



Mayors Report

An announcement that the Midlands Irrigation Scheme will proceed was made by the Premier (Hon Lara Giddings MP) and the Minister for Infrastructure, Energy & Resources (Hon David O'Byrne MP) on December 17th 2011. The Premier advised that the remaining State & local Government approvals that are required are at an advanced stage and that a two-year construction period is anticipated to start in April next year. When completed this will be one of the most significant projects ever to be undertaken in the Southern Midlands and it follows several years of public consultation and planning.

From a Community perspective it is appropriate to acknowledge and thank the State Government for their drive along with their commitment to part fund the scheme as well as supporting the Tasmanian Irrigation Development Board in designing and developing irrigation schemes throughout Tasmania.

As we all know, the Midlands has suffered from droughts over many previous decades. This has limited the diversity of agricultural activities given the lack of a guaranteed supply of water.

New, high value and emerging horticultural, along with dairy enterprises can be considered when the water flows. Current cropping of poppies and potatoes will be able to be enhanced through a guaranteed source of irrigation water.

All of the "flow on" economic benefit to our local rural communities will be welcomed when the scheme is operational. Additional employment opportunities that such a project brings would strengthen our local communities and provide significant benefit to the whole of the Southern Midlands. The Coal River Valley is an excellent example of what can evolve through the introduction of a well considered irrigation system.

I am sure that all ratepayers in the Southern Midlands will be personally excited by Government's announcement.

Fire Hazards

I wish to reiterate to all property owners the importance of reducing their vegetation and growth around their houses and buildings. Should all this wonderful growth dry off in late January or February then we will be faced with an extreme fire hazard situation.

While our volunteer rural fire fighters do a magnificent job in protecting our homes and properties, they can be assisted by all property owners slashing and mowing areas around buildings and within their back yards.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

Year Ahead

The Year ahead will provide many challenges for Southern Midlands Council.

Rural roads have been severely impacted by the recent two wet winters and Council staff are still repairing damage to roads and bridges from the winter and spring flooding.

Recently a tender has been accepted to reconstruct and seal parts of the Stonor Road, Huntingdon Tier Road Dysart and Union Street Campania. Repairs to the York Plains road will also be undertaken early in the New Year. Also a major new bridge over the Jordon River at Broadmarsh is under construction. We certainly have a busy work schedule ahead.

Myself, fellow councilors and staff wish everyone a prosperous and enjoyable New Year.

Tony Bisdee OAM
MAYOR



Heritage Highway Visitor Centre & Callington Mill

1 Old Mill Lane, Oatlands Tas 7120
Phone: 03 6254 1212 Fax: 03 6254 1467
Email: tourism@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Opened 9am to 5pm Daily

(Closed Xmas day & Good Friday)

Our staff are on hand to assist you with local and state-wide travel information, maps, local accommodation bookings, tours through the fascinating Callington Mill, and the surrounding historic buildings plus general enquiries.

Located within the Visitor Centre is our gift shop and Mill keepers Café.

The gift shop offers a wide range of gifts, crafts and of course, our popular unique Callington Mill stoneground local and organic flours.

After a tour of the Mill, indulge yourself with delicious snacks made with the Callington Mill Flour accompanied by a hot or cold drink.



**Friends of Chauncy Vale
invite you to come and enjoy a**

FAMILY DAY

**AT 350 CHAUNCY VALE, BAGDAD
FREE ENTRY from noon on**

Sunday 5th February 2012

BYO picnic or BBQ (BBQs available)

Entertainment and activities

will include

Children's discovery trail

Guided Walks

Chauncy house tours

Art Auction

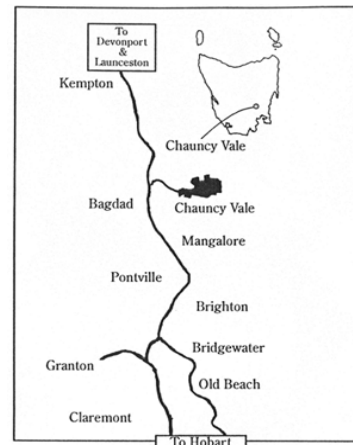
Music

Stalls

Light refreshments available

**Please note: In the event of a total fire ban
this event will be cancelled as Chauncy Vale
will be closed.**

www.chauncyvale.com.au



**Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary needs enthusiastic
volunteers of all ages and interests!**



Next Working Bee

Family Working Bee and free BBQ lunch

9.30 am - 1pm Sunday 27 February 2011

350 Chauncy Vale Road, Bagdad

Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary is a family-friendly bushland reserve with picnic areas, a range of bushwalking tracks, and a heritage house and gardens.

It is cared for by volunteers with assistance from Council.

What can you help us with?


