

BRIDREPORT

Welcome to 2026 and to summer in Bridport, a perfect place to get some R & R after the end of year rush and Christmas festivities.

Last month the Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency The Honourable Barbara Baker AC, and her husband Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO, spent some time in the Bridport Visitor Information Pavilion after a visit to Bridport Primary School. They chatted with several Bridport Innovations committee members and were interested to hear about the role of Bridport Innovations and to learn more about our Village by the Sea. They were most impressed by the stunning views, the clean and tidy appearance of the town and made particular comment about the value of the Village Green.

There have been some recent changes in the Main Street with a new art and craft shop, Hunky Dorey opening, the bottom IGA closing but Sugar & Spice Bakery moving into that space, a change of Real Estate Agents along the way and a change of ownership of the 'top' fish and chip shop. This all shows confidence in Bridport as a place to live and work and its popularity as a holiday destination can be seen in the caravan park, filled to capacity.

We hope you enjoy a summer of fun and relaxation, remembering hats, sunscreen and sunglasses to seek shade from the heat of the day while making the most of what the Village by the Sea has to offer. The Pavilion Visitor and Information Centre is open every day from 10 am - 4 pm for information, maps, crafts, tennis racquet hire, book swap and as well, as an EV charging station outside the building. The friendly volunteers are there every day to help you.



Committee member Ian Whenn in conversation with The Governor while Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO, engages Pavilion Co-ordinator, Jenny Whenn

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Bridport Village Market

Saturday, 10th January, 2026

Bridport Community Hall

9:30am - 1:00pm

*Buy goods proudly Crafted, Baked & Grown here in Tassie!!
Plants, Woodwork, Handcrafts, Jams & Cakes, Jewellery
BBQ and a little Bric A Brac for spice...*

CAR BOOT & OUTSIDE STALLS

WELCOME

**Now until Easter 2026
on the Village Green**



*Next market is on
Saturday, February 7th, 2026*



To book a stall or site call Viv: 0457 622 221
Email: bridportvillagemarket@gmail.com
Facebook: Bridport Village Market

Proudly Brought to you by CWA Bridport members & friends





Introducing the new Committee for 2026 season -

President: Stacey Abraham

Stace is back in the top spot for 2026, she brings so much to the club in experience and enthusiasm and is passionate to make the club the best it can be.

**Vice President:** Cara Howlett

Cara is returning to the committee this year to assist in all areas, she is a great support to the club and we are lucky to have her strength and expertise on and off the court.

**Treasurer:** Kelsie Mitchell

Kels returns to the club in the role of Treasurer, we welcome her back and look forward to having her help in the role of all things finance.

**Secretary:** Michelle Beeson

Shell returns to the committee this year after a year off, she will keep us in check at meetings and bring the vibes both on and off the court.

**Roster Secretary:** Dannielle Butler

Dannielle is a Life Member of the club and returns after having some time away and raising her beautiful girls. We are so happy to have her back and can't wait to have her involved in 2026.



Brushstrokes Exhibition

Jan 22nd - 26th 2026

Uniting Church Hall
Bently Street

BRIDPORT

An exhibition of paintings and art works for sale by Local Artists

Entry FREE

10 am - 4 pm

ALL WELCOME

**Social Media/ Events & Fundraising Coordinator:** Danica Beeson

Danica has been a valued member of the committee for a few years, she brings a bright and bubbly nature to the meetings and always has great ideas on how to bring the fun to the club. We look forward to the events of 2026.

**Coaches Convenor -** Katie Hall

Katie has moved into the role of coaches convenor for 2026, we are lucky to have Katie and her passion for the club.

**Umpires Convenor -** Deanne Moore

We welcome Deanne back to the committee for 2026, Deanne is always happy to pitch in and help in all things that benefit the club.

**Game Day Coordinator -** Alyce Waddingham

Alyce is new to the committee and brings a wealth of knowledge in all things organisation!

General Committee Members

Courtney Irwin, Ash Milne & Charlotte Jory

WANTED articles for up-coming events and/or wrap-ups - general informative articles - please email: bridreport@gmail.com



Scottsdale Golf Club Australia Day

Monday January 26th

**10am for 10.30am
Shotgun Start**

3 Person Ambrose

\$20 Per Player

Free Sausage Sizzle



You can enter a team of 3 or join one on the day
All players welcome (no handicap or membership required).

