

# BRIDREPORT

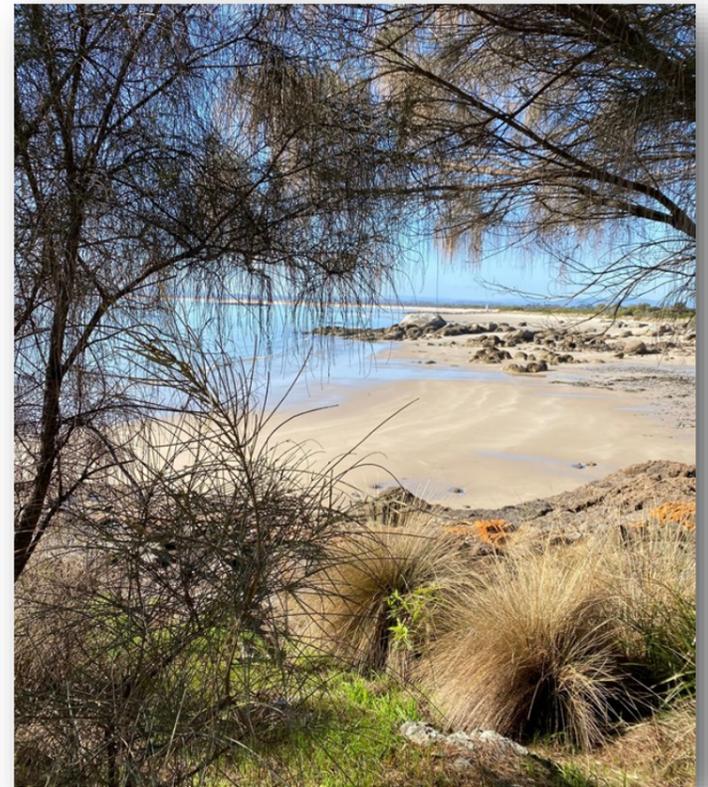
## Bridport Innovations

This local monthly news sheet, the BridReport, is brought to you by the community group, Bridport Innovations. Edited by Alison Reader, it relies on community groups and individuals to contribute articles and on local businesses to buy advertising space, which in turn alerts readers to what goods and services are available locally.

Bridport Innovations will be holding their AGM on Sunday February 15, from 3 pm in the Alexander Room at the Bunker, followed by a general meeting and concluding with some social time at about 5 pm. Broadly, the role of the group is to sustainably enhance the lifestyle as well as the physical and environmental attributes of our community for the betterment of residents and visitors alike' through:

- supporting and staging local activities and events such as the Tassie Scallop Fiesta;
- providing a representative and equitable forum for the discussion of issues of importance to the Bridport community such as Meet the Candidates before local Council elections;
- working cooperatively with government, industry and the general community to achieve beneficial and balanced economic, social and environmental outcomes for the Bridport community such as negotiating with Tas Water to improve the quality and quantity of the town water and with MAST to improve the state of the Channel.

Mayor Rhys Beattie has been invited to attend the meeting so that he can be familiarized with the role that Bridport Innovations plays in our region and we extend that invitation to other community members who feel they would like to learn more about the group and perhaps by joining can contribute ideas which might add to what is already a wonderful place to live.



This report is proudly sponsored by

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Scan QR Code for our next workshop

## Bridport Village Market

*"Where Community comes together"*

## 2026 SUMMER MARKETS

**Saturday, 7th February 2026**  
**Saturday, 7th March Long Weekend**  
**9:30am - 1:00pm**

**Bridport Community Hall**

*Goods proudly Crafted, Baked & Grown here in Tassie !!*  
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*Plants, Bric a Brac & much more ...*



Welcome!!

To book a stall or site call Viv: 0457 622 221

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Facebook: [Bridport Village Market](https://www.facebook.com/BridportVillageMarket)

*Proudly bought to you by CWA Bridport members and friends*



### Lions Club of Bridport Inc.

#### Christmas Carols By The Sea 2025

We enjoyed a great celebration of our Christmas Carols on December 21<sup>st</sup> 2025. Unfortunately the weather failed us; we were forced to hold the event in the Bridport Community Hall for which we were extremely grateful as it poured by the end of the evening.

