/greatoysterbaycommunitynews****Printed at the Swansea Online Access Centre, Swansea, Tasmania****Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am–3pm (Unless otherwise noted)**

Closed Sat & Sun + Public Holidays

Franklin Street, Swansea (next to the Library).

LETTERS to THE GOBCNews TEAM (editor)Please address your letters to the editorial team and please keep it under 200 words, and email to gobcnews@gmail.com.
Letters to the editor must comply with our editorial policy, see disclaimer below. **Un-authored letters will not be published.****THE GREAT OYSTER BAY COMMUNITY NEWS** is a weekly newsletter containing articles of interest, community notices and advertising relevant to the Glamorgan Spring Bay Municipality. Advertising revenue is used to finance the printing of 600+ Newsletters, 50 weeks of the year.
The Great Oyster Bay Community News is distributed to all major towns of the municipality weekly, free of charge to our readers.

The GOBCNews team

Disclaimer: The Great Oyster Bay Community News reserves the right to print any material which is designed to benefit or be of interest to the local community. Consequently, all views or opinions expressed in material published are solely those of the writer of that material and do not necessarily reflect the view or opinions of any persons associated with Great Oyster Bay. Community News, the Swansea Online Access Centre or Libraries Tasmania. The Great Oyster Bay Community News also reserves the right to edit or refuse to publish any material, that also may be deemed damaging, misleading or detrimental to our organisation or community or any person. Please refer to our Editorial and Advertising policies which are located on our website: www.gobcnews.weebly.com

OPENING TIMES

SWANSEA COMMUNITY & MEN'S SHED

Opening Hours:

Tuesday 10am to early afternoon
(men & women's group)

Wednesday 10am to 1pm
(men's group)

Wednesday afternoons
(school pupils)

Thursday 10am to early afternoon
(men's group)

Friday 10am to early afternoon
(women's group)

Contact Colin Stevenson 0400 030 746

SWANSEA RE-USE SHOPPE

Opening hours:

Saturday - Sunday, Tuesday - Thursday
10am to 3pm

CLOSED MONDAY & FRIDAY

Contact Tracey Kean 0407 639 022

SWANSEA COMMUNITY ROOM

with kitchen facilities. Available for hire

Contact Heather Groombridge
0416 200 172

SWANSEA GENERAL PRACTICE

May Shaw, Wellington St. Swansea

Open Monday—Friday

9.00am-1.00pm 2.00pm-5.00pm

For an appointment phone
6257 8205

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TRIAL OPENING HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY 7:30AM – 6:00PM

SATURDAY 7:30AM – 2:00PM

Full newsagency and post office services
available during opening hours including
Saturday

When the flags are out – we are open

PH.03 6117 0000

CHURCH NOTICES



East Coast
ANGLICAN
PARISH

EAST COAST ANGLICAN

Please join us for church
every Sunday

10am Swansea (10 Noyes St)
4pm Triabunna (1 Franklin St)
6257 3321

www.eastcoastanglican.church

ST. ANDREWS UNITING CHURCH SWANSEA

will be holding services on
the 1st & 3rd Sundays of
each month at 10m.

Everyone is invited to attend.

All Welcome

CLUBS & GROUPS

TAP DANCING CLASSES

Swansea Town Hall on Mondays
at the new time of 4.30pm

All enquiries phone

Janelle 0437 264 332

SWANSEA & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Meetings held 2nd Thurs each month 2pm
at Swansea Community Hub.

New members welcome.

Ph 0417 977 118 or 0402 043 621

SwanseaDistrictGardenClub@gmail.com

MAHJONG & SCRABBLE

1.30 pm every Monday

at Swansea Golf Club.

Contact Lyn Lyne 0438 578 208

DOLPHIN SANDS RATEPAYERS ASSOC. (DSRA)

Email: dsra.7190@gmail.com

Website: dsra.org.au

Mail: PO Box 133, Swansea, 7190

SWANSEA MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

meeting start 10am every 2nd Tuesday
of the month at Swansea Golf Club

SWANSEA BRANCH CWA

meets 2nd Wednesday of the month.

New members always welcome.

Craft days alternate months.

