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## **CELEBRATING COMMUNITY'S FINEST**

Tasmania's Junior National Doctor of the year and a 30-year volunteer ambulance officer have taken out the Mayor's Awards at this year's West Tamar Council Australia Day Awards ceremony, held on January 26 in Riverside.

Dr Jessica Horton and Lorraine Gardiner shared the top gong at the ceremony, which celebrates West Tamar residents who go above and beyond for their community.

More than 230 people packed the Tailrace Centre on Monday night, with the ceremony doubling as a Citizenship Ceremony.

Thirty conferees celebrated becoming Australian citizens, with Mayor Christina Holmdahl welcoming those taking the oath of citizenship.



The conferees came from Nepal, Brazil, India, Colombia, Sri Lanka, the US, the UK, New Zealand, Ireland, Germany and Canada.

The West Tamar Citizen of the Year Award was also shared between two worthy recipients - Robert Mantach and Lorraine Gardiner.

The Young Citizen of the Year award was announced as Isabelle Wynwood, the Community Group of the Year was won by the Beaconsfield House Garden Volunteers and the Community Event of the Year was won by the Sidmouth Hall Art Show.

Six people were nominated in the Citizen of the Year award - Cynthia Masters, Christine Fulcher, Anna Schofield, Robert Mantach, Lisa Horton and Lorraine Gardiner.

Mayor Christina Holmdahl said the awards recognise individuals and community groups who have made a significant contribution during the current year or have provided an outstanding service over a number of years to their local communities.

**[TO READ MORE CLICK HERE](#)**

## **Mayor's Message**

As we settle into 2026, I find myself reflecting on one of the most significant dates in our civic calendar.

On January 26 this year, more than 230 residents gathered at the Tailrace Centre in Riverside for our Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony - a night that genuinely showcased the heart and soul of the West Tamar.

This year, it was my great honour to present the Mayor's Award to two exceptional individuals: Dr Jessica Horton, Tasmania's Junior National Doctor of the Year, and Lorraine Gardiner, a dedicated 30-year volunteer ambulance officer.

Their tireless commitment to the health and safety of others embodies the very best of our region.

Lorraine also shared the Citizen of the Year honours with Robert Mantach, while Isabelle Wynwood was named Young Citizen of the Year for her inspiring leadership.

We also celebrated the Beaconsfield House Garden Volunteers as Community Group of the Year and the Sidmouth Hall Art Show as Community Event of the Year.

Whether through art, environmental stewardship, or healthcare, these winners remind us that the strength of the West Tamar lies in those who go above and beyond for their neighbours.

Equally poignant was welcoming 30 new Australians who chose to take their pledge of citizenship on this significant day.

Hailing from 11 different nations - including Nepal, Brazil, Colombia, and Ireland - these new citizens bring a wealth of culture and experience that enriches our growing community.

To our award winners, nominees, and newest citizens: thank you for making the West Tamar a place of belonging and pride.



**Christina Holmdahl**  
**West Tamar Mayor**



# LIVE STREAMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Did you know that the West Tamar Council now live streams its Council meetings?

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

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

You can also replay all past meetings that are streamed on the same site.



## EXETER SHOW - SAVE THE DATE!

Get Ready for the 2026 Exeter Show – A Celebration of Tasmania's Best!

Join us on Saturday, February 28 for the 112th anniversary of the Exeter Show – a quintessential agricultural experience in the heart of the breathtaking Tamar Valley!

Presented by the Exeter Show Society Inc., this iconic event is back and better than ever, offering a jam-packed day of entertainment, competition, and family fun.



Whether you're a local or a visitor, the Exeter Show promises something for everyone. Immerse yourself in the best of Tasmanian agriculture, with thrilling horse showjumping in our dedicated arena, action-packed wood chopping competitions, and an impressive showcase of livestock, arts, food, and more.

This year, don't miss the adrenaline-pumping Tasmanian Single Handed Championship and Underhand Hard Hitting Championship, where the state's top axemen will battle it out in an exciting display of skill and strength.

Also on the agenda: CPAT Trickstars Trick Dog Demo Team, Sheep Shearing and sheepdog trials, bringing traditional farming skills to life in ways you won't see anywhere else!

Families can enjoy a wide range of activities, including the animal nursery, sideshow alley, rides, and live entertainment, along with delicious food and drinks throughout the day.

Whether you come for the competitions or the community atmosphere, the 2026 Exeter Show is an event you won't want to miss. Mark your calendars and get ready for a spectacular celebration of Tasmania's agricultural heritage and culture.

See you there!



