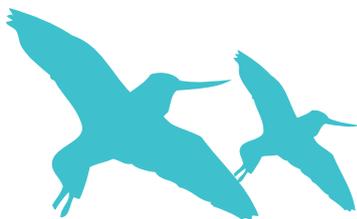


DECEMBER 2020

# Sorell Community News

community coast country

[www.sorell.tas.gov.au](http://www.sorell.tas.gov.au)



## Australia Day Awards

Have you made a nomination in our Australia Day Awards yet?

The Australia Day Awards recognise those individuals and groups in our community who make a significant contribution or achieve something special.

We are seeking nominations in the following Award categories:

Citizen of the Year

Young Citizen of the Year

Community Group of the Year

Full details and nominations are available online at [www.sorell.tas.gov.au](http://www.sorell.tas.gov.au).

Nominations close at 5.00pm on Friday 15 January 2021.



**Australia Day**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

## Merry Christmas from Sorell Council!

The Mayor, Councillors and Staff at Sorell Council wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please take note of the following information in regards to Council services over the holiday period:

**Council Closure:** The Council Offices will be closed from 12 noon on Thursday 24 December and re-open at 8.00am on Monday 4 January 2021.

**Emergencies:** In the event of an emergency during the holiday period, please phone 6269 0000.

**Kerbside Collection:** Garbage collections due on Christmas Day will instead be collected on Boxing Day, Saturday 26 December. All other collections over the festive period will take place as usual. Please have your bins kerbside by 6.00am ready for collection.



## Arts and Culture Update

Council recently hosted an Arts and Cultural Forum in Sorell. Approximately 70 people attended the Forum which sought to work towards the achievement of a Community Cultural Centre for Sorell.

The purpose of the forum was to seek and share ideas about how we can achieve a successful and sustainable Community Cultural Centre. Speakers included Sorell School students, local artist Saakia Itchins, Heritage consultant Lucy Burke-Smith, SERDA Business Advisor Greg Bowers, Moonah Arts Centre Coordinator Eleanor Downes and Destination Southern Tasmania CEO Alex Heroys. The Panel Discussion shared ideas about how we create a successful destination that brings the arts, culture, history, natural environment and people together, to enjoy and understand Sorell.

We are currently collating information and feedback received from the forum from participants and the wider community. Another meeting will be held in the New Year to look at further progressing the concept.





## Mayor's Message

We all know that we live in a rapidly growing community with many young families now calling our Municipality home.

This has considerably increased the requirements for play, social and recreation spaces over recent years.



Council has been listening to our residents and is working to sustainably upgrade and construct new infrastructure and facilities as budget and resources allow. The list of required and desired facilities is always far, far greater than our budget allows for. However, each year we do tick a few more projects off the list.

Our major playgrounds have all been redeveloped and upgraded over the past 10 years. This includes Imlay Street in Dunalley, Primrose Sands Park, Boat Park in Dodges Ferry, Pioneer Park in Sorell and Billy Kessarios Memorial Park and Flyway Island Park in Midway Point. In addition, the new Sweetwater Estate subdivision in Midway Point has also added a fantastic new playground to our list. We continue to add elements such as seating, shade and bike racks to these parks when able.

We have worked with Developers to ensure new subdivisions allow for community open/green space with appropriate equipment and facilities. Further extensions at Penna and Pembroke Park are presently being developed.

Our Tracks and Trails are expanding and developing too. The Waterway Trail along the Sorell Rivulet is extremely popular, and the recently completed Orielton Lagoon Loop linking the Sorell and Midway Point communities always has people cycling or walking it. It is always pleasing to see the large volume of families and residents of all ages utilising our walkways. Mums, Dads, prams, pushbikes and scooters are all getting a good workout on these trails.

Pembroke Park has seen significant investment over the past twelve months. Grant funding has made possible the construction of new unisex change rooms and a stadium complex. This will greatly improve the standard of play for the clubs and provide further opportunities for the thousands of mums, dads and children who engage in sporting activities each and every week at Pembroke Park. Council has further projects planned in the Pembroke Park Master Plan to continue to make it the premier sporting hub for the south east and attract people from all of Southern Tasmania to Sorell. Council recently submitted a grant application to apply for funding to construct a new playground and fitness equipment at Pembroke Park.

Council is in the process of developing an Open Space Strategy. Once approved, this Strategy will help us to appreciate how our community uses our parks, walkways and recreation areas and to plan for the provision of these into the future.