All our planning transferred into the hall with our Lions setting it up beautifully. Our musicians and singing group managed to change to the inside format without difficulty. We enjoyed wonderful performances by members, our musicians and singing group. Many families enjoyed the chance to sing and dance to our music.

The local Dorset Line Dancers opened for us this year and created some fun dances to watch. We were held together by our two MCs Kathy Dolega and Lion Phil Crowden from Riverside. Our soloists and group items included memorable performances by Sandessa Foster, BJ Knott, Matt Slager, Louisa & Imogen Smythe, Bridport Girl Guides and the Bridport Primary School Choir led by Hayley Catlin. A special touch was heard from Ella Bayles who amazed us all with her rendition of "All I want for Christmas is you".

We were certainly challenged by the weather difficulties; even Santa had to find a different spot to arrive with his early visit to Bridport! Thanks to the Fire Service and Lions members who assisted to make the event go so well.

Jan Foster, President Lions Club of Bridport



**SCOTTSDALE TRACTOR PULL CHALLENGE**  
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**31<sup>st</sup> Jan - 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2026 - 9:30am Gates Open | 11:00am Start**  
**Bring your tractor along! New members welcome!**  
**Enquiries please phone 0409 965 712**



### Adams Beach by Mike Douglas

Adams Beach, broad and more than a kilometre in length, is part of the Granite Point Conservation Area.

The name commemorates Ted Adams, an early grazier at Umtali, the property behind the beach.

Extensive dune erosion, more concentrated at the south eastern end and due to several factors including sea level rise has caused a problem with access, especially for those who are not so nimble.

Over the past 16 years Parks and Wildlife have tried several measures such as trenching, wooden steps, a sand ladder and now sandbags — but the forces of nature are not to be denied.

The steps were demolished by a storm surge with pieces found washing up 500 metres away. The photo shows

the rather tricky sand ladder installed 12 years ago. Since then the dune face has retreated a long way inland.

Is there a longer term solution? Farther along the beach the dune scarp is lower and the rate of recession seems less. About 150 metres past the present egress there is a recess, but whether it is worth the effort to extend the track that far is a moot point.

Most likely, the many walkers who use the beach will just have to accept that a bit of clambering is part of the act.



### U3A Bridport Seniors Social Group

All seniors welcome  
Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm  
Bridport Hall



Feb 4	10 am	Meet	Feb 18	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Dee is back Chair exercises		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11	Bingo		11.00	Your choice
	12.30	Lunch at Bay Inn followed by cards, etc.		12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games
Feb 11	10 am	Meet	Feb 25	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee			No exercises today
	11-12.30	Simulate the brain			Possible bus to Launceston and a movie
	12.30	Lunch followed by card/board games			

### Country Women's Association Bridport

Just before Christmas, members of the CWA, Bridport Branch, visited the Bridport Volunteer Fire Brigade to present them with their Christmas presents. Santa also made a special appearance. We sponsored the purchase of twelve wellbeing packs, for items such as included facemasks, respirators, specialist dietary food packs, medication, sanitary products, body wipes, and earplugs. These sturdy packs will hopefully make life a little more comfortable during fire season, and there is plenty of room for our brave firefighters to add their own things.

A big thank you from us to them for the sacrifices they make to keep our community safe.

Photo: L to R - Viv Sarich, Leesa Greenacre, Santa, Matthew Hartley, Steve Wright, Maggie Whitmore, Raewyn Black and Buster the dog.



## Lions Club of Bridport



### Show and Shine Car/Bik Event - 11 January 2026

Lions Club of Bridport held their annual Show and Shine Car/Bike Event on Sunday 11 January on the Bridport Village Green. We were fortunate to have perfect weather and were rewarded with record car, motorcycle entries and spectators.