Contact 0402 043 621 for details

CRANBROOK CRAFT GROUP

Every Wednesday 10.30 am at

Cranbrook Hall. Cranbrook.

Contact Edith 0409 216 793

CLUBS & GROUPS

SWANSEA EXERCISE GROUP

held at Swansea Golf Club

Mondays 8:45 for 9 am. (currently full)

Followed by Qigong at 10 am Enquiries:

0429 178 076 / 0448 649 765

(re Exercise Group) or

0448 649 765 (re Qigong)

SWANSEA TENNIS CLUB is
open to all members and available for hire.

Ladies day Mondays, playing 11am.

Contact

Kathy Dance 0439 732 496.

All new members welcome.

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Are you interested in local History? Then
consider joining the Historical Society.

Currently our office is open Tuesdays

10am to 4pm

22 Franklin Street, Swansea

<https://glamorganhistory.org.au/>

Phone: 03 6256 5077

EAST COAST COMMUNITY YOUTH CHOIR

Will be resuming from their winter break
in Term 4 to prepare Christmas carols. The
choir is open to boys and girls aged 9 - 16.

Meets in Orford.

Contact Gaye 0422 961 678

for details.

SPRING BAY WALKERS

Every Thursday morning, contact

Peter Hutememier 6257 7506.

See programme

[www.triabunnavillage.com.au/](http://www.triabunnavillage.com.au/springbay-walkers)

springbay-walkers



THE ORFORD & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB INC.

The last weekend of every month between
10.00am & 3.00pm

57 Inkerman Street Triabunna

For info. Phone: 0427796096

E-mail: sandmgramham@bigpond.com

Facebook— Orford and District

Riding Club Inc.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

GLAMORGAN SUICIDE AWARENESS NETWORK

Contact us on Facebook or Email

- www.facebook.com/glamorganSAN
- glamorganspn@gmail.com
- Crisis Life Line 24/7: 131114
- Support Life Line Tas: 1800 984 434

Everyone needs someone to talk to

IMPORTANT

Please keep all your community notices up to date by contacting us on

Phone: 0424 425 908 or Email: gobcnews@gmail.com

Online in colour every week at www.gobcnews.weebly.com

CLUBS & GROUPS**SWANSEA MODEL YACHT CLUB INC.**

Sailing, **weather permitting**, every Monday 10.30 am until 2.30 pm.

All interested parties and spectators welcome. Sailing is at the Kelvedon Dam south of Swansea.

Inquiries to Cheryl on 0419393774

SPRING BAY POTTERS

The Spring Bay Potters Group started in 2020 by local artist Dorothy Duncombe-Jackson. Situated in specifically built facilities at The Village in Triabunna, the Group regularly meet for classes and potting on

**Wednesdays & Fridays
10.00am to 1.00pm.**

As well as tuition, clay, tools, glazes etc. are provided for a cost.

Peter Hüttemeier

LET'S GET WALKING

Day	Meeting place	Time
Mon	Duck Park	9am
Tue	Duck Park	11am
Wed		10.30pm
Fri	Duck Park - Slow walk suitable for beginners and mums with bubs	10am

**TEMPORARY
CLOSED**

For further information, please text Susan on 0429 146 950.

DOLPHIN SANDS ART GROUP

King's Gallery
22 Cambria
Dolphin Sands



- 11am to 1pm
- BYO everything \$5 for charity
- Some easels available
- Coffee from gallery

THE LIVING ROOM at THE HUB SWANSEA

1st Thursday of the month
1pm to 5pm for friendly chat.

Your way-Your Say

The Living Room at The Village Triabunna & The Hub Swansea is a supportive community group providing a comfortable space for conversations & information sharing about living well, comfortable with your plan for end of life

Sally, Carrie & Leni
(text preferred: 0448 912 929/
leni.jarvis@bigpond.com

CLUBS & GROUPS**MEALS ON WHEELS SWANSEA ROSTER**

Date	2021	Name
Wed	19 Jan	D & L Mackay
Thur	20 Jan	D & T Rigby
Fri	21 Jan	S & G Siepen
Mon	24 Jan	L Dann
Tues	29 Jan	A Quinn & L Tucker

GKR KARATE

Karate classes starting on Thursday at the Triabunna District School.