Council is currently developing and implementing concept plans for a playground at Snake Hollow in Carlton, a shared pathway loop through Carlton and Dodges Ferry and a playground and public toilets at the northern end of Primrose Sands Beach. As these plans progress we will seek feedback to help ensure these meet the requirements of our community.

Due to our limited funds all these projects must be planned thoroughly and we must also be able to afford to maintain them once built. The first step in getting any new project off the ground is doing the ground work. We listen to the community and gather their feedback through our engagement opportunities including our Community Conversations, our Seniors Advisory Group meetings and Pembroke Park user meetings. We then engage with key stakeholders to further progress ideas. We must then develop and cost concept plans. Once we've done this work we are in a better position to be able to allocate budget or to apply for appropriate grant funding as it becomes available. This means projects can take some time to become a reality but this is the sensible and sustainable way forwards.

We continue to consult and engage with our community to find positive solutions to issues as they arise. We've been working recently with the Arts community regarding moving towards the achievement of a Community Arts and Cultural Precinct for Sorell. Council has also been engaging with the Friends of Blue Lagoon group in Dodges Ferry regarding stormwater issues.

**Mayor Kerry Vincent**

## Recently Completed Works

### Sorell Memorial Hall

The grand old lady of Sorell recently received a facelift. The exterior of the Sorell Memorial Hall was repainted as part of our maintenance and asset management program.

Council engaged Heritage Consultants Purcell to provide advice about colour schemes which would be historically accurate and appropriate for the Hall. A white with grey trim and red brick coping colour scheme was chosen, in keeping with the Halls Inter-War Functionalist style and colour palettes of this period. The results are impressive and improve the presentation of this important community building as a feature of the Sorell Township.



### Gypsy Bay Public Toilet

A new public toilet was constructed in Primrose Sands near the Gypsy Bay Boat Ramp. There has been strong community support for toilets at the site for several years, so a single berth telemetry alarm system toilet was selected and constructed in the car park area.



# Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS)

The State Government developed the STRLUS as a broad document aimed at facilitating and managing change, growth, and development within Southern Tasmania. It was developed in 2010 with only a very minor review in 2013.

Amendments to Interim Planning Schemes or Statewide Planning Scheme Local Provision Schedules will not be considered by the Tasmanian Planning Commission if they are not in compliance with the STRLUS.

A key issue with the Strategy is that it was based upon 2006 ABS Census data. Our community and State has grown considerably since this data was collected. Council cannot provide the required housing, employment, education and recreation opportunities that our population growth requires due to the limitations placed on us by the Strategy.

There would be multiple long term benefits for our community if there was appropriately zoned land available to accommodate local trades and services. It would allow for specific jobs and employment growth in the local region, which provide more opportunity for people to stay in the Municipality and work locally. This would have further flow on effects and reduce the demand on the road transport corridor and strengthen our local economies.

Council is advocating for the Government to review and update the STRLUS as priority to enable us to adequately and sustainably plan for our future.

## Sorell 2021

### Commemorating the 200 year anniversary of the naming of the Sorell Township.

In 1821, Governor Lachlan Macquarie toured the Colony of Van Diemen's Land. He visited and named several towns during his journey here: Perth, Campbell Town, Ross, Oatlands and Brighton. On an excursion from Hobart on 20th June Governor Macquarie named Sorell in honour of Colonel William Sorell, Lieutenant Governor of Van Diemen's Land at the time. The events of this visit were described in Governor Macquarie's journal, which gives a wonderful insight into our history and what life was like at the time.

Council has been working with the community for over 12 months on how we can commemorate this chapter in our history.

Council's regular events through 2021 will take on the 200th theme including Australia Day Awards, National Volunteers Week Reception, Seniors Week and the Sorell Regional Art Prize and Exhibition. Our Community Grants Program has a special provision to provide funding support for local community groups who wish to contribute to the commemorations.

Other activities planned in our community include:

**The Sorell History Society** is collating images for a 1821-2021 commemorative photo book.

**Sorell School** will also celebrate their 200th anniversary in 2021. They will be holding a range of events and activities during 2021.

Council successfully nominated the **Sorell Memorial Hall** for *If These Halls Could Talk*, which is a signature project for Ten Days on the Island festival 2021. *If These Halls Could Talk* is a special place-making and community-building project of art adventures in 10 community halls around the state held over three weekends in early 2021.

Check our website in the coming months to keep up to date with all the 2021 commemorative events and activities taking place in Sorell.



## Fulham Road

Council has been working towards sealing and upgrading Fulham Road to make it a vital second link road as a staged process over the past ten years.

