

The Beacon eNewsletter Edition 3.9 - September 2025

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WELCOMING OUR NEW CITIZENS

The West Tamar Council hosted another jam-packed Citizenship Ceremony earlier this month at the Windsor Community Precinct at Riverside.

More than 70 guests were in attendance to welcome 22 conferees from all corners of the globe who were preparing to make the pledge for Australian citizenship.

The conferees came from Poland, Pakistan, New Zealand, Columbia, India, Germany, the UK, Iran, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Nepal, South Africa and Hong Kong.







JOIN THE ROADSHOW EXPRESS

The West Tamar Community Roadshow for 2025 is slowly drawing to a close.

Following on from the success of last year's inaugural Community Roadshow, West Tamar Mayor Christina Holmdahl, CEO Kristen Desmond, Councillors and managers of the West Tamar Council have been hitting the road since late August, stopping off at a number of towns for a series of community forums.

Residents will be able to come along, listen to a presentation from our CEO on what Council has in store for the municipality over the coming year, meet with the Mayor, Councillors and Council Executive to discuss your concerns, ask questions and engage with the elected members of your community.

Light refreshments will be available at each roadshow event.

Those intending on attending will need to RSVP for each event in advance for catering purposes.

See our website for details on the remaining



venues: https://www.wtc.tas.gov.au/2025/07/community-roadshow-2025-coming-to-a-town-near-you/

Mayor's Message

As Mayor of West Tamar, I have always believed that local government thrives on a sense of community, openness and inclusion.

Our beautiful region and our ratepayers — from Greens Beach through to Riverside - deserve nothing less.

That's why live video streaming our council meetings wasn't merely a technical decision that Council made some months ago. Instead, it's a cornerstone of trust and democracy.

Just over a week ago now, the West Tamar Council live streamed its first meeting to the interview via YouTube for the world to see.



Granted, the world perhaps wasn't tuning in - but around 170 people did join us across the four hours of the September meeting.

The benefits of taking this quantum step into the 21st Century are immediate. Imagine if you will, a working parent in Riverside tuning in during their lunch break, or a retiree from Frankford joining from home without the inconvenience of travelling through to Riverside.

Live streaming removes barriers, making governance accessible to all of our 25,000-plus residents. No longer confined to those who can attend in person, our deliberations on everything from infrastructure upgrades to youth programs reach every corner of the West Tamar.

This level of transparency fosters accountability, where residents can see decisions unfold in real time, sparking informed questions and healthier debates. Streaming also builds resilience: it educates on complex issues, encourages civic pride, and empowers voices often unheard.

In an era of digital connection, it's our duty to bridge the gap between council chambers and dining room tables. Ultimately, live streaming hopefully ensures that the West Tamar's future is shaped by everyone, for everyone.

Christina Holmdahl

Mudael

West Tamar Mayor

AVA'S DEBUT ART EXHIBITION

The Tamar Visitor Centre is currently hosting a truly inspiring exhibition that is not to be missed.

Seventeen-year-old artist Ava Ferguson has unveiled her very first collection of original watercolour works, now on display from Tuesday, 23 September 2025 through to 26 October 2025.

Open seven days a week, the exhibition offers the community a wonderful opportunity to discover the emerging talent of this young local artist.

The official opening of the exhibition was a warm and lively occasion, attended by around 50 guests who gathered to celebrate Ava's remarkable achievements. Mayor Christina Holmdahl had the honour of formally opening the event, acknowledging not only the beauty of Ava's art but also the significance of encouraging young talent in our region. The presence of family, friends, and art supporters created a strong sense of pride as Ava's work was unveiled.



This solo exhibition was made possible after Ava was named the Emerging Artist in the 2024 Irene Phelps Art Exhibition. As part of this prestigious recognition, she was provided the opportunity to hold her first solo showcase. The result is a stunning display of 17 original watercolours, each brimming with colour, imagination, and emotional depth. The award not only celebrates her skill but also recognises the potential of a young artist destined to make her mark.

We encourage all residents, along with their family and friends, to visit the Tamar Visitor Centre (Main Road, Exeter) before the exhibition closes on October 26.

Whether you are an art lover or simply curious to see the achievements of a talented emerging artist, this collection is sure to make a lasting impression.

AUSTRALIA DAY 2026 AWARDS OPEN

Applications are now open for the Council's Australia Day Awards for 2026.

The Citizen of the Year Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council of Tasmania and administered by local Councils.

The Awards recognise and reward individuals and organisations that have made a noteworthy contribution during the current year, and/or give an outstanding service over a number of years to the community, over and above normal employment duties.

All residents of the West Tamar Municipal Area are eligible and nominations of non-residents who have made an outstanding contribution to the community will also be considered.



The selection panel for the awards comprises the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and members of the Community Services team. The awards will be presented at Council's Australia Day Celebrations.