The class starts at 12 noon.

**For further details contact
Nathan Jacobs 0482 471 443**

COMMUNITY NOTICES**THE VILLAGE**

20 Melbourne Street, Triabunna


Community Market third Sunday of each Month 10.00am to 1.00pm. Large range of stalls and activities. Sell from your car boot, charge applies. Large range of community activities during the week, for details see:

<http://triabunnavillage.com.au/>
<https://www.facebook.com/VillageTriabunna/>

MILITARY COMPENSATION & REHABILITATION ADVOCACY SERVICES

are now available at the Swansea RSL for ex-service, current serving and family members of the Australian Defence Forces. Contact

Steven Kenny 0438 060 047

 Rescue, rehabilitation and release of native wildlife. Also treating wombats with mange in our Municipality on behalf of Wombat Rescue. Contact **Marcia 0448714419**

COLOUR ISSUES for 2022

Issue 01 January 11

Issue 13 April 05

Issue 26 July 05

Issue 39 October 04

Issue 50 December 20

COMMUNITY NOTICES**POP UP BOOK STALL CLOSED**

Unfortunately PUBS has had to make the decision to temporarily close due to the situation surrounding Covid 19. Wednesday 6th January was our last day of trade. We will keep you informed when we plan to re-open. Please check our Facebook page, or our advertisement in this newspaper or by contacting a committee member listed below. Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to seeing you when we re-open. In the meantime please stay safe and care for each other.

For enquiries or donations of books please contact a committee member:

Beth 0407571181

Judy 0438571262

Margaret 0438606446

Caroline 0411895067

Christine 0458560753

www.facebook.com/PopUpBookStall

or
email popupbookstall@hotmail.com

SWANSEA ONLINE ACCESS CENTRE

will open from 10 am to 3 pm Monday to Friday. This may change without notice due to the Covid Pandemic.

We suggest that you ring the Centre on 0424 425 908 to find out if we are open.

Advertisements for the newsletter can be emailed to gobcnews@gmail.com.

The doors to the Centre will be left open and the fan in the heat pump will be operating, so please come dressed for all weathers. Masks **MUST** be worn inside and hands **MUST** be sanitised on entry & exit and all surfaces touched by clients **MUST** be wiped with the supplied wipes.

If any of these conditions are not adhered to, then clients will be asked to leave the Centre.

Bill Fry Coordinator SOAC

GREAT OYSTER BAY NEWSLETTER ADVERT PRICES

SIZE	1 Advert for 1 Issue	
	Clubs & Personal	Business
1 (6x3cm)	\$6	\$7.50
2 (6x6cm)	\$12	\$15
3 (6x9cm)	\$18	\$22
4 (6x12cm)	\$24	\$30
1/4 Page	\$36	\$45
1/3 Page	\$48	\$62
1/2 Page	\$66	\$86
Full Page	\$102	\$112

IMPORTANT

Please keep our community & your notices up to date by contacting us at
Phone: 0424 425 908 or Email: gobcnews@gmail.com

ADVERTISEMENT



Brian Mitchell MP

Your Federal Member for Lyons

Need help with Medicare, Pensions, NDIS or other federal matters? Please feel free to contact me at my Northern Midlands office on (03) 6398 1115 or email me at Brian.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au

Authorised by Brian Mitchell MP (ALP, Tasmania)
538 Main Road Perth Tasmania 7300

Are you a member of a non-profit organisation? My office can help provide information about grants and other funding opportunities.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

WRINKLIES LUNCH

The lunch on February 7th has been cancelled. Any enquires Maria 0479 176 641

SWANSEA FOOTBALL CLUB

Meet the coach / Registration Day
12 am Sunday the 23rd of January
Club rooms at the recreation ground
BBQ and refreshments
Any questions call Damian 0400435444

SWANSEA GENERAL PRACTICE CHANGE IN APPOINTMENTS

To keep all our patients safe during the recent outbreak of the Omicron Virus, we do not want any patients to enter the facility and sit in the waiting room. If you have an appointment, please wait in your car or be seated outside and wait until you are called to enter. You can ring ahead to see if there are any delays prior to your appointment time. This is a difficult time, and we want to keep you all safe when entering the facility. Phone appointments are also available if you have seen your Dr in the last three months.

