



ANNUAL REPORT

2002/2003

TASMAN COUNCIL

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REAR: Councillor Guy Dobner, General Manager David Laughner, Mayor Peter Wilson, Councillor Bruce Wiggins, Councillor Keith Heyward, Councillor Gary Alexander
FRONT: Councillor Kelly Spaulding, Deputy Mayor Roger Self, Councillor Dennis Mansfield, Councillor Joan Fazackerley

Vision, Mission and Values

Council's Vision For Our Community:

Our Purpose

Why are we here.....

To benefit the people of Tasman by providing quality and valued services to our community.

Our Vision

What we want to be.....

A community which;

- ◆ is strong,
- ◆ is healthy,
- ◆ is positive,
- ◆ working and living together for the benefit of the Forestier and Tasman areas, and
- ◆ constantly identifies and realises opportunities.

Our Mission

What is our role.....

A Council that will listen to its residents and will:

- ◆ work in partnership with and provide leadership within the community,
- ◆ within a balanced framework, identify the broader priorities and services desired by the community,
- ◆ enhance economic development opportunities through sound planning and strategic leadership,
- ◆ respond efficiently to the expectations of our community through quality, value for money service, and
- ◆ be creative and progressive in all that we do.

Our Values

- ◆ What we value most.....
- ◆ Being ethical and professional at all times.
- ◆ Promoting open and effective community consultation, which facilitates discussion, involvement and partnership.
- ◆ Providing excellence in customer service by ensuring prompt, accurate and effective responses to our customer concerns.
- ◆ Encouraging quality, innovation and continuous improvement in the delivery of services to the community.

Mayor and Councillors

Mayor:



Peter Wilson

PO Box 647
Port Arthur

Term Expires

October 2006

Deputy Mayor:



Roger Self

RA 30
Waterfall Bay Road
Eaglehawk Neck

October 2004

Councillors



Guy Dobner

479 Hurdle Road
Saltwater River

October 2006



Joan Fazackerley

P O Box 640
Nubeena

October 2006



Dennis Mansfield

1502 Nubeena Rd October 2004
Nubeena



Gary Alexander

P.O. Box 913 October 2006
Nubeena



Bruce Wiggins

P O Box 30 October 2004
Nubeena



Keith Heyward

RA 391 October 2004
Nubeena Rd
Koonya



Kelly Spaulding

PO Box 60 October 2006
Nubeena



MAYOR'S **ANNUAL REPORT**

2002/2003

It is with pleasure that I submit my first annual report and the tenth for Council as required in accordance with Section 72 of the Local Government Act 1993. With the introduction of the Local Government Act 1993 and the requirement for Council to present an annual report to the community specifically addressing the Council's achievements over the previous financial year; this together with the Operational Plan are significant documents for Council.

This document summarises Councils achievements over the past year and also through the financial statement provides an accurate and audited set of accounts thus ensuring accountability to the ratepayers and residents of the municipal area.

Council has now through sound financial management practices been able to work within its budget and has therefore eliminated the use of reserve funds and provisions from other areas to cover its expenditure. The improvement in the financial activities of Council in the 2001/2002 Report has continued and recently I caught up with one of the Government auditors when they were going over accounts at Council and I was really pleased to hear her say when asked on a scale of 1 to 10 where are Council sat that we were at least 8.50 and continuing to improve. That statement in itself only continues to confirm the excellent work that David Doyle and his immediate staff are carrying out on our behalf.

Council despite tight budgetary restraints has been able to achieve many things during the past year in the way of works and services.

Development of the Aged Care Facility has continued and I am pleased to say that during the year the facility has become a fully fledged Multi-Purpose Service which is the only one in Australia that is managed by a Local Government Authority. Tenders have now been called by the State Government for Stage 2 of the facility and this will enable further services to be provided upon its completion.

Work is also proceeding on the new sewage treatment plant for the site and this will greatly improve the standard of treatment available.

It is also important to remember that between the MPS and the Council we are one of the biggest employers within our municipality which in turn adds stability to the finances of this community.

Council again received a grant of \$99,000 from the Roads to Recovery Program and this again gave Council the opportunity to undertake works that it would otherwise not have been able to do.

The grants have continued for the current financial year, however, the program is scheduled to end on 30 June 2005. Council along with other Councils Australia-wide has written to all Tasmanian Federal Members and Senators urging them to support the continuation of the program past 2005. The grants not only assist in the provision of better quality and safer roads but also bring more funds into the area which is a benefit to all.

The Copping Regional Waste Management Site is continuing to progress and has now reached agreement with at least one other Council to deposit its waste at the site for the next 20 years.

If further Councils can be encouraged to utilise the site, Council may in the near future receive a return on its ten percent ownership of the site.