Entries to Kate Gofton 0438 527 397

Sponsored by Dorset Council





HAPPY
New Year

2026

A Bridport Rockhop by Mike Douglas

An entertaining way to stretch your legs is provided by the Granite Point rock scramble where reasonably nimble walkers and joggers can traverse granitic shelves, clamber over rocky obstacles and complete and circuit via roads and tracks.

Starting at the Old Pier, go to Mermaids Pool either via Murphys Beach or along the road to the pool access track, then follow your notes around the rocks to the eastern end of Adams Beach.

For the return leg, take the track to the Granite Point carpark followed by the road and Roly's Track which turns off the road 10 minutes from the carpark.

Taking your time might use up to two hours whereas greyhound types could zoom around in half that period.

Interesting geological and erosional features will divert some trippers along with rock pools, lichens and the coastal flora.

At 'The Boulders', 10 minutes around from Mermaids Pool, a boulder climber could chance their arm. The rock is granodiorite.

The Pavilion Information Centre can provide a map showing the route and other walks around Bridport.



'The Boulders'

U3A Bridport Seniors Social Group

All seniors welcome

Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm

Bridport Hall

Recommencing February



WOODCHOPPING
2026



Northern Tasmanian Axemen's Association
Presents
65th Tasmanian Government Thousands
300mm Eric Reece Standing Block Handicap
"The richest in Australia"
Sunday 4th January 2026
Village Green Bridport
From 9.30am - 3pm
FREE EVENT

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iNaturalist, an online social network of people sharing information about nature by Lou Brooker

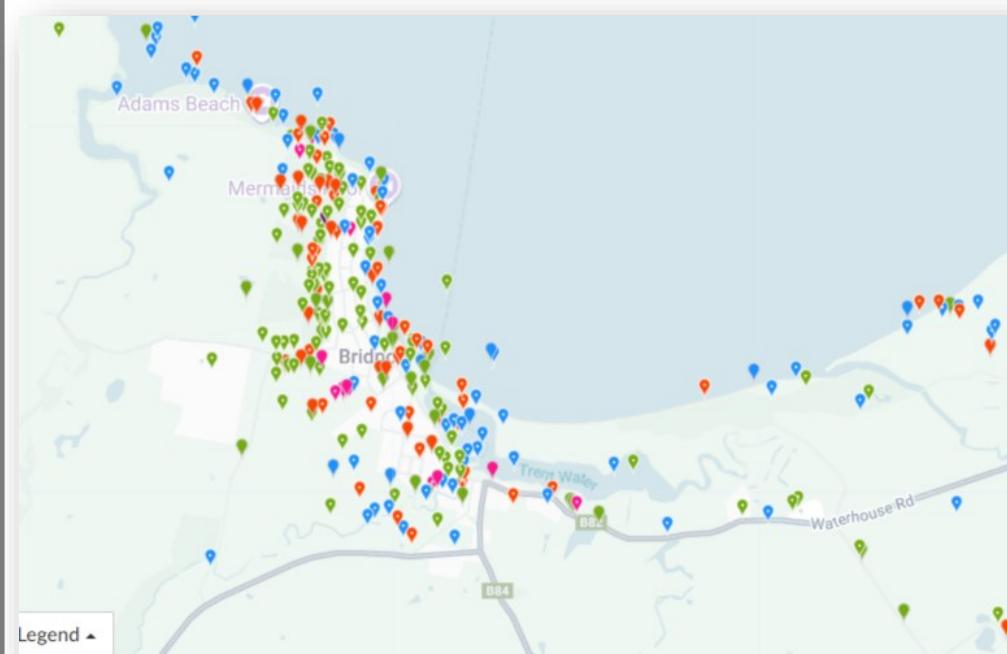
Among the first explorers coming to Australia there were naturalists -for example, Joseph Banks was on Cook's voyage – and as they realized how different all the plants were to what they had known in England, they collected specimens and made detailed sketches and sent these back to England. There, they were kept at Kew, in London. Many of these are now also preserved in the Australian National Herbarium. There are presently 1.5million specimens there.