Adult Covid vaccination clinics will be held outside in the May Shaw Health Centre gazebo. Please follow the footpath along the outside car park to the gate that leads to the gazebo. Please wear a mask, remember safe distancing and please be patient as this will be a new experience for us all.

Thank you for your co-operation and we hope that you are all keeping safe during this challenging time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORIAL TEAM

To Editorial team

At the 14th December 2021 Glamorgan Spring Bay Council meeting Clr. Cheryl Arnol asked the General Manager to explain to the Spring Bay Suicide Prevention Network why their request for the printing of 80 copies of the service sheet for their annual remembrance service was denied on the basis that staff workload did not allow them to print it?

The response from General Manager, Greg Ingham was:

“Council receives various requests for community assistance right across the board, and the Suicide Prevention Network is just one of them. We do have to consider these requests and we cannot as an organisation facilitate each and every request that we do get for in kind assistance.”

I spoke to an officer who I thought could assist with this request, but it wasn't just as simple as taking the same amount of time an email would take, it was bit more than that. I made the decision that unfortunately we couldn't assist in this instance, but I stand by my comments in Council's SeaSpeak and remain committed to supporting volunteer groups and recognise the value that they provide to our community.

THIS IS APPALLING and an insult to not only the Spring Bay Suicide Prevention Network volunteers but all community groups and every amazing and dedicated volunteer in our municipality.

Jane Wing, Orford

SWANSEA GENERAL PRACTICE

POSITION AVAILABLE CASUAL RECEPTIONIST

The Swansea General Practice is a busy rural medical practice. We have a position available for a receptionist, three mornings per week and to cover other staff members on leave (hours may increase). A senior staff member will be working alongside the successful applicant. We are looking for an enthusiastic person to join our team who can be flexible and reliable.

Primary responsibilities:

Front counter management, customer service, appointment booking and management, dealing with telephone inquiries from patients and other health professionals, invoicing and banking, scanning, faxing and emailing, assisting GP's when required.

Required skills:

- . Confidentiality
- . Good communication and effective time management
- . Ability to handle busy stressful situations when required
- . Ability to work independently with little supervision as well as work effectively as a team member
- . Computer and telephone experience
- . A confident calm manner is an advantage

Applications close 24th January - at close of business.

For further information please email Susan on

reception@swanseagp.com.au.

THE GREAT OYSTER BAY COMMUNITY NEWS

If you have a story or information that could be of interest to your Community, submit an article, send it to the GOBCNews team.

Email address: gobcnews@gmail.com
Phone number: 0424 425 908

YOUR LOCAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

THE GREAT OYSTER BAY COMMUNITY NEWS (GOBCN)

Email address:
gobcnews@gmail.com
Phone number:
0424 425 908

YOUR LOCAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

This is a SIZE 1 (6cm x 3cm)
costs \$6 (personal/club) or
\$7.50 (business) per issue

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multiple issues

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15 Vicary Street, Triabunna

Open every Friday by appointment **Phone 6234 4258**



2022 MARKS THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE KOKODA CAMPAIGN DURING WW2.

If anyone is interested in challenging themselves both physically and emotionally by undertaking the 96km hike, contact Andy at Adventure Abroad for more information.

Ph: 0413 277 358

Email:

andy@adventureabroad.com.au
<https://www.adventureabroad.com.au>

> ...On The Trail: Kokoda 2018 | Adventure Abroad

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Guy Barnett
Liberal Member for Lyons MP

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15 High Street, New Norfolk TAS 7140 (03) 6701270
GuyBarnettMP guybarnett@cpactas.gov.au
Authorised by Guy Barnett, 15 High Street, New Norfolk TAS 7140

Jen Butler MP
Your Local Member for Lyons

Labor

Bridgewater - 62122150
Cove Hill Shopping Centre

Longford - 63242070
7A Wellington Street

jen.butler@parliament.tas.gov.au



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- Retaining walls
- Lawn & edging — ride on & mower
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- Shower screen
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CALL STUART FOX 0409 435 991

8 Wedge Street, Swansea TAS 7190 ABN 34161234295



east coast tasmania

<https://eastcoasttasmania.com/>



**EAST COAST
WINE TRAIL**

Continued from page 1

voting took place and only then only in response to a “questions on notice”.