## JANUARY 2026 COUNCIL MEETING

### At its January ordinary meeting, Council:

- Approved Planning Application PA2025357 for Single Dwelling and Outbuilding at 106 Eiger Court, Grindelwald.
- Approved Planning Application PA2025340 for Subdivision (1 lot into 2) at 20 Tanner Drive, Legana.
- Approved Planning Application PA2025365 for an Outbuilding at 48 Alpine Crescent, Grindelwald.
- Approved Planning Application PA2025326 for Multiple Dwellings x 2 at 24 Pomona Road, Riverside.
- Received the Council Workshops Report for December 2025 and January 2026.
- Deferred a proposal to form a Special Committee for the Frankford Soldiers Memorial Hall.
- Endorsed a submission on the Residential Parks Bill 2026 Consultation Draft Legislation.
- Approved the renewal of the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation Funding Agreement for 2026-2029.
- Adopted the updated Code for Tenders and Contracts.
- Adopted the updated Procurement Policy.
- Approved an Amendment of the Section 71 Agreement for 20 Tatana Way, Legana.
- Adopted the updated Financial Hardship Assistance Policy.
- Approved the Capital Works Project Budget Variations.
- Received a petition for a review of the current recommended fluoridation levels in Tasmania's public water supplies and requested the CEO to forward the petition to the State Health Minister.
- Received a petition for recognition of the Windsor Park Gardens as an official Botanical Garden.
- Endorsed a motion with notice from Cr Rick Shegog, calling on Council to display the Australian National Flag in nominated Council Parks and Recreation Areas.
- Approved Contract No. WTC 19/2025 for the Reseal Program 2025/26 Spray and Asphalt Resurfacing, awarding it to Fulton Hogan Industries.
- Approved Contract No. WTC 35/2025 for Beaconsfield Road Widening and Footpaths in Shaw Street and Julian Street, awarding it to R J May Civil Construction.

## CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE – JANUARY 2026

### Works Completed

- Legana Tennis Club retaining wall
- Windsor Indoor Training Centre - nets and flooring
- Bridge Guardrail Upgrades
- Esplanade, Beauty Point: Stormwater improvements

### In Progress

- Tresca Playground Renewal Program
- Shaw Street, Beaconsfield: Road Widening and Footpath Reconstruction
- Kelso Toilet and Parking
- Gravelly Beach Foreshore Development
- Dog Parks and Amenities Improvement Program

- Windsor Precinct Olympic 2 Reconstruction

### Starting Soon

- Riverside Olympic Football Club - changeroom cabinetry
- The Orchards Playground - stages 1 and 2
- Gravelly Beach Road, Blackwall - kerb and channel
- Refurbish Bonnie Beach and Deviot Pontoons
- Tattersalls Road Bridge Superstructure
- Notley Hills Road Reconstruction
- Riverside Tennis Club - kitchen refurbishment
- Julian Street, Beaconsfield - road widening and footpath reconstruction

# LEGANA PLAYGROUND ON THE WAY

West Tamar Council has appointed contractors to construct the new Legana Orchards Public Open Space playground.

Council officers worked in collaboration with its Youth Advisory Council to assist in the development of various options and themes for the space, which were then presented to the community for their feedback through face-to-face meetings with residents, as well as six-week public consultation period.

The new playground will include aluminium bench seats and picnic settings, as well as a large covered shelter.

The play equipment - which was selected by the public during the consultation process - includes a double swing set, a large play unit, a 15m single cable way with platform, a cantilever basket swing, a nature play area, as well as required soft fall and rubber padding for safety.

The Orchards Playground space will be fully fenced.

Construction of the \$340,000 playground is set to begin in February and is expected to be open to the public this financial year.



## HELP FINDING THE RIGHT SUPPORT

West Tamar Council's Community Support Resource is a practical guide designed to help residents find the right support quickly and locally where possible. It brings together key services in one place so people know where to turn in times of need.

The Community Support Resource is a compiled information booklet created to assist community members experiencing hardship or needing extra

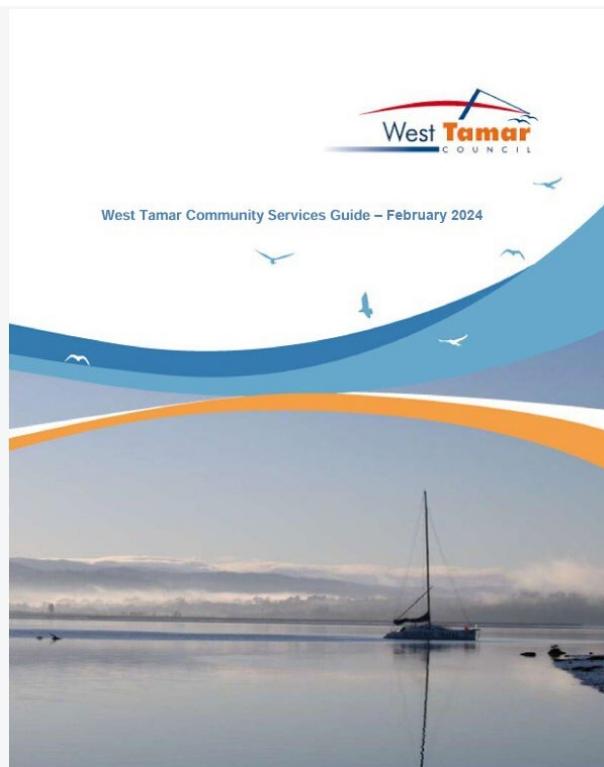
support. It sits alongside Council's broader Community Service Guide and is promoted as a central point to access local and statewide services.