The works on Fulham Road included two major reconstructions of segments, lime stabilisation works and an upgrade to a sealed standard. These works make this ten kilometre road part of a legitimate alternative tourist route through a wonderfully scenic part of our Municipality, as well as providing safer and better access for local residents.

This is a significant project for our community, and Council are appreciative of Federal funding through the Roads to Recovery program.

It's a significant investment in our road infrastructure that has resulted in a safer vital link road for locals and visitors alike.

## Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

The Australian Government provided funding to Local Government in the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI) to provide stimulus through delivery of local projects to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council successfully nominated four community projects in the LRCI Program and received \$383,905 in funding.

The projects include:

### Sorell Skate Park

Complete upgrade of the park in line with the concept plan developed previously with local youth.

### Pembroke Park

Construction of car park and landscaping for the Levelling the Playing Field unisex change rooms.

### Pembroke Park

Installation of street and car park lighting for the stadium access road and car park.

### Snake Hollow Park, Carlton

Construction of stage two works.

Work on these projects will commence in 2021.

## News in Brief

### Sorell Regional Art Prize and Exhibition

The 2020 Sorell Regional Art Prize and Exhibition was open at the Sorell Memorial Hall on Saturday 28th November and Sunday 29th November 2020 from 10am - 4pm daily. Head to our website for all the details of the exhibition including the category award winners and Council's \$1500 art acquisition recipient.

### Open Space Strategy

Council engaged ERA Planning & Environment to undertake an Open Space Strategy to better understand how the community use their parks, walkways and recreation areas, and to plan into the future.

A draft Open Space Strategy was provided to Council for feedback and it was subsequently approved to be made available for community consultation. Community feedback on the Draft Strategy was invited for a six week period. The feedback received will help inform the final Open Space Strategy and once endorsed by Council, we will communicate with the community and advise how this helped shape the final version of the Strategy.

### Pembroke Park Projects Update

**Levelling the Playing Field Unisex Change Rooms** – Construction of the change rooms, car parking and landscaping around the change rooms is nearing completion.

**Stadium Complex** – The construction tender for the stadium complex was awarded to VOS Construction. Work on the stadium has commenced and will remain ongoing for the majority of 2021.



## Your Councillors

Contact details for our Councillors can be found on our website at [www.sorell.tas.gov.au/contact-us](http://www.sorell.tas.gov.au/contact-us)

## Contact Us

**Address** 47 Cole Street, Sorell  
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**Email** [sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au](mailto:sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au)  
**Website** [www.sorell.tas.gov.au](http://www.sorell.tas.gov.au)

Any feedback about the newsletter is welcomed and can be forwarded to [sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au](mailto:sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au)



## How can you find out what's happening at Council?

To get the most out of our funds and resources we use a variety of methods to communicate and engage with our community.

Our **monthly advert** in **The Sorell Times**

The **monthly Mayors Report** in **The Sorell Times**

Council's **website**

Council's **Facebook** page

Council's **Instagram** page

The **My Local Services App**

Council's twice yearly **Community News Newsletter** (mailed to ratepayers)

**Community Conversation** meetings

**Seniors Advisory Group** meetings

Council's **monthly meeting** agendas and minutes (available on our website)

We encourage you to be proactive and regularly check these publications to keep up to date with our latest news. We are always open to feedback on how we can improve our communication, so if you have any ideas please let us know!

## Stormwater

**Council engaged Entura to carry out stormwater modelling and develop a Stormwater System Management Plan to assist us to meet our requirements under the Urban Drainage Act 2013.**

The catchment analysis models overland flows and stormwater infrastructure capacity performance of Sorell's urban areas during a significant storm event, including Midway Point, Sorell, Lewisham, Forcett, Dodges Ferry, Copping, Primrose Sands, Connellys Marsh and Dunalley. Out of this came a set of recommended options. Council is considering the practicality and financial sustainability of those options. Overall, the Stormwater System Management Plan will help us to manage our current stormwater systems and plan for our future stormwater requirements.

Council receives complaints each year regarding stormwater runoff and overland flow from private property causing an issue to an adjoining private property. In such instances, Council's intervention powers are extremely limited and it is likely to be a private civil matter between the property owners, and should be resolved between those property owners.

Stormwater remains an ongoing issue for our fast growing community. Council will continue to find practical and sustainable ways to manage our stormwater infrastructure and engage with the community to educate them on their responsibilities.

Please visit our website for more information on stormwater – [www.sorell.tas.gov.au/stormwater](http://www.sorell.tas.gov.au/stormwater)