With the closure by the Department of Primary Industry, Water and the Environment in October 2002 of the Nubeena landfill site it became necessary for Council to turn the site into a transfer station and for all refuse to be transferred to the Copping Site for disposal. This has unfortunately increased costs and has necessitated the introduction of a waste management charge.

I appreciate that this has caused some angst with some community members and equally there have been some teething problems with getting the collection started. I ask that you be patient as you can be assured that we are endeavouring to provide the very best service that we can.

Whilst the change has increased costs I am sure all residents will appreciate that it is far better for the environment as leachate from the old landfill site was becoming a problem.

Tourism is still a major player in the economic growth of the municipal area. Council continues to support the Port Arthur Regional Marketing Board by way of a financial contribution of \$27,500 and is also represented on the Board. The board is working to promote the area and to encourage visitors to the Peninsula. With another ship to soon commence on the Bass Strait run it is essential to continue to promote the area.

It is encouraging to see new tourism business development happening on the Peninsula and also some of the older businesses being bought and redeveloped. This shows a real confidence in our area for the foreseeable future and I'm sure we are in for a very busy tourist season this year.

It was pleasing to see the provision of television and mobile telephone service to the Eaglehawk Neck area during the year. The mobile phone coverage is now almost the whole of the municipal area with the Murdunna area still to be serviced and unfortunately it is not known when coverage of this area will be available.

The provision of a television service to the Port Arthur area is expected to be completed early in 2004.

Council has commenced a round of Community Meetings in various areas throughout the municipal area. It is proposed that these will become an annual event. The meetings are intended to provide residents of the various areas to meet with Council and to advise what they envisage is needed within their area. Two have been held already with one being at Saltwater River Hall and one at Murdunna. It was rather disappointing that only a small number of people attended the meetings. Increased notice of the meetings will be given in the future in an effort to increase numbers attending.

Council staff has certainly been under pressure for the past six months as we have seen several key people move on commencing with Steve Gray who is now with Burnie Council. I would like to thank Steve for his excellent work during his time as our General Manager. Steve came at a difficult time in our history and is to be commended for turning around our finances and how we operated as a business. It is through his efforts and leadership that we are now in a solid position that will enable us to continue to improve.

Thank you to Rod Liversidge and Bryan Williams for their time and effort at Council. To Tom Ransom who filled in as acting, acting General Manager during a two week break by our acting General Manager Geoff Jamieson (it's confusing!) and lastly on behalf of Council thank you to Geoff Jamieson who has been exceptional in his fill in role over the past 5 months or so. Geoff has a wealth of knowledge of local government that brought that instant stability to our Council from the time he walked in the door. His rapport, dedication and open and honest manner was appreciated by all that worked with Geoff during his time at Tasman.

Thank you to all the staff of Council, the MPS, to my fellow Councillors for their loyalty, support and friendship. I am also appreciative of the professionalism they display in the various roles they undertake from the Council committee structure, their roles in the community and the fact it is not always easy being a representative of the community particularly during an unsettled time when courage and perseverance is required. I congratulate you.

Finally welcome to our new General Manager David Laughler and his wife Anne who have bought a house at White Beach and want to be locals.

David spent his younger years at Kellevie so he is no stranger to our area. David has a Masters Degree in Public Administration and a very solid background in both government and business enterprises. I know David will be an asset to our organisation and I ask the community to welcome him to the Tasman and make him and Anne feel at home.

Thank you to all the ratepayers for your support over the past twelve months and may you and your families have a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P" and "W".

PETER WILSON
MAYOR



GENERAL MANAGER'S **ANNUAL REPORT**

2002/2003

Introduction

This is my first annual report as General Manager having only commenced duties on 3rd November 2003 and it is therefore difficult to report on activities of Council during the 2002/2003 financial year. The previous General Manager, Steve Gray, left the area in July 2003 to take up a position with the Burnie City Council and from 8 July until my arrival Geoff Jamieson acted as General Manager.

Practices

It was reported in the 2001/2002 annual report that human resource management practices and financial management reporting was being reviewed and I am pleased to be able to advise that this is ongoing. In the 2002/2003 financial year Council was able to finish the year with a financial surplus. The full financial statement which has been audited by the State Audit Department is attached to this report and therefore I will not comment further on that matter.

Planning

Work is continuing on the introduction of a new planning scheme for the municipal area as the current schemes are very outdated.

It is envisaged that the new scheme may be operational around the middle of 2004.

Public meetings will be held in all areas to keep property owners informed in relation to the new scheme.

Consultants

Further to comments on the report for 2001/2002 that Council was endeavouring to reduce its dependency on consultants I can now advise that Council employs a full time financial manager and this has resulted in a major improvement in the financial situation of Council. This improvement has been achieved at far less cost than that paid to the consultants in past years.