Our 2 major sponsors were FC Management (Matthew and Shannon Bayles) who donated \$500.00 first prize for People's Choice Car and \$500.00 first prize for People's Choice Motor Bike. The winners were:

- Phil Jamieson - 1948 Morris Commercial LC 3 – lovingly restored/rebuilt over the last 4 ½ years.
- Geoff Anderson - 1934 BSA G34-14 Side Valve V-Twin – Geoff has spent the last 15 years rebuilding his bike.

Our second major sponsor was Shannon's Insurance who provided trophies and show bags for Shannon's Choice – winners were:

- Gary Izard – EH Holden – immaculate vehicle restored and in pristine condition.
- Peter Bender – Vincent Motor Bike. The Vincent Owners Motorbike Club travelled from Hobart to support our Show and Shine Car/Bike Show.

Our Lions Club Members were kept very busy providing delicious hamburgers and sausages for the hungry patrons. We also had Olivia - Bloom Coffee Van, Spoke Motor Bike Festival Group, Tracey and Sam Face Painting, North East Line Dancers and Chris Dart Model Cars – a great variety of entertainment!

The Loft Motor Bike Museum was open for organized tours – huge thanks to Matthew and Shannon Bayles and Mike Commane for managing the tours – over 200 patrons enjoyed browsing at the incredible collection of Motor Bikes and collectables and donated \$340.00 to Bridport Lions Club.

Lions Club of Bridport wishes to thank Unique Car Detailing, Becks Mitre 10, Scottsdale; IJ Motors, Bridport; Nutrien AG, Scottsdale; Shiploads, Launceston; Spoke Motor Bike Festival Swansea and Suzuki, Scottsdale for their generous support of our Show and Shine Car/Bike Event Raffle.

1st Prize: Gorilla Collapsible Cart with up to \$500 worth of product including 4Lt Oil, Car Fresheners, 5Lt Fuel container, 5Lt Truck Wash, Bars Bugs, Tyre Black, Armor All, tie downs, cooler back-pack, wireless speaker and amp; radio, Unique Car Detailing \$50 voucher, plus more.

2nd Prize: Spoke Motor Bike Festival, Swansea – 3 day admission ticket valued at \$150.

3rd Prize: Spoke Motor Bike Festival, Swansea – 3 day admission ticket valued at \$150.

Winners of the Lions Club Show and Shine Car/Bike Event Raffle were:

1st Prize: Don and Karen Rainbow

2nd Prize: Sarah Brown

3rd Prize: Barry Pinnington

Huge thank you to our local North East Community and visitors to Bridport.

All funds raised will be donated directly back into our local NE Community.

Leonie Johnston

Secretary

Lions Club of Bridport

Mobile 0438 281 352



### Tasmania Parks & Wildlife Service

Beautiful weather, beach days and birdlife - Summer is well and truly in full swing!

If you're heading to the coast this long weekend, remember that many shorebirds are nesting right now.

With busy beaches and active breeding season, it's more important than ever to tread carefully.

Here's how you can help protect shorebirds and their habitat:

Walk only on wet sand below the high tide mark:

- Keep your distance from nesting birds.
- Keep dogs on a lead and away from nesting areas.
- Avoid driving on nesting beaches.
- Leave seaweed and beach materials untouched.
- Dispose of waste responsibly.

Learn more about shorebirds: <https://parks.tas.gov.au/discovery-and-learning/wildlife/seabirds-and-shorebirds>

 Red-necked Stint nesting on a Tasmanian coastline.  
by Eric J Wohler





## Dorset Children's Expo

Support your child to grow and thrive in 2026!



**Free Event for families and children 0-5 years**

- Face painting
- Arts and Crafts
- Story telling with Paint Dorset REaD
- Playgroup Tasmania
- much more...

10am - 1pm  
**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026**

Scottsdale Indoor Active centre  
 Arthur St Scottsdale

buildingblocks@fvnh.org.au    0400 002 116



## SCOTTSDALE SPLASH!

Sunday 22nd February 8.40am warm up for a 9am start.  
 Where: Scottsdale Aquatic Centre, Copelstone St, Scottsdale



Come along and compete in a friendly relaxed environment. This event is the perfect opportunity to practice for starts, turns and finishes.