That further advice was not definitive and the legal entity advised he needed copies of the original 2012 Certificate of AAR and details of the historical usage of AAR by GSBC. That information was not provided and hence incomplete advice was the result.

The Director of Local Government confirmed : The AAR Certificate for GSBC was a “one off” authorization Certificate to use AAR in GSBC , where the extensive requirements of The Local Government ACT 1993 had been previously met – 2012 . It was not an annual renewable application/Certificate and GSBC was fully entitled and authorized to continue using AAR until they opted to change. Information from high level, experienced, Local Government financial experts confirmed GSBC was able to continue using AAR for that financial year and that any “Financial Deficits” could have been easily fixed by adjusting the rates under AAR. Doubts were raised that GSBC would need to carry out some minor “calculations” had it remained on AAR according to the General Manager. GSBC had 12 months since the previous setting of the rates to investigate and arrange for those calculations and under the rules of the LG ACT 1993 - “A Council can set its own rates as it sees fit”, so adding a percentage increase across the AAR rates base was possible and no calculations were required unless additional AAR Localities were being considered.

Put simply there was no need to change from AAR to AAV other than to meet the wishes of the General Manager and/or the financial consultant. Brighton , George Town and GSBC were fully entitled to continue using AAR had they so desired.

George Town Council carried out an inde-

pendent financial review of AAR versus AAV and decided firmly in favour of remaining with AAR – that was good Governance (making an informed decision). Brighton has overwhelming ratepayer support for using AAR as did GSBC yet our councillors were coerced into changing to AAV with no ratepayer communication, consultation nor mandate. Do not dismiss the time, effort and communications that went into GSBC opting for AAR as their rating system in 2012 – a fair democratic result overturned now.

Councillors failed to carry out their own due diligence, relied upon advice provided without insisting on appropriate certification, did not carry out or arrange for an actual financial impact assessment across a broad base of ratepayers nor considered if “AAV – the definition as an indicator of a persons ability to pay a higher tax” was fair and equitable given the Local Government Act 1993 was written in 1993 Instead they relied on - “well 27 Councils out of 29 now use AAV so it must be a fairer option” . What if three Councils were right and we were one of them ? Some Councillors used their own perception of wealth/ability to pay (based on their own circumstances) and failed to consider who are the actual “wealthy” ratepayers. The result is that pensioners are now subsidising wealthy shack owners, Airbnb accommodation owners, property developers and interstate investors . Fair and equitable ? No poor governance.

Council elections are due in 2022 and Councillors will be judged on their past actions. There are three Petitions tabled in Parliament awaiting response and a continuing requirement for ongoing reporting to the Director of Local Government so it would be unwise for GSBC to “pat itself on the back “ just yet and forward planning for the budget should take this situation into account.

Having corresponded with both The State Grants Commissioner and State Treasury It is abundantly clear that there is no correlation between the allocation of Grants Funding and the system of rates employed by a Council - There was no “Financial Precipice” in the Grants allocation. The mystery - 10% annual reduction was a “safety cap” to introduce change steadily – something GSBC failed to comprehend when they set our individual ratepayer “safety cap” at a ludicrous 99% (unheard of anywhere in Australia) .

It should be noted at this point that our Mayor attempted to downplay the validity of the 1000 + signatures on the Parliamentary Petitions by stating – in The Mercury - “ some people thought they were signing a Covid 19 checkin”. How dare he denigrate the hard working Clerk of the Parliament who spent many hours authenticating those very signatures. Excellent PR communications from a Mayor who couldn’t even answer the simple question “how much did you rates rise Mr. Mayor” on the ABC.

This might be a good point to remind Councillors that they were elected to “represent” ratepayers – not to rule over them. The Mayor was elected to ensure those ratepayer wishes conveyed by the Councillors were considered and enabled if valid. The General Manager is an employee of the Council only. His role is to execute the decisions of the elected Council by providing either the funding or resources required.

Yes the decision made was “difficult” but was it really needed or could the AAR rate been simply adjusted and any revenue deficiency rectified without the community anger and divide ?