- Gardening around the historic Day Dawn cottage, including trimming bushes, spreading mulch, removing garden weeds
- Repairing walking tracks and making plans for future repairs.
- Trimming of new wattle trees growing on the walking tracks

Repairing stone culvert head


If you have some tools that would help with these tasks, please bring them along. This might include: wheelbarrows, hand saws, mattocks, spades, loppers and small gardening hand tools. Please make sure the tools are cleaned before you bring them, so we don't spread any weed seeds or soil diseases.

A free BBQ lunch will be provided after the working bee, kindly provided by Chauncy Vale Management Committee & Clr Alex Green. Enquires phone 0429 604153.

Please feel free to bring a plate of salad or nibbles to share.



The Greater Green Ponds Branch of Tasmanian Regional Arts

We are conducting 

A Public Hanging in mid March 2012

You are invited to be part of this event
(luckily you can choose how...)

As part of the activities of the Greater Green Ponds branch of Tas Regional Arts, The Lower Midlands Collection is a growing body of work by artists involved in some way with the southern midlands region of Tasmania.

The *Public Hanging* will encourage emerging and established artists who fit this bill to exhibit new work at The Blue Place in Kempton, March 2012 and be eligible for prizes in 2 categories: 25years old and Under; and over 25years old.

At the same time, because one of the Lower Midlands Collection's aims is to encourage discussion about art and craft in the community, the committee is inviting residents of the region to exhibit treasures from their own collections that they would like to share with others for a day or two. Share your Glover with us if you like!!

Posters inviting you to come to the actual event will soon be out and about; and information to prospective artists who might want to participate is being distributed.

Dulverton Walking Track – Oatlands to Parattah

The Dulverton Walking Track is completed at last! The 7 Km track goes between Oatlands and Parattah townships and mostly follows the old rail line route. The initial Oatlands section of the track follows the edge of Lake Dulverton and begins just near the exercise equipment on the foreshore, opposite the school grounds. The track passes through Crown land and seven parcels of privately owned land. Work on the track began back in 1995 with a group of volunteers planting some native trees on a section of the rail formation, beside Tunnack Road, just past the 'Bellevue' property. Since that time, literally 1000s of volunteer hours have gone into developing the track, bit by bit each year. Works by dedicated community volunteers and groups have involved tree planting; tree maintenance; weed control; placement of gravel using spades, rakes and wheel barrows; constructing pathways and restoration of bridge decking at two sandstone culvert crossings. The final construction stages of the track involved machinery work to handle larger projects that had been on hold due to funding constraints. The Southern Midlands Council applied and received funding from the Australian and State Governments in 2011. The final sections of the track were completed in early December, some 16 years after it all began!! Walkers, joggers, push bike riders, horse riders and people exercising their dogs are now regularly using the track (no motor bikes are allowed!). A free walkway brochure detailing points of interest is available at the Tourism Centre at Callington Mill. An official opening of the track will be held some time early in 2012.

Please do not release domestic ducks and geese at Lake Dulverton. The lake is a classified as a Conservation Area by Parks & Wildlife and is reserved for wildlife. Domestic duck and geese species are periodically removed from the lake, and it is not always possible to find another home for them.

Mobile Skate Park Roster 2012

Suburb	Commencement Date	End Date		Location
Tunbridge	22/12/2011	12/01/2012	*	Tunbridge Park
Bagdad	12/01/2012	02/02/2012	*	Community Club
Colebrook	02/02/2012	23/02/2012	*	History Rooms Site
Tunnack	23/02/2012	15/03/2012		Recreation Ground
Parattah	15/03/2012	05/04/2012		Recreation Ground
Oatlands	05/04/2012	26/04/2012	*	Roche Hall
Tunbridge	26/04/2012	17/05/2012		Tunbridge Park
Bagdad	17/05/2012	07/06/2012	*	Community Club
Colebrook	07/06/2012	28/06/2012	*	History Rooms Site
Tunnack	28/06/2012	19/07/2012		Recreation Ground
Parattah	19/07/2012	09/08/2012		Recreation Ground
Oatlands	09/08/2012	30/08/2012		Roche Hall
Tunbridge	30/08/2012	20/09/2012	*	Tunbridge Park
Bagdad	20/09/2012	11/10/2012	*	Community Club
Colebrook	11/10/2012	01/11/2012		History Room Site
Tunnack	01/11/2012	22/11/2012		Recreation Ground
Parattah	22/11/2012	13/12/2012		Recreation Ground

* Denotes periods of school holiday breaks

Are you bushfire ready? Check your Community Bushfire protection Plan. It may save your life.



The Tasmania Fire Service (TFS), with support from councils, Tasmania police, community members and other stakeholders, has developed a Community Bushfire Protection Plan for this area.