This document is aimed at all West Tamar residents, including individuals, families, older people, and young people who may be facing financial, social, or wellbeing challenges. It is also a useful tool for local service providers, volunteers, and community groups who want to refer people to reliable support options.

The resource brings together contacts for services such as emergency relief, housing and homelessness support, mental health and counselling, family and youth support, and financial assistance. It is designed to make it easier to navigate what can otherwise be a confusing system of agencies and programs.

Community members can download the Community Support Resource from the West Tamar Council website via the Community Service Guide section of the website:

<https://www.wtc.tas.gov.au/community-service-guide/>



Bring your  
**Household**  
**Hazardous** Waste

**FREE & SAFE  
DISPOSAL**

## West Tamar Council

**Exeter Waste Transfer Station**

📍 Biloo St, Exeter

**Saturday, March 14, 2026**

**10:00am - 1:00pm**

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection



## LEGANA BUSINESS NETWORK EVENT

The Rotary Club of Legana presents the Legana  
Business Networking Event

Local business owners, operators & entrepreneurs  
— join us for an evening of connection,  
conversation and inspiration!

Wednesday, February 11 from 5.30pm to 7pm at  
Fermentas HQ, Legana



Enjoy a relaxed networking evening featuring guest speakers from the local business community, sharing their experiences, insights and practical lessons from doing business in our region.

What to expect:

- Guest speaker presentations
- Networking with local business owners
- Drinks, nibbles & great conversation

Whether you're an established business, just starting out, or simply keen to connect with like-minded locals — you're very welcome.

**[FOR TICKETS CLICK THIS LINK:](#)**

## TABLE TENNIS CALL-OUT

The Riverside Table Tennis Club is a Seniors group who enjoy friendly mixed doubles games every Wednesday night.

The club has been running for about 20 years and they are looking to welcome new players to come along and join us.

Every Wednesday night starting at 7pm at Riverside Tennis Club, Eden Street, Riverside.





# 2 million

containers returned at  
Windsor Community Precinct



# 1 million

containers returned at Beaconsfield



## FIRE HAZARD SAFETY

Council's Municipal Inspector undertakes regular inspections of properties in residential areas to determine whether they constitute a fire hazard.

Where necessary, notices can be issued requiring the landowner to abate a fire hazard.

Every landowner has a responsibility to maintain safe fuel loads on their properties, particularly during summer, rather than simply waiting for Council to issue abatement notices.



So if you're a landowner, please do the right thing and keep your property (and those around you) safe this summer.

Unfortunately, each year have had to issue a number of abatement notices on properties due to the potential fire risk and our officers will continue to monitor these and other areas over the summer period.

If you have a concern with a potential fire hazard near your property please contact the Municipal Inspector at the Riverside Office.

And just a reminder, Tasmania is now under a Fire Permit Period.

This means that fire permits will be required across the entire state until the end of the 2025-26

bushfire season.

If you have a property and you wish to conduct a burn (larger than 1 cubic metre in size) on your property, you will need to apply for a free Fire Permit by submitting an application online at [fire.tas.gov.au](http://fire.tas.gov.au) or calling the Tasmania Fire Service on 1800 000 699.

See the TFS website for more information - [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

## BUSINESS GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Coles Nurture Fund is now accepting funding applications from small-to-medium sized businesses.

The fund provides **grants of up to \$500,000** to support the development of unique products, technologies and processes in the Australian food and drinks industry.



Coles is inviting applications from small-to-medium Australian food and drink businesses to support unique products, technologies and processes that drive innovation and deliver sustainability benefits.

Food, beverage, agribusiness, and manufacturing members, and any innovators working on packaging, cold-chain, processing, waste reduction, or related technologies are encouraged to apply.

### Key points:

- Grants of up to \$500,000
- Eligibility: < \$25 million annual revenue, 50 or fewer full-time employees
- No requirement to be a Coles supplier
- Apply: <http://wwwcolescomau/nurturefund>

**Applications close at 5pm on Friday, February 13.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Australian  
Independent  
Retirees,  
Northern**





## Our next Ordinary Council Meeting

**Tuesday, February 17, 2026**

The ordinary meeting will start at 1.30pm at the Windsor Community Precinct.

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

### 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 morning tea is available.

To register, or for further information, contact [airnorthtas@gmail.com](mailto:airnorthtas@gmail.com)

### CONTACT US

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### FOLLOW US