"Ian Cameron's mother Mary Cameron contributed to the collections in the Herbarium in Launceston."

Around 312,000 of the earliest specimens collected in Tasmania, are housed in our own herbariums, one at UTAS and the other at QVMAG, all pressed and dried and with details of who collected the specimen and where and when it was collected providing a wealth of information for researchers. It's still possible to have a plant identified by staff at the Herbarium, but nowadays, there's also a much more accessible collection. It's contained in the amazing on-line database called iNaturalist.

Here's how it works..... download the app – create an account with a login and click and drag either pictures from your phone or from your computer. To make things easy, the pictures need to be fairly sharp, and reasonably close up. iNaturalist uses geo-data from your phone as well as date and time or you can add that yourself. Then simply upload. iNaturalist is monitored by specialists who then verify or correct the suggested identification. iNaturalist connects observers with specialists in various fields and leads to almost instant identification. My suggestion is use the [getting started](#) page, and have a go.

iNaturalist configures the data in many different ways. Below is a map of Trent Water indicating where, when and from whom observations were posted. Only some of them are mine.



The Probus Club of Bridport

The Probus Club of Bridport concluded another interesting and entertaining year for 2025.

With a theme of fun, friends and fellowship our current members have had a year of interesting guest speakers including Rachael Williams from the North Eastern Advertiser and music teacher Jane Lewis.

Many members have enjoyed attending the theatre when the Encore theatre company put on a show at the Princess Theatre, Launceston.

A bus trip to the show with lunch prior to the performance at the Centennial Hotel is a great way to while away a Saturday afternoon.

The year will conclude with a two course Christmas luncheon at the Bunker Club, with entertainment from a group of the members.

First gathering for 2026 will be a social game of croquet in January with official proceedings starting on the 4th Friday in February – 27/2.

New members are most welcome. Come along and meet us. Contact Gayle on 0439 330 700, or Pat on 0407 687 853.



Bridport Channel

Contractors from Hobart have been authorized by MAST (Marine and Safety Tasmania) to remove the buildup of sand in the Bridport Channel and place it on the northern bank (this process is not called dredging).



It is some years since the on-going collection of sand has been attended to and the channel was becoming dangerous to navigate, not only for the Bass Strait Freight vessels which have already experienced a couple of 'incidents' but for smaller recreational boats as well. With the busy holiday and boating season upon us, this work is timely.





The Lions Club of Bridport Inc.

The Bridport Lions held their Christmas Dinner on 2nd December at the Bridport Hotel. A delicious meal was served – roast turkey and pork, roast vegetables and gravy followed by Christmas Pudding and ice cream and cream. Santa and Mrs Claus made an appearance and helped distribute gifts to all the members and our lovely volunteers. Thank you also goes out to the Bridport Hotel staff for decorating the room for us. A fun night was had by all!

Hazel Holmes & Karen Plaza

Mrs Claus & Andrew Purdon

Santa & Melissa Coote



Doug & Valerie Beswick

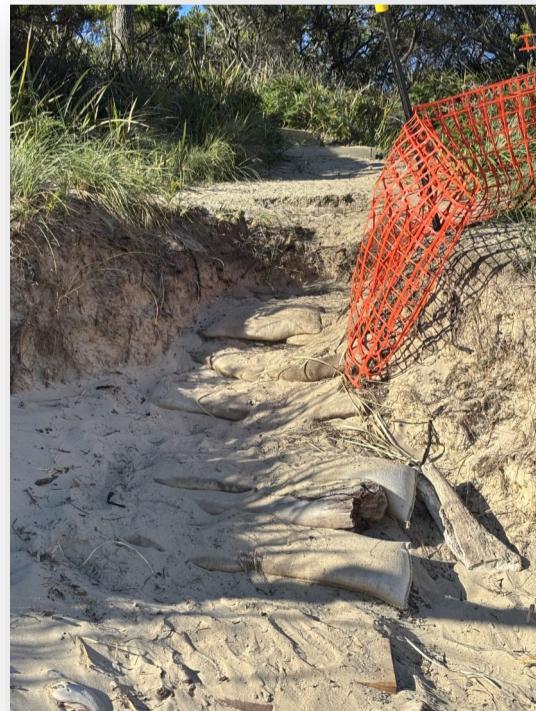
Santa & Maria Saunders

Santa & Peta Ooms

Adams Beach and Dogs

The access to Adams Beach, the off lead dog beach, is becoming more challenging by the day. It now involves quite a scramble and might be difficult for some dogs as well as their owners.

