

Break O'Day



Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Inc Meeting
7 November 2023
Committee Room, Bayside Hotel, St Helens

Present: Matthew Lowndes, Serpentarium Wildlife Park, and President
Sandi Johnson, Tasman Holiday Parks – St Helens, and Vice
President
Stuart Muir, Beaumaris Beach Guest House, and Secretary
Donna Coulson, Pyengana Dairy, and Treasurer
Julie Llewellyn, Priory Ridge Wines, and Executive Member
Judy Muir, Beaumaris Beach Guest House
Susan Rigney, BBFit
Lindsay Dawe, Friends of Eddystone Point Lighthouse
Margi Dawe, Friends of Eddystone Point Lighthouse
Vonda Nash, Friends of Eddystone Point Lighthouse
Ros Wallace, Assist Travel, and St Marys Camel Farm
Grace Keath, East Coast Tasmania Tourism
Cr Kristi Chapple, Break O'Day Council
Attila Szekely, Anchor Wheel Motel
Barb Arceu, Bottle-O St Helens
Jenefer Lowndes, Serpentarium Wildlife Park

Apologies were received from:

Peter Paulsen, Paulsen Enterprises
Dick Le Fevre, Tas4X4Tours
Dr Andrew Byrne, East Coast Veterinary Clinic
The Hon Guy Barnett MP, Liberal Member for Lyons
The Hon Tania Rattray MLC, Independent Member for McIntyre
Nick Crawford, Business Enterprise Centre – Break O'Day
Marcia Guy, Tasman Holiday Parks – St Helens

Also present: Cindy Kurtukoff, Employer Connector, Break O'Day
Dean Saville, Account Manager, Seven Tasmania
Jason Unwin, Easy Tiger Cinemas
Tim Bishop, Manchild Brewery
Emily Elma, Yunique Stays
Dean Saville, 7 Tasmania (Southern Cross)

The meeting opened at 6:05pm with a welcome to all by Matthew Lowndes as Chair. Matthew drew the attention of the meeting to the brochures and papers table for the information of members, and invited members to contribute to that table each meeting.

Members and visitors were introduced to the meeting.

Matthew provided a President's Report to the meeting. The report included congratulations and thanks to the Executive for taking on these roles; and also thanked representatives attending from the Break O'Day Council and East Coast Tasmania Tourism. Matthew welcomed the newest member of the Chamber, Attila Szekely of the Anchor Wheel Motel.

The Report outlined the purpose of the stationary table as a mechanism supporting the sharing of information among members. Information on the table includes an outline of the Business Tasmania Advice Service and bushfire fuel reduction burns. Visitor numbers provided by Tourism Tasmania were outlined.

Members interested in showcasing their business or highlighting an event during a Chamber meeting were invited to contact the Chamber on sthelenscoc@gmail.com to have this placed on the agenda for that meeting. The establishment of individual business networks and links was encouraged. A draft Chamber Value and Benefits of Membership statement was presented to members.

Matthew was thanked for his Report, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes with the draft Value and Benefits statement and correspondence summary.

Matthew specifically welcomed Cindy Kurtukoff to the meeting, and invited her outline the Industry Employer of Choice Assist program. This free program is supported by the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is available to businesses with up to 20 employees, and is represented locally by Break O'Day Employment Connect. Assistance is available with:

- Creating and maintaining a mentally healthy workplace
- Attracting new employees
- Retaining employees in your business for longer
- Understanding Fair Work and other industrial relations requirements
- Developing or reviewing human resource or workforce related policies and procedures including induction and employee performance reviews
- Building and maintaining a positive and productive culture in your workplace
- Being recognised as an Employer of Choice.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes. This includes a link for the submission of questions on the program. Cindy was thanked for her presentation.

The Minutes of the Chamber meetings held on 4 July, and on 5 and 29 September (AGM) were noted and taken as read.

Stuart advised the meeting that the annual return had been lodged with the Department of Justice as required following the Annual General Meeting.

Conna Coulson provided a Treasurer's Report to the meeting, and provided an outline of the activity on the account. The current balance is \$6,559.19.

Correspondence from the Department of State Growth, outlining the Tasmanian Government's business advisory service; and from Rogen Jaensch MP, Minister for

Parks, describing bushfire fuel reduction activities, were noted. Summaries of this information is also attached to these minutes.

As described by the Minister, information on the current bushfire fuel reduction activity schedule by the Tasmania Fire Service and Sustainable Timber Tasmania is available at <https://www.fire.tas.gov.au/Show?pageld=colWhatsBurningNow>. This site shows fully completed bushfire fuel reduction activity at Granite Rock Point North, Golden Fleece Rivulet, and Henderson Lagoon View; partially completed activity at Scamander Caravan Park; and planned activity at Binalong Bay – Gardens Road, and Loila Pinnacle, across the Break O’Day catchment for this season.