Full version of this commentary available on GSBC website – AGM Agenda 2021

Greg Luck, Swansea

3	1	5	4	8	6	9	2	7
6	8	2	3	7	9	1	4	5
7	9	4	5	1	2	6	8	3
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This weeks PUZZLE PAGE answers
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Robert J Gaspari (sec)

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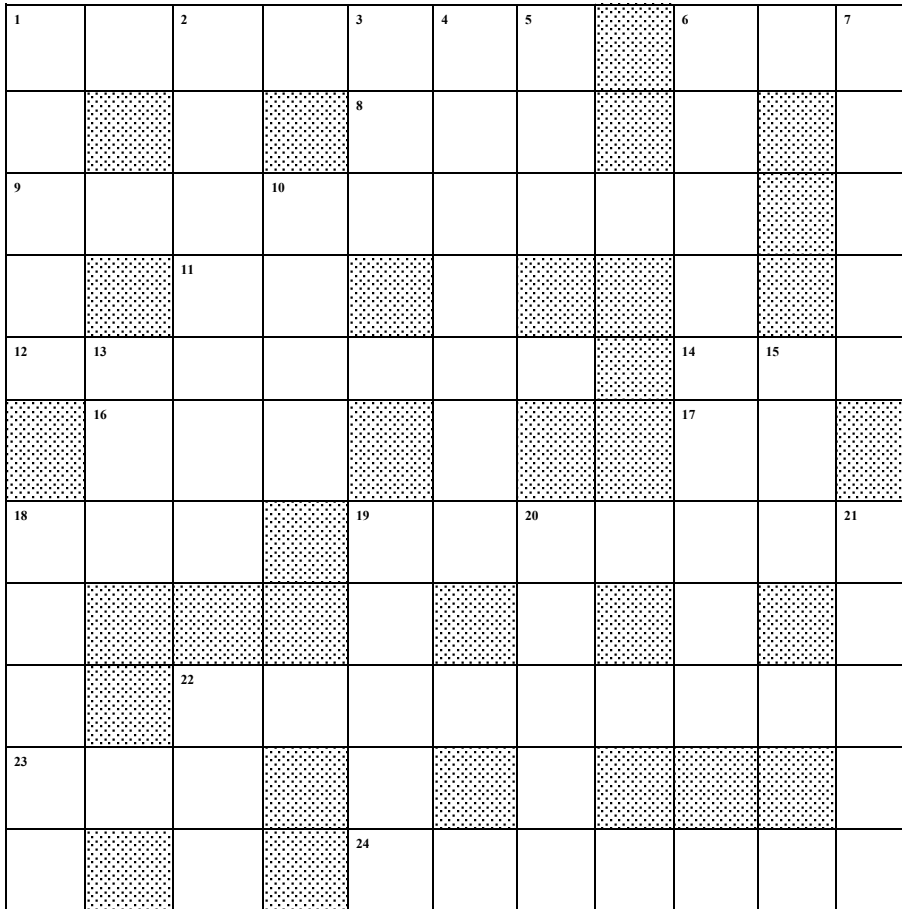
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THE PUZZLE PAGE

THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD

No 02.2022 By Rob Gaspari



CLUES

ACROSS

1. Argue (7)
6. Cheer (3)
8. Assist (3)
9. Toilets (9)
11. Moon of Jupiter (2)
12. Infers (7)
14. Observe (3)
16. Consume (3)
17. Thallium (2)
18. Everything (3)
19. Hindu religious retreats (7)
22. Floods (9)
23. Possess (3)
24. Bliss (7)

DOWN

1. The earth (5)
2. Of the form of apse (7)
3. Long peaked-nosed fish (3)
4. Female lion (7)
5. Old Japanese capital (3)
6. Being able to be unaffected (9)
7. Rush (5)
10. Solicit custom (4)
13. Snake like fish (3)
15. Type of tree (3)
18. Bow projectile (5)
19. Blue colour (5)
20. Hell (5)
21. Weakling (5)
22. Tavern (3)

THIS WEEKS SUDOKU

		5	4		6	9		
	8						4	
7			5		2			3
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	6		1	9	5		7	
8			9		7			2
	2						3	
		6	2		1	4		

ALL ANSWERS ON PAGE 7



WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

There was a preacher who fell in the ocean and he couldn't swim. When a boat came by, the captain yelled, "Do you need help, sir?" The preacher calmly said "No, God will save me." A little later, another boat came by and a fisherman asked, "Hey, do you need help?" The preacher replied again, "No God will save me." Eventually the preacher drowned & went to heaven. The preacher asked God, "Why didn't you save me?" God replied, "Fool, I sent you two boats!"