Council still relies heavily on consultants in the fields of environmental health, building surveying, statutory planning and to a lesser extent engineering services. It is very difficult to be able to obtain in-house services in these areas as Council does not have sufficient volume of work to offer full time employment in the fields.

Efforts will continue to organise time share situations with adjoining Councils in the hope of increasing services and reducing costs in these areas.

Waste Management

As advised in the 2001/2002 annual report the Nubeena Waste Disposal Site closed in October 2002. The site then reverted to a transfer station with waste being transferred to the Copping Site of which Council is a ten percent owner. This however has increased costs and has necessitated the introduction of a waste management charge. Whilst this has not been popular it must be agreed that in the long term it will be much better for the environment.

Operational Plan

Council has an operational plan for 2003/2004 as required by Section 71 of the Local Government Act 1993. This plan was adopted by Council on 23 June 2003. Copies of the plan have been provided to the Director of Local Government.

Appreciation

I would on behalf of the previous General Manager like to pay a tribute to the Council staff who have worked under difficult circumstances throughout the year with both change in the way the office and outside workforce operates along with changes in the field of waste management.

Also the staff at the Tasman Multi-Purpose Service have had to work through change to the MPS from how it had operated in the past. Their efforts in this regard are also much appreciated.

Also on behalf of the previous General Manager I would also like to thank the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors for the support provided to Steve during his time at Tasman.

I am sure that I can look forward to the same support from both staff and councillors in the future.



DAVID LAUGHER
GENERAL MANAGER



ENVIRONMENTAL, BUILDING AND PLUMBING **ANNUAL REPORT**

2002/2003

General

The Department was able to meet all its statutory obligations for the 2002/2003 financial year thanks to the dedicated effort of the Council staff especially Belinda Nutting, Dave Parkinson and Bryan Williams.

The contract staff: Peter Martin (Building Surveying), Rob Pollock (Food Premises) and Irene Duckett (Planning) all contributed to a vastly improved and professional group and should be congratulated on their impute.

Inspectorial Issues

- A total of 66 inspections were made of food premises within the municipal area. These were made to ensure that the proprietors were operating within the regulations in regard to food handling, cleanliness and the safe storage of food.
- A total of 30 food premises were licensed for the year.
- Sorell Council again undertook the immunisations on behalf of Tasman and this system is still working well.
- There were 82 special connection permits issued together with 115 plumbing permits and 108 building permits.
- There have been no reports of notifiable diseases emanating from within the municipal area.

Works

General maintenance was undertaken on all roads, parks and recreation grounds.

Major capital works undertaken during the year were:

- Provision of new toilet block at Murdunna
- Coalmines Road reconstruction
- Abel Avenue
- George Street
- Kestie Avenue
- McCormicks Drive
- Pitman Avenue

- Tasman Street
- Jetty Road
- Saltwater River Road

An emergency water supply has been constructed at Safety Cove, this water will assist with the supply during extreme dry periods.

With the closure of the Nubeena Landfill in November 2002, a contract has been let with Cleanaway to transport the waste to the Copping Refuse Centre. A Kerbside wheelie bin and recycling collection service is proposed and should begin operating by December 2003.

The Department was restructured during the year and now will include the supervision of the outside workforce along with Environmental Health, Building and Statutory Planning.

I would like to thank all the Councillors, Council staff and the majority of the ratepayers for their help and assistance in overcoming the hard necessary changes that have had to be made to keep the Tasman Municipality operating successfully for many years into the future.



ROD LIVERSIDGE
MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES



COMMUNITY and HEALTH SERVICES **ANNUAL REPORT**

2002/2003

Recreation and Community Development

The 2002/2003 financial year was a period of both change and consolidation of community development activities. Successful funding applications provided the means to employ a Youth Worker and a Landcare Coordinator. The year saw an increasing focus on regional economic development issues in addition to continued support to the community for event management, grant submissions, Emergency Relief Assistance and information distribution.

Successful Grant Submissions

- Office of Youth Affairs - \$8,000 – Youth Project Officer, Youth Council
- Office of Youth Affairs - \$1,500 – Youth Week
- Natural Heritage Trust - \$26,000 – Supporting Natural Resource Management in the Tasman Catchment
- Regional Solutions Programme - \$22,000 – Future Search Conference (to be implemented in 2003/2004)

In addition to the above assistance was provided to community groups to prepare funding applications.