Program of Events:  
 Event 1 25 m Form strokes only- Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly  
 Event 2 50 m Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke or Butterfly  
 Event 3 100 m Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly or IM  
 Event 4 200 m Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly or IM  
 Event 5 25 m Freestyle only

Nominate your time and see if you can go faster!  
 \$5 per person to enter on the day and are eligible for all events.  
 Prizes and Sausage Sizzle




### A Pavilion visitor

We regularly have overseas visitors call in to the Pavilion for local information. An interesting recent visitor was John (pictured). An English retired stock broker who these days resides in Germany. John has family in Victoria and visits Australia each summer.

This year he's here for six weeks and decided to spend three weeks in Tassie touring on his well-used pushbike.

He was pausing in Bridport for a spell, a swim and some information about his next destination. An intrepid traveller very much enjoying his visit here.



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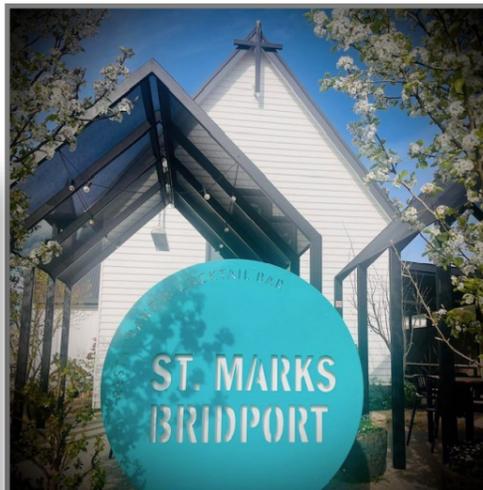
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## Field Naturalists Report by Lou Brooker

### Lulworth to Weymouth

There's an interesting coastal track that takes the walker along sandy beaches, over rocky platforms, up on foredunes and through coastal forest. It has been maintained by locals and begins at the eastern end of the beach at Lulworth, traverses the Fanny Bay Conservation Area and ends at Weymouth. It can cover 10 kilometres, but there are a couple of opportunities to make it shorter.

The North East Field Nats. who, after having a couple of their outings cancelled because of foul weather, enjoyed walking this track as the last outing for 2025.

There were interesting geological features to be seen. The dark rock along the coastal strip being basalt, an igneous rock formed from lava that welled up and flowed over the older Mathinna Group Sediments about 300 million years ago. There was hexagonal columnar jointing, caused by contractions within the cooling lava. Much of the seaside basalt has a lumpy appearance due to erosion within the joints caused by pressure from salt crystals formed within evaporating sea swash.

There was evidence of other erosion, just as there is at Bridport, where some beaches that are usually sandy have been denuded of sand in the seasonal storms. There is evidence of cliffs falling into the sea with rising sea levels.

The group enjoyed the different geological features. It will restart its program of monthly outings in February 2026. Outings that were cancelled in 2025 have been rescheduled for 2026.



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### Boom Year from Bridport visitors



2025 was a boom year for Bridport’s tourist information centre, The Pavilion, with total visitors numbering 5050, compared to 4785 in 2024.

Of the 5000 plus total, 316 were from overseas, the remainder from interstate or Tasmania.

The most popular times of the year were February and March, with 738 visitors each month.

The quietest time, naturally enough, was June with only 158 visitors.



Overseas tourists came from Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Norway, New Zealand, South Africa, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK and the USA.

The largest overseas numbers came from the UK (84), New Zealand (37) and France (27).

Thanks to Doug Edmonds for collating these statistics.