Your community's plan contains critical bushfire safety information. To protect your family, please use it to:

- Update your own Bushfire Survival Plan.
- Include some 'nearby safe places' in your own plan.
- Consider the ones TFS has identified and if they are too far away, choose others.

Visit www.fire.tas.gov.au to access:

- The *Community Bushfire Protection Plan* for your area.
- A free Bushfire Survival Plan, for you and your family to complete.
- Further bushfire safety information.

If you don't have access to the internet, freecall

1800 000 699 and request the planning documents you need.

Information available at <http://www.fire.tas.gov.au>

If you plan to be using fire outdoors, be careful and check to see if a fire permit period has been declared.

Tas Fire Service on 1800 000 699



**SOUTHERN MIDLANDS
COUNCIL**
**Australia Day
Awards**

WINNERS

The Southern Midlands Council wishes to advise that the winners of the Australia Day Awards are:-

Citizen Award	Judy Bradford
Young Citizen Award	Lucas Crane
Community Event Award	Bagdad Music Hall

A Presentation Ceremony and morning tea will be held on Thursday 26th January, 2012 at the Oatlands Town Hall, 71 High Street, Oatlands at 10.00 am.

All members of the community are welcome to attend.

For catering purposes it would be appreciated if attendance at the morning tea could be advised to the Oatlands Office on (03) 62545000 by close of business on the 20th January 2012.

**KEMPTON FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
ANDREW WRIGHT AUCTIONEERS
WILL BE HOLDING AN**

AUCTION

SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2012

AT THE KEMPTON RECREATION GROUND

ITEMS WILL BE SOLD ON A COMMISSION BASIS, AND A SMALL FEE PER LOT WILL BE APPLIED

Contact one of the following persons to confirm exact terms and conditions.

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

CONSIDER THOSE ITEMS THAT YOU NO LONGER USE AND TURN THEM INTO DOLLARS

ENQUIRIES

TIM JOHNSON - 0417 147 905

GABRIELLE WATKINS - 0419 385 010

TIM KIRKWOOD - 0417 501 303



**CENTRAL HAWKS FOOTBALL CLUB
TRAINING RE-COMMENCES JANUARY 10TH 2012
KEMPTON RECREATION GROUND – 6 PM
OLD & NEW PLAYERS WELCOME**

Seniors Coach – Todd Lewis - 0424 425 005

Reserves Coach – Cameron Horne - 0458 441 040

Assistant Coach – Clinton Brown

U/18 – Greg Hazelwood – 6254 7138

Make Sure your pool is child-safe!



There is no better way to enjoy a summer's day than swimming.

The majority of drownings in private swimming pools involve children under 5 years of age.

Pool owners should ensure they have safety fences and gates that comply with the relevant Australian Standard (AS 1926.1).

A permit should be obtained from Council if a new pool is to be constructed.

The minimum requirements for pool fencing are as follows:

- **Fences**

Fences and gates must be at least 1.2m high with a bottom clearance of no more than 100mm. Any horizontal rails should be inside the fence, and a least 900mm apart, and any vertical rails must not be more than 100mm apart.

- **Access Gates and Doors**

Gates/doors must only open outwards, must automatically close and lock (ie: be self closing

without the use of force), and not be able to be opened, except by operating the latch.

The release latch to open the gate/door must be at least 1.5m above the ground (or be mounted on the inside of the gate/door, and then special conditions apply).

- **Windows**

Windows that look onto the pool area must be either totally covered by bars that are no more than 105mm apart, or, not be able to be opened more than 105mm, by the use of chains etc.

Pools should be situated in an area to permit easy viewing from as many vantage points as possible within the property, to enable supervision of pool users.

Pool fencing should never be used as a substitute for adult supervision, and whilst compliant fencing can restrict the access of young children to a pool, adult supervision is essential wherever young children are in a pool.

Future Climate Profile for the Southern Midlands

Tasmania is fortunate to have had the highest resolution climate modeling conducted in Australia. The recently completed Climate Futures for Tasmania project provides a sound knowledge base for identifying climate related risks at a local level. Climate Futures for Tasmania prepared a detailed report specifically for Southern Midlands Council (available on the SMC web site shortly). The material provided below is a summary of key points from the report.

Current climate and recent trends

Southern Midlands has a temperate, maritime climate across the southeast half of the municipality with inland and elevated areas experiencing very cold winters and numerous frosts. Long-term average temperatures have risen in the decades since the 1950s, at a rate of up to 0.1 °C per decade.

The average annual rainfall across the municipality is highly variable ranging from as low as 450 mm in the rain-shadow area (through the centre of the municipality) to greater than 700 mm towards the east coast, and in the highlands in the west. There has been a decline in average annual rainfall since the mid 1970s, and this decline has been strongest in autumn.

