

TASMANIA IS WARMING AND DRYING

Free Community Workshops to Help the Whole Community Plan, Adapt and Thrive

DROUGHT RESILIENCE PROJECT

Tasmanians are already living with a clear trend: warmer temperatures, drier periods and seasons that are harder to predict. To help local people get ahead of the change, the Northern Midlands community is invited to two free, interactive workshops at Longford and Campbell Town in May. They are designed to hear local stories and ideas and turn them into practical, community-wide resilience planning. This initiative is supported by the Tasmanian government Resilience and Recovery Grants program

The workshops are part of **Connected Futures: Building Resilience Through Local Stories**, delivered by the Northern Midlands Business Association (NMBA) for Northern Midlands Council. The sessions combine local knowledge with expert insight, helping our community shift from reacting to individual events to planning confidently for a long-term pattern of warming and drying.

NMBA Chief Executive Officer Gordon Williams said the conversation needs to move beyond "the next drought" and toward how Tasmania's climate is changing, and what that means for everyday life in our towns. "We're seeing the signs of a warming and drying trend across Tasmania, and that affects all of us, whether you run a business, volunteer with a community group, manage a farm, or are raising a family here," Mr Williams said. "These workshops are designed to be energising and hands-on. It's not about being talked at. We want to hear local stories, concerns and ideas, and work together on the practical steps that will make the Northern Midlands more resilient in a warming and drying climate."

"If you've been wondering what climate change means for the Northern Midlands in practical terms, this is the place to start. Come along, bring your questions, and leave with ideas you can use," he said. The free workshops will be held in Campbell Town and Longford and are open to everyone across the Northern Midlands, and anyone else who cares about building community resilience in a changing climate. When conditions are drier for longer, the impacts ripple well beyond the farm gate, through businesses, local services, families, sport and community life. Guest contributors

Dr Tom Remenyi will help run the sessions, sharing clear, locally relevant insights into Tasmania's warming and drying trends and what they mean for water, landscapes, communities and local decision-making. The workshops will also include **Amelia Chilcott** from **Rural Alive & Well (RAW)**, a Tasmanian not-for-profit supporting mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention across rural and remote communities. Amelia will contribute a practical focus on the human side of resilience, including connection, support and strategies that help people and communities cope during prolonged stress. Joining them is **Katrina Graham**, Program Manager at the **Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils (NTARC)**, a partnership of councils working together to understand climate risk, strengthen planning and build safer, climate-ready communities across northern Tasmania.

In each workshop, participants will work together to:

- Build a shared picture of how Tasmania's climate is warming and drying, and what that means locally
- Share stories, observations and lived experience from across farms, towns, services and businesses
- Co-design practical priorities and actions (planning, water thinking, preparedness, networks and community wellbeing)
- Help shape a community-wide resilience strategy that can inform future local planning and on-the-ground initiatives

What the community shares in these workshops will directly inform the next steps for Connected Futures, including the development of a community-wide resilience strategy and practical actions that can be taken locally. Participants will also have the opportunity to stay involved as priorities are refined. About the guest contributors

Dr Tom Remenyi (Director, Acclimatised Pty Ltd; and Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Tasmania) is a climate impacts researcher who specialises in translating complex climate science into clear, practical insights for decision-makers. He has worked across sectors including natural hazards and emergency services, energy, government and agriculture, helping organisations understand future climate risk and plan for changing conditions.

Amelia Chilcott (Rural Alive & Well) represents Rural Alive & Well (RAW), a Tasmanian not-for-profit and registered charity working to build mentally healthy and resilient rural communities. RAW provides free, confidential, non-clinical outreach support and early-intervention suicide prevention programs for people in rural and remote Tasmania and primary industry sectors—helping reduce isolation, strengthen connection and support wellbeing during prolonged stress.

Katrina Graham (NTARC) is Program Manager at the Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils (NTARC), a unique partnership of eight north-east Tasmanian councils working together to strengthen regional climate resilience. Katrina has more than 25 years' experience in local government and has specialised in climate change since 2000, developing and delivering programs across a highly variable climate policy landscape.

Gordon Williams is CEO of Northern Midlands Business Association and will facilitate the workshop. Gordon has a background in science communication and future strategy development, and has worked with organisations including CSIRO, the Victorian Renewable Energy Council, Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet, and Hewlett-Packard across the Asia-Pacific.



WORKSHOP DETAILS

Campbell Town Workshop

Saturday 16 May 2026
10:30am–1:30pm
Campbell Town Guide Hall
20 King Street, Campbell Town

Longford Workshop

Saturday 23 May 2026
10:30am–1:30pm
Longford Memorial Hall
55 Wellington Street, Longford

Both workshops are free to attend, with a light lunch provided. Places are limited and registrations are essential.

Register Now: nmba.asn.au/drought

Tasmania is warming and drying. What does that mean for us? FREE community workshops in Campbell Town & Longford Interactive, practical and community-led

Everyone welcome — farms, businesses, community groups, residents and families.

When conditions are drier for longer, impacts ripple across the whole community — so this conversation is for all of us.

Share local stories and ideas and help shape a community-wide resilience strategy.

Guest Contributors

- Dr Tom Remenyi (Director, Acclimatised Pty Ltd)
- Amelia Chilcott (Rural Alive & Well)
- Katrina Graham (NTARC)
- Facilitator: Gordon Williams (NMBA)

What You'll Get Out of It

- Climate clarity (local trends in plain language)
- Ideas you can use (planning, water thinking, preparedness, networks)
- Community resilience (connection, wellbeing, practical support)

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Scan to book your free place

(Takes 30 seconds)

or visit nmba.asn.au/drought



A collaboration between
Northern Midlands Council and Northern Midlands Business Association

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OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:45am - 4:30pm