### Dogs exercise areas

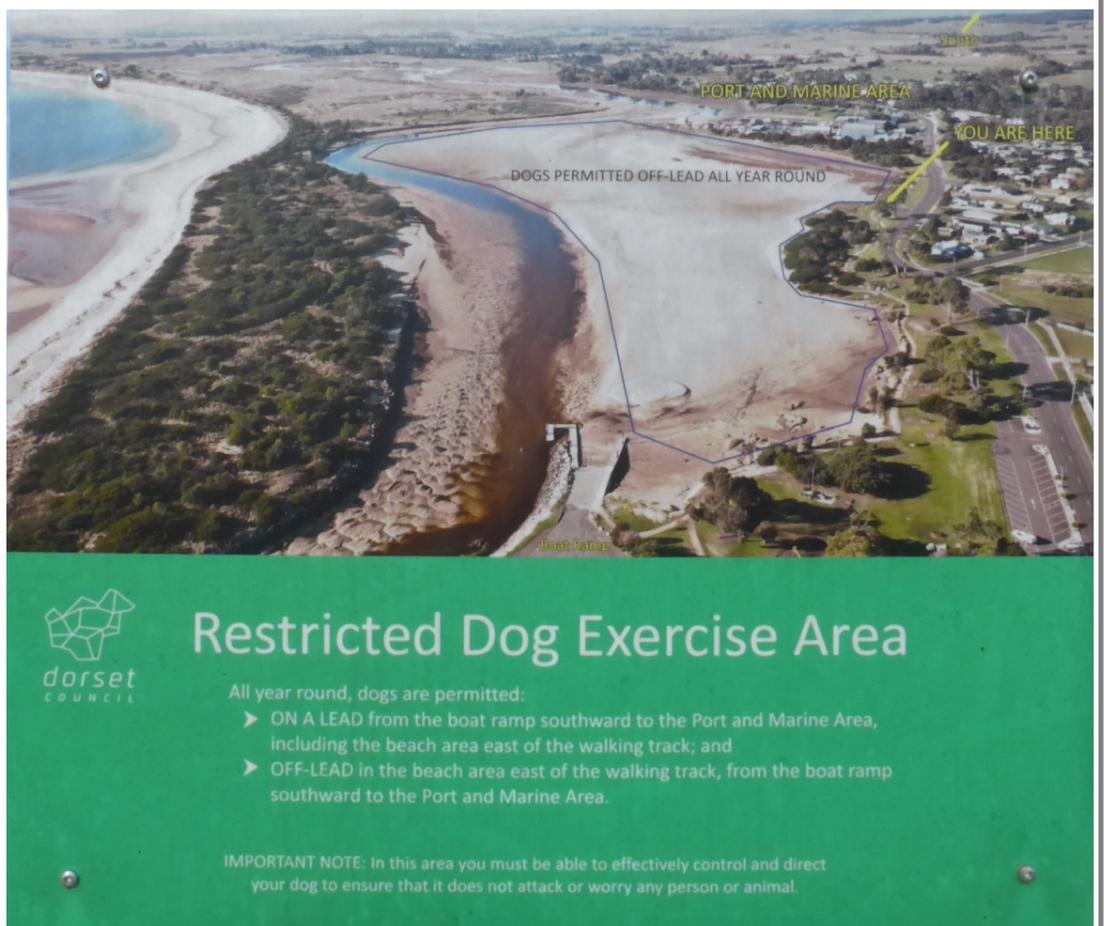
Dogs are becoming more and more a part of many families, and Bridport has two great places where they can play **off lead** all year round.

The first is the Trent Water which, when the tide is in, is a magical place for families who appreciate the quiet waters for kids to learn confidence in the water, play on kayaks and practice swimming skills. In this **same space**, when the tide is out, there is 8 hectares of open space for dogs to run off-lead.

The second area is Adams Beach. This is accessible from the end of Bentley Street. Once in the car park there, dog owners need to follow the sign indicating access.

This sign contains the latest information as to how storms have effected the track onto the beach. Parks and Wildlife staff are always on the ball providing solutions to the erosion problems here. At the moment, there are sand bags being used to step down.

There is a lot more information on the Dorset Council Website, where topics like restricted and prohibited areas, supermarkets, playgrounds, shops and food parks are covered. <https://www.dorset.tas.gov.au/> Later on this year, the Council intends reviewing its Dog Policy, it will invite stakeholder engagement, so watch the Council website if you have a strong opinion about the policy. Council intends having the Policy reviewed and in place for summer 2026/27.



The publishers acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Bridport and North-East Tasmania, the leenerreter 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](mailto: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