The influence of large-scale climate drivers on the local climate has been evident in recent years with the 'big dry' of 1995-2009 coinciding with a predominant 'El Nino' pattern, and recent wet years coinciding with a predominant 'La Nina' pattern.

Projected change in conditions by 2100 - relative to the baseline period (1980-1999) under the A2 emissions scenario i.e. CO2 emissions continuing relatively unchanged

	Change	Relative change
Temperature (annual average)	+2.6 to 3.3°C	
Summer days (>25°C)	+30 days	+150%
Warm spells (days)	5 days longer	+100%
Hottest day of the year	+3°C	
Frost risk days/year	-30 days	-60%
Rainfall (annual average)		+0-10%
Rainfall (wettest day of the year)		+20%
Rainfall extreme (ARI-200)	+25 mm	+25%
Evaporation		+19%
Runoff		up to +30%
River flow (Coal & Jordan River)		+30% (Coal) +50% (Jordan)
Inflows to Craighourne Dam		+20%

Extreme events

The changes in climate that are most likely to impact upon council's infrastructure, roads, and the local community and environment is a magnification in intensity of extreme events:

The temperature of very hot days to increase by up to 3°C.

Warm spells (days in a row where temperatures are in the top 5% of recorded temperatures) currently last around 5 days. These may double in duration i.e. increase by up to 5 days.

Extended heat waves and more extreme temperatures are likely to enhance the occurrence and intensity of bushfires.

Rainfall will trend towards heavier events, interspersed by longer dry periods. High daily runoff events are likely to increase, including those that may lead to erosion or flooding. Rainfall volume in a 200-year average recurrence interval (ARI) event will increase by up to 25 %.

Council Meetings 2011

Date	Venue
25 th January 2012	Campania Hall
22 nd February 2012	Tunbridge Hall
28 th March 2012	Tunnack Community Club

All commencing at 10.00 a.m. with Public Consultation 12.30 p.m.



COAL RIVER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - HELPING TO MAKE THE COAL VALLEY SAFER

The next meeting and AGM are at the Campania War Memorial Hall on Thursday 16 February at 7.00pm. Come and have your say about issues such as safety, vandalism or theft that affect us. Southern Midlands Council and Tas Police representatives are usually in attendance to provide immediate feedback on these and any other issues of importance to you.

All residents of the greater Coal River Valley area are welcome.

Chris Adams, Co-ordinator
0408 335585

How to contact us!

Head Office: Oatlands

Monday-Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Corporate Services

ie rates, administration

03 6254 5000

Landcare Unit 03 6254 5046
Works Dept. 03 6254 5007

71 High Street, Oatlands

Postal Address:

PO Box 21, Oatlands Tasmania 7120

Facsimile 03 6254 5014

mail@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Tourism & Recreation Facilities

Central Tasmanian Tourism Centre

85 High Street, Oatlands

03 6254 1212

Oatlands Swimming Pool

Campbell Street, Oatlands

03 6254 5024

Development & Environmental

Services: Planning, Building, Health,

Animal Control

85 Main Street, Kempton

03 6259 3011

Facsimile 03 6259 1327

Chauncy Vale Wildlife

Sanctuary

Chauncy Vale Road, Bagdad

Tasmania 7030

Caretakers Cottage 03 62686365

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY SERVICE

0419 325 405

www.southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

Elected Members:

Mayor Tony Bisdee O.A.M.

Ph: 6259 1128

Fax: 6259 1418

Mobile: 0418 355158

Email:tonybisdee@bigpond.au

Deputy Mayor

Mark Jones O.A.M.

Ph: 6254 0074

Fax: 6254 0074

Mobile: 0408 298 347

Clr Tony Bantick

Ph: 62686277

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Email tony@4one4.com.au

Clr Colin Beven

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Clr Bob Campbell

Ph: 6255 5232

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Fax 6260 4036

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Clr John Jones O.A.M.

Ph: 62591223

Fax 6259 1223

Mobile: 0418 121163

Email:jones.ent1@bigpond.com

HOUSEHOLD WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS OPERATING HOURS Southern Midlands Council

OATLANDS Tunnack Main Road	DYSART Huntingdon Tier Road	CAMPANIA Brown Mountain Road
Tuesday 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm	Tuesday 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm	Tuesday 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Friday 11.00 am to 3.00 pm		Thursday 1.00pm to 5.00 pm
Saturday 8.00 am to 12 noon	Saturday 12 noon to 5.00 pm	Saturday 8.00 am to 12 noon
Sunday 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm	Sunday 10.00 am to 5.00 pm	Sunday 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Closed Mon, Wed & Thurs	Closed Mon, Wed, Thurs & Friday	Closed Mon, Wed & Friday