

Message from the Mayor

Loss of Local Doctor from the Campbell Town Health and Community Centre

Following the announcement by the Northern Midlands Medical Centre to withdraw services to the Campbell Town Health and Community Centre, there has been a great deal of work occurring behind the scenes at all levels of Government to find a solution with an interim provider being sourced by TAS Health.

Council facilitated a meeting with stakeholders to support a solution and with many communities across Tasmania being affected by doctor shortages, and I am pleased to say that a more holistic and long-term view of Health and Wellbeing is also being considered at both a state and federal level which may include a range of options, given one size does not fill all communities.

Sticky Beaks Corner

For several years now the community has expressed concern for the safety of pedestrians and prevention of damage to the significant heritage buildings at the corner of Wellington and Marlborough Streets.

At the Council meeting held 12 December 2022, Council heard community express their concerns for the character of the installation of vehicle safety barriers and bollards.

The works will be completed, and the barriers planted to complement the heritage environment.

A Report regarding the works will be presented to a future Council Meeting

Truck Parking Requirements in the Northern Midlands Area

Council has recently received several complaints regarding the parking of trucks within our towns. Drivers are asked to be aware of the restrictions around truck parking under the *Road Rules 2009* and the planning scheme, as detailed below:

Where Heavy Vehicles Can Stand or Park

Heavy vehicles (GVM of 4.5 tonnes or more) or long vehicles (7.5 metres long or longer) must not stop on a length of road outside a built-up area, except on the shoulder of the road.

In a built-up area they must not stop on a length of road for longer than one hour (buses excepted), unless picking up or dropping off goods.

Stopping in Relation to Footpaths

A driver must not stop on a bicycle path, footpath, shared path or dividing strip, or a nature strip adjacent to a length of road in a built-up area under section 197 of the Road Rules.

A driver must not stop on a road in a position that obstructs access by vehicles or pedestrians to or from a footpath ramp or a similar way of access to a footpath, or a bicycle path or passageway under section 198 of the Road Rules.

Parking On Private Property

A person parking the vehicle they use for work at the property they live at does not require a planning permit, whether it is a work Ute, taxi, or truck.

Parking of trucks or vehicles on a property for use by people who do not reside at the property (ie. contractor's depot) is defined as *Storage* under the relevant planning scheme.

Storage is a prohibited use in the General Residential and Low-Density Residential zones (most common zones within the built-up area of towns).

Please check with Council if you are unsure if the parking of vehicles on your property is considered *Storage*.

Self-Contained Recreational Vehicle Overnight Rest Areas

Northern Midlands Council offers a range of self-contained recreational vehicle friendly towns however, you **must** obtain a permit to stay overnight.

Self-contained means your vehicle must include its own shower, washing, toilet, cooking, and sleeping facilities within the vehicle. No grey/black water, or other liquid is to be let out onto the ground, around trees, or into the river.

Permits are FREE for up to 48 hours and can be obtained from <https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/> Your permit number will be emailed to you immediately. Simply write your permit number on a piece of paper and display it on your dashboard.

If you are unable to connect to the internet, call Council on (03) 6397 7303 during business hours and we can assist you with a permit number. If you arrive after hours and require our assistance, please call first thing in the morning.

Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, Fire Restrictions

If you are planning on camping during the festive season, please be aware that restrictions on campfires, pot fires and other solid fuel stoves will come into place from 2:00am Tuesday 20 December at identified Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) campgrounds around the State, to help reduce the risk of bushfires.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania reports that with maximum temperatures from January to March likely to exceed average median temperatures, restrictions have been imposed on the use of pot fires as sparks, embers, and disposal of ash from pot fires that can provide an ignition source.

These restrictions are important to help protect both visitors, and the community. For more information visit <https://parks.tas.gov.au/explore-our-parks/know-before-you-go/alerts>

Are You Bush Fire Ready?

The weather and growing conditions have affected the amount and length of grass on both private and council land, and the difficulty getting it cut and then keeping it cut when it is raining is an issue for us all.

While we progressively work our way around the municipality, I also encourage property owners to do the best they can to keep the grass short. As the grass dries off, it will present a fire hazard which is problematic for all our communities.

We all hope that such an incident will not occur, however having a Fire Safety Plan is always a good idea. You, your family and your home are more likely to survive a bushfire if you are prepared. Tasmania Fire Service have some great resources on their website to get you started: <https://www.fire.tas.gov.au/Show?pagelid=colbushfirePrep-areActSurvive>



Northern Midlands Council will be closed from
11.00am on Friday 23 December 2022
 and will reopen
8.45am on Tuesday 3 January 2023

The afterhours Animal Control Officer can be contacted on 0419 358 395
 The emergency on call officer can be contacted during this time on 0418 573 389

Wishing everyone
 a safe and happy festive season

FOGO Bin Rollout 2023

The rollout of FOGO bins will commence in the weeks listed below. Each property will be provided a single FOGO bin service.

Small properties such as a unit complex, where neighbours may wish to share a FOGO bin due to space/storage issues, should contact Council in the new year to discuss.

Location	FOGO Bin Delivery	Date of First Collection
Cressy	From 9 January 2023	8 February 2023
Devon Hills	From 10 January 2023	17 February 2023
Evandale	From 12 January 2023	17 February 2023
Campbell Town	From 13 January 2023	9 February 2023
Ross	From 10 January 2023	9 February 2023
Conara	From 11 January 2023	14 February 2023
Avoca	From 11 January 2023	14 February 2023
Longford West	From 23 January 2023	15 February 2023
Longford East	From 23 January 2023	16 February 2023
Perth West	From 16 January 2023	13 February 2023
Perth East	From 16 January 2023	10 February 2023

For information about what can and can't go in your FOGO bin, have a look at Council's Facebook page and website: <https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au>

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors, Management and Staff for their commitment and ongoing support throughout 2022. Council has made steady progress in achieving great capital works outcomes while continuing to support our communities.

Enjoy a wonderful, safe, festive season.

Mary Knowles OAM
 Mayor

Project Updates

Evandale Memorial Hall

The reroofing and internal works which have been occurring at the Evandale memorial hall are now complete. Sealing of the carpark will occur when weather permits.

