

Mayor's Report – February 2018

Public meetings organised by TASSAL, were held in December 2017 and January 2018 to discuss the West of Wedge (WOW) expansion. These meetings were to enable members of the community to ask any questions of TASSAL staff that they may have about the expansion. Many questions put to them by the attendees and understandably, some people were satisfied by the responses and some were not. It has been stated that the WOW expansion has been an unknown until very recently but this is not so. In 2016 a letter with maps and an explanation about the expansion was sent to all residents in Tasman. The planning for WOW has been ongoing for the last six years and there have been opportunities for the community to attend a number of public meetings, advertised open days at the Nubeena TASSAL site, requests for community members to be part of a Community Advisory Group, public meetings and an opportunity to make submissions to the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and also to make submissions to the State Government regarding the WOW proposal.

For Tasman, the expansion will mean an extra 73 permanent full time positions making 134 people in Tasman employed at TASSAL. Already TASSAL are working with the Tasman District School to enable and encourage the students to look to them for employment. Hopefully those that are finding it difficult to find work on the Peninsula will take advantage of the extra opportunities to be offered and apply for them. Some employees may have to come from elsewhere to live in Tasman with this increasing numbers heading to the shops to purchase their groceries, joining sporting clubs and their children attending our school. All good news for the Municipality.

Tasman Council has had regular meetings and updates from TASSAL management over the last 5 or 6 years regarding the changes to the operations at the site and has welcomed the expansion and the new employment opportunities in the community. Council made a submission to the State regarding the WOW proposal.

The January Tasman Council meeting saw a delegation of not very happy Stormlea Road residents attend to ask questions about this gravel road and the enormous increase in traffic they now have with the completion of the Cape Raoul and Shipstern Bluff tracks. The impact for the residents is the dust and what that dust does to their health, their gardens and their homes and lives in general. The Tasman Council have been seeking funding support for Stormlea Road for some years to enable the Council to seal sections (or all) of the road. Unfortunately the houses on Stormlea Road are spread out over the length of the road that makes it a more difficult problem to solve. The increase in traffic is solely due to the work and investment Parks and Wildlife Service have done to the Cape Raoul and Shipstern Bluff tracks, hence the request to the State Government from Tasman Council for funds to upgrade and seal sections of the road. With an election in the air for early March, Council will continue to vigorously pursue this with our Politicians, of all colours.

The Minister for Parks (the Hon. Elise Archer) visited Tasman on the 25th January and announced more investment in Parks infrastructure – this time for the upgrading of the Mount Brown and Crescent Bay walking tracks from the Remarkable Cave carpark. This is a great short walk with amazing views and is comparatively flat.

Council is appreciative of the large state and federal government investment in the PWS facilities over a relatively short period of time and the flow on effects they create for local business operators. We continue to advocate though for an improvement in the infrastructure that delivers visitors to these world class destinations – I am of course referring to roads be they State Growth, PWS, Forestry Tas or Council. Through either sealed pavement failures, lack of safe overtaking opportunities, substandard gravel road surfaces and widths and associated residential dust impacts, the entire road network is not receiving sufficient investment and attention.

The 25th January saw the official opening of the Art and Craft Exhibition by Mrs Gail Jennings and the awards handed out for prizes for all categories of art work. Once again this year there was a wonderful range of works for visitors to view and purchase. Congratulations to Rhonda Lisson and her team to bring the exhibition together. The funds raised go towards the maintenance and upgrades to the Lions Club swimming pool located in the School grounds.

I had the pleasure to announce the 2018 Australia Day Awards at the Art and Craft Exhibition.

The winner of the 2018 Young Australian of the Year was Heidi Smith. Heidi was a high achiever at Tasman District School and has continued that at Rosny Collage achieving and winning awards for her art work, congratulations Heidi.

The 2018 Australian Community Group of the Year Award went to the Tasman Health and Community Service Auxiliary who have worked for many, many years raising funds for the MPS (THCS). They are only a small committee but have achieved and raised an amazing amount of money to buy 'extras' for the residents at the MPS.

The 2018 Australia Day Citizen of the Year was awarded to Mr Bob Millington from Murdunna. Bob has been a wonderful 'go to' person in Murdunna and has been part of a group of residents in Murdunna that have done an enormous amount of work since the 2013 bush fires. He has liaised with the Tasman Council, Red Cross and the State Government to help residents and the community re-build their lives, most noticeably helping organise and plan with other community members, the infrastructure upgrades in Murdunna that have been enjoyed by all residents and visitors to the area.

The Tasman Regatta and Feast was held on the 27th January at Nubeena. These two large events take many months to organise. Leon Lisson, Chair of the committee and secretary, Tasman Council's Kristy Stappenell, along with the small committee have done a wonderful job to bring these events together. Tasman Lions, Rotary and the Council are joint partners for the Regatta and Feast event. Thank you to all those that volunteer on the day and to all the Sponsors, without you it would not be possible to hold the event.

It was a very warm day but the crowds at the Regatta enjoyed the visit and a sail on the Lady Nelson which looked wonderful tied up to the Nubeena jetty and sailing out into Parsons Bay. The Claytons Boat race was a popular event with many entries again this year, the

crab race is always very popular too and of course the very hotly contested Pleasure Boat Race was a great event to watch. Lots of entries into all the events made it a successful day.

The Feast was 'the best ever' this year, I said the same of last year's Feast but the 2018 Feast has surpassed the 2017 event. A very large crowd enjoyed the large variety of food that was on offer, the band were amazing and for the first time this year, Osbourne Helitours were taking people for flights around the Nubeena, White Beach area and out over Storm Bay. They were booked solid and to make sure everyone got their flight, had to extend their time at the Feast. It was a great success for Osbourne Helitours and the Feast.

As I said above, the same committee organise the Feast and the Regatta and I must again thank Leon Lisson and Kristy Stapenell, also Graham Watkins who donated an enormous amount of time with all the electrical compliance required for both events. The Tasman Council works crew did all the set up at the Regatta and Feast and the Nubeena SES once again organised the parking.

Many people donate their time to the events that are held in our Municipality and we should all be grateful that they do but there are organisations that need people to join and to help out at these events. If you look at most of the volunteers that turn up and organise these events, they are the same people each year and they are not getting any younger, more people are needed otherwise we may see the demise of some of these events, that would be a great shame.



Roseanne Heyward
Mayor