Nominations are accepted in the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Community Group of the Year

For more information, see our website: https://www.wtc.tas.gov.au/australia-day-awards/

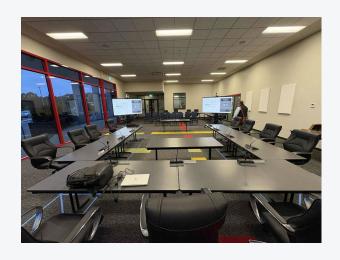
LIVE STREAMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

From its September ordinary meeting, the West Tamar Council has begun live video streaming its meetings.

People wishing to tune in every month to watch the meetings lives, can do so by visiting the Council's official YouTube Page here:

https://www.youtube.com/@WestTamarCouncil7250

You will also be able to replay all future meetings that are streamed on the same site.



NEW WEST TAMAR MARKET

Save the date for the NEW West Tamar Market on November 8 from 8am to 3pm at the Max Fry Hall, Trevallyn.

It is one of the newest local markets in the heart of Trevallyn. It is going to be a day to remember!

- Bring along your friends and family
- Doggy Friendly Event
- Coffee by Small Brew
- Live Music by Lucy Greatbatch
- Waffles by Bubble Waffles Tasmania

Organisers are still looking for one of our primary savoury food providers, If you are / know anyone - send them our way!

There are still a handful of inside + outside Stall holder spaces remaining, fill out the application form here: https://forms.gle/VNr5HKZD9PVh7eEY6

For details, email the organisers: info.westtamar.market@gmail.com





SEPTEMBER 2025 COUNCIL MEETING

At its September ordinary meeting, Council:

- Deferred Planning Application PA 2024357 for multiple dwellings (11 new, 1 existing) at 47 Orana Place, Riverside.
- Received the Council Workshops report for August and September 2025.
- Endorsed the new Elected Members Work Health and Safety Policy.
- Received and noted the West Tamar Council Audit Panel Minutes.
- Endorsed the NRM North Councillor Representation.
- Adopted the Fees & Charges Amendment for 2025/26 Financial Year.
- Received and noted the Youth Advisory Council Minutes, August 2025
- Received and noted the Positive Ageing Committee Notes for August 2025.
- Approved a Community Grant for the Sidmouth Community Centre Inc.
- Endorsed the Business Grants Program 2025/26 and the updated Grants and Assistance Policy.
- Endorsed the Road Safety Review for Rowella Road and Auburn Road.
- Endorsed the Road Safety Review for Winkleigh Road and Flowery Gully Road.
- Endorsed a Motion on Notice from Cr Julie Sladden regarding the Livestreaming of Council Meetings.
- · Endorsed a Motion on Notice from Cr Christina Holmdahl for a

- Proposed LGAT Motion to Review, Clarify and Amend s28ZN of the Local Government Act 1993.
- Endorsed a Motion on Notice from Cr Josh Manticas regarding the construction of a public toilet at RSL Park at Beaconsfield.
- Did not endorse a Motion without Notice from Cr Caroline Larner that LGAT requests that the Australian Government must respond urgently to the closure of Bendigo Bank branches and agencies.
- Endorsed a Motion without Notice from Cr Larner that Council
 provide a half-hour timeslot at the next Council workshop for
 a presentation on the State-owned post office origins of the
 Commonwealth Bank and its capacity to boost/build housing
 and fund TasWater and other essential infrastructure outside
 annual budgets.
- Deferred a Motion without Notice from Cr Caroline Larner that Council engage a traffic consultant to undertake an assessment of Gravelly Beach Road in its residential use areas from Beach Road to the end speed limit juncture with Gatenby's Road; the assessment to include a traffic count.
- Deferred a Motion Without Notice from Cr Caroline Larner that Council seeks amendments to the Local Provision Schedule (LPS) of Gravelly Beach, the review of existing Low Density Residential use in the Gravelly Beach area, and the creation of an LPS to incorporate those areas.
- Approved Contract No. WTC 11/2025 to construct Kelso Toilet and Parking, awarding it to Walters Contracting.
- Approved Contract No. WTC 13/2025 for the Riverside Swim Centre Slide Refurbishment, awarding it to Penguin Composites.

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2025

Works Completed

- Riverside Olympic Football Club spectator seating
- Playground renewal program Rosevears reserve
- Atkinsons Road reconstruction Stage 2

In Progress

- · Rural roads gravel resheeting program
- Greyhound off leash area
- · Beaconsfield basketball ring
- · Dog park amenities and improvements

- Beaconsfield Lions Lookout upgrade
- Legana Tennis Club Retaining Wall
- Riverside Pool Kiosk
- · Riverside Pool Learners Pool

Starting Soon

- Banner Poles Beaconsfield & Exeter
- Kelso Toilet and Parking
- Riverside Tennis Club lighting upgrade
- Windsor Indoor Training Facility

BEAUTY POINT FORESHORE

Official Opening

The community is invited to join in the celebrations, which will include family fun activities, a community BBQ and Chilli FM will be broadcasting live from the site!

SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER 2025
BEAUTY POINT ESPLANADE
9.00AM -12.00PM

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES | COFFEE VAN
FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE | FACE PAINTING AND MORE...











2025 WRAP - LAUNCESTON FOOTY CLUB

2025 has certainly been a big year for the Launceston Football Club, turning 150 years old, entering a new League back in the NTFA, getting a renewed Windsor Park surface and lights thanks to the West Tamar Council, and then having four senior teams progressing through to Grand Final day!

We are so proud of our Under 18's, Reserves and Senior Women and Men's teams who battled it out at UTAS Stadium on Saturday 20th September 2025.

In a come-from-behind win, our Under 18's were victorious over South Launceston, scoring 7 goals in the second half. Final Scores: South Launceston 6.4.40 to Launceston 7.5.47.

South Launceston proved too strong for our Reserves who fought right to the end. Final scores: South Launceston 8.14.61 to Launceston 3.6.24.

After finishing fourth, our Women had a strong finals campaign and led all game to also be victorious over South Launceston. Final Scores: South Launceston 2.6.18 to Launceston 4.6.30.

A huge third quarter couldn't quite get us over the line in the Men's game. Final scores North Launceston 12.19.91 to Launceston 6.6.42.

We can't wait to see what 2026 brings. Go Blues!

CALLING ALL FUTURE LEADERS!

Applications are officially OPEN for the 2026 Youth Mayor!

If you live in West Tamar and are currently in grades 6–8, this is your chance to step up and make a real impact. The Youth Mayor's term runs from December 2025 to December 2026.

As Youth Mayor, you'll:

- Speak at major Council events
- Attend Council meetings
- Attend Council's 3-day Youth Leadership camp
- Take part in Citizenship Ceremonies
- Join the Youth Advisory Council (YAC)
- Chair meetings



Receive professional public speaking training

• ... and so much more!

Ready to lead? Apply now! Applications close at 9am, October 13th. Don't miss out—apply today and shape the future of West Tamar!

Apply here: https://westtamaryouth.com.au/youth-mayor-program

UPCOMING EVENTS



Our next Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

The ordinary meeting will start at 1.30pm at the Windsor

Australian
Independent
Retirees,
Northern
Tasmania Branch



Australian Independent Retirees meets on the third Friday of the month between February and November from 10am to 12pm at the Windsor Community Precinct, Riverside.

The group welcomes retired and semi-retired people interested in investment and general discussion.

Guest speakers form part of each meeting and

Community Precinct.

Copies of the agenda will be available on the Council website.

morning tea is available.

To register, or for further information, contact airnorthtas@gmail.com





West Tamar





Volunteer Mentor Drivers Needed!

Get in touch today

– your time can
change lives!



Wheels4Work supports community members who need driving experience to get their Provisional License.

If you've got an hour or two spare, we'd love to hear from you!

Every drive helps someone take a big step toward independence
and opens up opportunities!

Are you a Jobseeker? Volunteering as a mentor driver can also count towards job participation requirements.

(talk with your Job Provider)

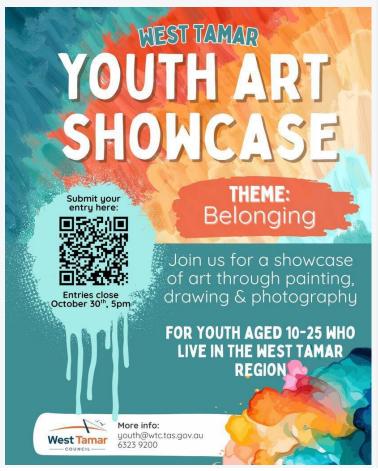


Sally - 0409 183 322 or Rick - 0459 591 567



w4w-launceston@ravenswoodnh.org w4w-outreach@ravenswoodnh.org







Join us for a Health Talks Day designed to empower and inform our community about various health topics! Throughout the day, we will host a series of engaging talks covering a range of subjects, including helpful equipment and technology that can enhance your daily living at home.

Speakers will share valuable insights and practical tips that can make a significant difference in your health and well-being. Whether you're interested in learning about health topics, helpful home aids or smart home devices, there's something for everyone.

To keep you energised and refreshed, we'll provide morning tea and lunch, creating the perfect opportunity to network with fellow attendees and discuss the topics presented.

Don't miss this chance to expand your knowledge and discover resources that can improve your quality of life. Mark your calendar and join us for a day filled with learning, connection, and delicious food! This session is free, however bookings are essential.

Enquiries & Bookings: Call (03) 6323 9200





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