A reminder too that dogs must be on the lead at all times unless they are on one of two nominated off-lead areas, and then they must be able to respond to their owners if necessary. They are not permitted on any other beaches at this time of year.



2026 Dorset Australia Day Awards Ceremony



Thursday 22 January

7 pm

Mechanics Hall

King Street, Scottsdale

All welcome

No RSVP required



Scottsdale Aquatic Centre

Australia Day Pool Party

Monday 26 January, from 12 pm

A family friendly and all-inclusive event with free BBQ and drinks, music, lots of activities, giveaways, and games to keep everyone entertained. There is lots of fun to be had so come along and enjoy a free day out with your family and friends and "Reflect, Respect and Celebrate" together. This event is assisted by the Australian Government through the National Australia Day Council.

Keep updated on
Scottsdale Aquatic Centre Facebook



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LAUNCESTON
TRIATHLON CLUB

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BRIDPORT

TRIATHLON

SATURDAY, JAN 3

BRIDPORT ESPLANADE
STARTS 08:30AM

Race Categories
Individual & Teams

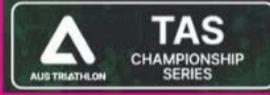
Sprint
Ages 14+ Adults
750m swim/20km bike/5km run
*14-16AG state series point awarded

Short Course
Ages 12+ Adults
400m swim/10km bike/2.5km run
TryStars Aquathlon
*Aus3 Live Kids Series Race
Ages 7-12

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CHAMPIONSHIP
SERIES



Bridport Surf Life Saving Club

Swim the Pier supported by Intas Insurance



TASMANIAN OCEAN SWIM SERIES

RACE 4

DATE
SUNDAY 4 JANUARY

HOST CLUB
BRIDPORT SLSC

EVENT
SWIM THE PIER

SUPPORTED BY  Tasmania

Swim distances: 500m, 1 km and 2 Km

Sign in: 8.45 am for race start at 9.30 am

Keep updated via Bridport SLSC FB to enter via webscorer

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Bridport Pharmacy

How to Treat Tinea Pedis (Athlete's Foot)

With summer upon us, the warmth is causing an increase in fungal infections. Tinea pedis, commonly known as athlete's foot, is a common fungal infection that affects the skin on the feet—particularly between the toes and on the soles. It often appears as red, itchy, and peeling skin, sometimes accompanied by cracking or a burning sensation. The infection thrives in warm, damp environments such as sweaty shoes, public changing rooms, and around swimming pools.

Fortunately, athlete's foot is easily treated and prevented with a few simple steps and the right products—many of which are available from Bridport Pharmacy.

Treatment Options

Most cases can be treated effectively using antifungal creams, sprays, or powders. Products containing terbinafine, clotrimazole, or miconazole are particularly effective. These treatments should be applied to clean, dry feet, following the instructions carefully. Continue treatment for at least a week or two after symptoms have cleared to ensure the fungus is completely eliminated.

For more persistent infections, an oral antifungal medicine may be required—your pharmacist or GP can advise on this.

Self-Care Tips

To help recovery and prevent reinfection:

- Wash your feet daily and dry thoroughly, especially between the toes.
- Wear clean, cotton socks and change them daily.
- Choose breathable footwear and alternate shoes to let them dry.
- Avoid walking barefoot in communal areas such as changing rooms or poolside.
- Disinfect shoes, socks, and floors to reduce fungal spores.

If symptoms don't improve after a couple of weeks of self-treatment, or if the infection spreads to your nails or hands, seek advice from your pharmacist or GP.

Visit Bridport Pharmacy for expert guidance and a range of effective antifungal treatments. Our friendly team is here to help you get back on your feet—healthy, comfortable, and fungus-free!