Youth Activities

- Establishment of a Youth Council
- Establishment of weekly youth programmes at the new Youth House in Nubeena
- Establishment of school holiday programmes
- Youth Week activities
- Council commitment to provide funding for a Youth Development Officer in 2003 & 2004.
- Support for Green Corps participants

Support with Event Management

- Christmas Pageant
- Tasman Country Fair

Economic Development

- Input to the Tourism Tasmania Task Force and the Tasmanian Touring Route Working Group
- Management of the Black Spot mobile phone coverage project – Eaglehawk Neck & Taranna
- Management of the Black Spot TV re-transmission Services – Eaglehawk Neck and Port Arthur

Community Support

- Request for Emergency Relief assistance was up considerably on the previous year

Recreation

- Funding from the Office of Sport and Recreation provided the means to undertake a community consultation process on recreation in the region. A report with thirty seven recommendations was produced and is available from Council Offices

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Sakariassen', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**KERRY SAKARIASSEN
ECONOMIC & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**



TASMAN MULTI-PURPOSE SERVICE **ANNUAL REPORT**

2002/2003

When all the developmental work came to fruition on the 1 March 2003 Tasman Council achieved a first for Australia. The Tasman Multi-Purpose Service (MPS) is the first MPS in Australia to be auspiced by local government.

Through a flexible and integrated approach to health, aged care and community services, the Tasman MPS aims to provide accessible and affordable services to all members of the Tasman municipality.

Development of the Tasman MPS

The transition from an aged care facility to a multi-purpose service culminated in the signing of the Tri-Partite Funding Agreement on the 28 February 2003. The Tri-Partite between the Commonwealth, State and Council spells out the objectives of the MPS, funding arrangements and reporting requirements. The development included the transfer of services and staff from the Department of Health and Human Services and the implementation of agreements for the continuing provision of visiting services. The Tasman MPS Strategic Plan was approved by Council in February 03 and the Organisational Structure approved in March 03 paving the way for the service to implement changes to deliver on its goals. The new service provides for a new model of health care for the Tasman community.

A celebration was held on 29 April 03 with an open day and official launch attended by residents, families, community, Councillors, Senator Guy Barnett, Minister David Llewellyn, MHA Lyn Thorpe and commonwealth and state government staff who put in many hours of work to achieve the MPS. It was a great day of celebration and we were assisted by community groups and individuals, the school and visiting health services.

Building Redevelopment

Stage one of the capital redevelopment reached practical completion in February 03. The redevelopment was a difficult time for residents, staff, the medical centre and community with construction taking place around the existing facility. Unfortunately the good work done has been overshadowed

by many outstanding matters being unsatisfactorily completed. We are continuing to pursue these.

We were fortunate to have the state grant allocated for stage two brought forward by two years. This has enabled us to commence the planning to build the entrance, reception, community health and community services component of the MPS. We are working towards completion by June 04.

Community Advisory Committee

The Advisory Group formed in December 01 was disbanded to make way for a representative committee solely comprised of community members. The Council adopted the Terms of Reference in March 03 calling for expressions of interest from the community. The first Advisory Group to the Tasman MPS played an important role as a transitional committee with representatives from staff, the previous nursing home board, Auxiliary, Department of Health and the community.

The Tasman Aged Care Facility Board (known as the Tasman District Nursing Home Board) held its last meeting in February 03. This was a significant event with many members having been on the Board since its inception almost 18 years ago. Tasman Council now performs the governance roles and responsibilities of the Tasman MPS.

Residential Care

This reporting period has seen us operating at 100% occupancy in the residential area. The redevelopment has been fabulous, providing residents with all new living and personal areas. We have endeavored to make the change from an aged care facility to an MPS a seamless transition for the residents. The acute beds were closed for most of the redevelopment period.

Personal and Community Support Co-ordinator

The Tasman MPS is funded by Regional Health (RHS), Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to provide social work services. We have recently completed an independent evaluation in assessing the service against its original objectives. The evaluation concluded that the PCSC has been successfully established, providing one to one counseling, referrals, group work and a broader health promotion and community development role. A Service Plan has been developed in support of our submission to provide this important service for a further three years. In addition, application has been made to fund the youth health component of the youth worker position.

Child Care

The Tasman Council was approached this year by the Education Department to consider operating a child care service as the previous service run by a committee of volunteers was disbanding. The Tasman MPS jumped at this opportunity and the new service opened on 25 June 03.

Finally, this has been a significant year for the staff transferring from the Tasman Aged Care Facility and the Department of Health and Human Services. Staff have been asked to make many adjustments. It is now time to

consolidate the team and services. It is important for staff to be supported as the service evolves. In support of these changes we will be educating staff and involving them in the direction of the service. This is an exciting time for the Tasman MPS and I look forward to reporting on its successes after its first year of service provision to the Tasman community.



Marina Campbell
MPS Manager