A Sunday School teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year old's.

After explaining the commandment to "honour thy Father and thy Mother," she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."

SPORT & WEATHER



Swansea Golf Club

Results 15th January 2022

Today's event was the annual Summer Cup played in Summer conditions, a Stableford event generously sponsored by Knight Frank Real Estate Swansea.

Winner	Peter Lea 38 c/b
Runners Up	Lyn Lyne 38 c/b
3rd	Tim Bond 38
Nearest the Pin	3 rd /12 th Dale Williams, 7 th /16 th Michael Kent, 8 th /17 th Peter Coon.
Super Pin	4 th /13 th Ricky Wright.

Wednesday 12th January 2022

Lady's Mid-week Stableford

18-Holers Winner	Sally Siepen 38,
Runner Up	Christine Ring 33.
9-Holers Winner	Pip Cardno 19,
Runner Up	Helen Hall 17.
Nearest the Pin	3 rd Sally Siepen, 4 th Pip Cardno, 7 th Susie Loan, 8 th Lee Bennett.
Birdies	Alison Smith.
Gobblers	Alison Smith, Joanna Whelan

Chicken Run (Scores Only)

Wednesday	Ian Wallace 27, Mitchell Baxter 28, Russell Dodge 29.
Putts	Derek Ring 13.
Friday	Chris Weeding 30, Steve Kenny 31.5
Putts	Rick Dance 13.

The headmaster was presiding at his school's Sports Day while

a celebrity guest waited to present prizes. The head droned through his standard set of clichés about parallels between sport and adult life awaiting his pupils. Sportsmanship was precious he said, and would earn success and respect in every sort of job, just as it did in any sport the boys could imagine.

"Obviously not a golfer." Thought the VIP.

What kind of a player is Johnny Bean?" asked one member of his caddie on the day before the competition. Hopeless. He slices, goes into every bunker. He thinks you get to the hole via the rough."

"Great news." said the member.

"Not really sir. He'll beat you."

Results & jokes supplied by Paul Nunn



Swansea Cricket Club

NO RESULTS THIS WEEK DUE TO THE BYE

January 15th Association Bye
Jan 22nd Swansea v Dodges Ferry at Swansea,

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FOR THE SEASON AT THE
SWANSEA OVAL, 22ND JANUARY**

5-Day Glamorgan-Spring Bay Weather from Bureau of Meteorology

Bicheno

Tue. 18 Jan	Wed. 19 Jan	Thu. 20 Jan	Fri. 21 Jan	Sat. 22 Jan
Cloudy.	Cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Possible shower.
19 °C	18 °C	20 °C	22 °C	22 °C
14 °C	13 °C	13 °C	15 °C	16 °C

Orford/Triabunna

Tue. 18 Jan	Wed. 19 Jan	Thu. 20 Jan	Fri. 21 Jan	Sat. 22 Jan
Cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Cloud clearing.	Partly cloudy.	Cloudy.
19 °C	18 °C	21 °C	23 °C	23 °C
13 °C	12 °C	12 °C	13 °C	15 °C

Coles Bay

Tue. 18 Jan	Wed. 19 Jan	Thu. 20 Jan	Fri. 21 Jan	Sat. 22 Jan
Cloudy.	Cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Cloudy.
20 °C	20 °C	21 °C	23 °C	23 °C
13 °C	12 °C	13 °C	14 °C	16 °C

Swansea

Tue. 18 Jan	Wed. 19 Jan	Thu. 20 Jan	Fri. 21 Jan	Sat. 22 Jan
Cloudy.	Cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Partly cloudy.	Possible shower.
19 °C	18 °C	20 °C	22 °C	22 °C
13 °C	11 °C	12 °C	13 °C	15 °C