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- Physiotherapy 0461 300 237
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Bridport Earthquakes

Did the earth move for you recently? Northeast Tasmania, while generally less seismically active than the West Coast, does experience earthquakes, which are monitored by the national Geoscience Australia network, and historically by the University of Tasmania. The most recent activity includes small tremors near Bridport in late 2025, where Northeast Tasmania's Seismic Monitoring Stations reported that Bridport felt two earthquakes, the first was a 3.1 magnitude tremor on Sunday at 3.57 pm, 30 November 2025, and the second at 2.5 magnitude, was felt at 7.56 pm on Tuesday, 2 December 2025. Despite the shaky start to that week, this is by no means the first, nor indeed is it rare for the district.



Historically, Bridport experienced a large seismic event in the 1880s called an Earthquake Swarm, whose epicentre was offshore in Bass Strait, between Bridport and Flinders Island. An Earthquake Swarm is a cluster of tremors of similar magnitude in a small area that are not connected with a major earthquake. This event highlighted the need for ongoing seismic monitoring to understand risks from faults like the area in Bass Strait between Bridport and Flinders Island.

Early Recordings of seismology in Tasmania date back to the 1880s, with early instruments noting significant activity in the north-east, and particularly around Bridport. Kevin McCue, of the Australian Seismological Centre in Canberra, has completed detailed research on various earthquakes and tremors in the Northeast Tasmania, with specific mention of the region in and around Bridport.

McCue's report into seismic activity in the area between 1827 and 1954, well before the first modern seismographs began operation in Tasmania, identified three particular earthquakes of about six in magnitude, two in the large swarm of tremors in the period 1883-1892, and one in 1907.

Tasmanian newspapers of the late 19th century report considerable earthquake activity at Bridport. Indeed, one report from the Mercury on 4 June 1883 had the headline: "Startling Shock of Earthquake at Bridport". The report observed that Mr Craske and some seamen were working at the wharf, and were quite alarmed. At the Telegraph office, the shock of earthquake was so severe that the lady operator, Miss L. Robinson, rushed to the window thinking the telegraph posts opposite had fallen. Mr. Glenny, of the National Mutual office, who was sending a wire at the time, said it was as if a large coach had rushed past the window. Dr. Vines and Mr. Jones, of the Forest Inn, were chatting when the floor seemed to shake under them, and the glasses and windows rattled.

Another earthquake was felt by Bridport residents at 1:25 pm on Thursday 12 August 1883. One resident was concerned that these earthquakes were becoming so frequent that they hardly pay attention anymore. Indeed, he was heard to say, "If they want to rouse us, why don't they send a proper earthquake!" Another earthquake was felt at Bridport at 8:30 am on Wednesday 10 September 1883. A Bridport correspondent reported that two further "distinct earthquake shocks" were felt, stating that the noise was very distinct, with a rumbling noise, like distant thunder. Again, on 9 March 1884, a further report indicated that Bridport was feeling more shocks of earthquake, with some very severe, but not of long duration. Many newspaper reports of this time indicate that there is considerable concern amongst residents over the frequency of the earthquakes. Again, in May 1884, a Bridport correspondent wrote: "A very severe earth tremor was felt here this morning, which lasted over two minutes. It was accompanied by loud rumbling. The most severe ever felt; no damage done, but people very much frightened."

The University of Tasmania started modern monitoring in the 1960s, establishing networks to study local seismic activity. Geoscience Australia has installed more advanced seismographs, and is analysing data, covering areas like the north-east coast, and is focused particularly in the area between Bridport and Flinders Island.

The Dorset Tasmania History Society aims to record and preserve the history of our region. You can contact them via their popular Facebook page or via their President, Nigel Mercer, on 0412 063 024.



Dorset Council
Christmas
Closure Details

Closed: 12 noon Wednesday, 24 December 2025

Reopening: 8:30am Monday, 5 January 2026

For any emergencies – call 1300 858 824



The publishers acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Bridport and North-East Tasmania, the leenererter clan of the Coastal Plains Nation, with respect for Elders past and present.

Brought to you by



If you have an up coming event or something you would like to share please contact Alison for more information:
bridreport@gmail.com

A BIG thank you to the individuals, clubs and organisations and businesses who contributed to this month's issue of the Bridreport