Additionally, the North East Coast Bushfire Risk Management Plan is available at <https://sfmc.tas.gov.au/sites/default/files/North%20East%20BRMP%202023.pdf> and covers the period 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024. This Risk Management Plan reports that while the fire season is traditionally from November to March, fires can and do occur outside this peak period and there is an expectation that destructive bushfires will become more frequent. The Plan identifies 66% of the North East Coast as untreatable due to the presence of vegetation for which it is not appropriate or practical to conduct fuel reduction burning. Commencement of work on an Ansons Bay Strategic Fuel Reduction Mitigation Plan is also noted in this document, with a draft plan for a five-year mitigation program including burning and potential fuel breaks having been circulated. Development of this Mitigation Plan is to be completed by 1 April 2024.

High School Presentation Awards have been historically supported by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry through the contribution of \$75 towards a business enterprise award at the St Helens District High School and the St Marys District School. On the motion of Julie Llewelyn and Donna Coulson it was agreed to continue this support for 2023. It was also noted that both these schools would appreciate support from other organisations interested in recognising the achievements of these students. Ros Wallace agreed to present the award at St Marys District School, and Matthew Lowndes will present the award at St Helens District High School.

The Chamber is again undertaking the reprint of the local visitor map due to declining stock. Preference will be given to members to advertise on the rear of the map, with information on the cost of advertising to be provided with the invitation to take up this opportunity.

Members sought advice on the status of the Your List business directory for East and North Eastern Tasmania. Matthew will follow up on this with the Business Advisory Centre.

The attention of the meeting was drawn to linked A4 maps covering sections of Tasmania which are available at the St Helens Visitor Centre. Advance notice is requested if multiple copies of these maps are to be sought from the Centre.

Chamber’s website is to be reinvigorated and is under development. Suggestions for the website can be sent to Sandi Johnson at sandi.johnson@bigpond.com.

The St Helens Visitor Information Centre has proved extremely popular with visitors to the area, and are highly valued by these visitors. Members are encouraged to interact with the Centre; and also to invite staff from the Centre to visit their businesses. It was agreed the Chamber would write to the Centre thanking staff for the support provided to all businesses in the region. The Centre would also be invited to present to the Chamber, including options available to businesses to promote themselves to visitors.

Meeting dates for 2024 are given below. It was agreed that the 7 May 2024 meeting will be hosted by the Anchor Wheel Motel.

The door prize donated by Tasman Holiday Parks was drawn, and presented to Barb Arceu, Bottle-O St Helens. Tasman Holiday Parks was thanked for this donation.

Members were invited to contribute to the bi-monthly draw, and can make this offer by emailing the Chamber at sthelenscoc@gmail.com.

A draft of the Value and Benefits Statement for the Chamber was presented to the meeting, and is attached to these minutes. Comments or suggestions on this statement can also be sent to sthelenscoc@gmail.com.

Matters raised by members will be considered by the Executive and reported to the general meetings of the Chamber. Items can be raised by members for listing on the Agenda as formal matters, or raised informally under General Business during the meeting.

The next meeting of the Chamber is planned to commence at 6pm on Tuesday 5 March 2024, in the Committee Room, Bayside Hotel, St Helens.

Matthew Lowndes closed the meeting, with thanks to all for their participation, at 7pm. A shared dinner then followed, in celebration of the successes of the year.

Future meetings of the Chamber are planned for 5 March, 7 May, 2 July, 3 September (AGM), and 5 November 2024.

Future meetings of the Chamber Executive are planned for 6 February, 9 April, 4 June, 6 August, 1 October, and 3 December 2024.

Break O'Day Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Agreed actions

Reference	Meeting date	Agreed action	By	Status
23/01	7/11/23	Present Chamber award at St Marys District School on 15 December – check date and time	Ros Wallace	
23/02	7/11/23	Present Chamber award at St Helens District High School – check date and time	Matthew Lowndes	
23/03	7/11/23	Follow up on status of <i>Your List</i> business directory	Matthew Lowndes	
23/04	7/11/23	Email website suggestions to Sandy Johnson	Chamber members	
23/05	7/11/23	Write to the St Helens Visitor Information Centre thanking staff for the support they have provided to businesses in the region; and inviting the Centre to give a presentation to the Chamber	Matthew Lowndes	
23/06	7/11/23	Book Committee Room, Bayside Hotel, St Helens for meetings of the Chamber in 2024	Stuart Muir	
23/07	7/11/23	Host 7 May 2024 meeting of the Chamber	Attila Szekely, Anchor Wheel Motel	
23/08	7/11/23	Email comments on the draft Values and Benefits Statement	Chamber members	