

BRIDREPORT

Meet the Candidates Forum



From Monday October 5, election packs for the Local Council election will be delivered by post to households in the Dorset community. Eligible voters will have until 2 pm on Tuesday October 27 to complete their voting forms and return them to the Dorset Council Chambers, either by post or by hand.

There are eleven candidates vying for the seven seats. Voting is compulsory.

The candidates are as follows:

- **Mayor and councillor:** Rhys Beattie, currently in that role; Adam Hall
- **Deputy mayor and councillor:** Jan Hughes, Merv Chilcott, Kahlia Simmons, Anthony Richards, Vincent Teichmann – current councillors.
- Scott Auton, Beth Donaghue, Leonie Stein – new candidates.
- **Councillor:** Grant Lethborg

Community group Bridport Innovations Inc. will host a Meet the Candidates Forum on Sunday October 4, from 2 pm in the Bridport Football and Community Rooms as a means of enabling prospective councillors to connect with voters and put their case for being elected.

Candidates will be allocated a strict three minutes to put forward their policies and visions. Questions from the floor will be taken at the conclusion of the speeches.

All members of the Dorset Municipality are invited to attend.

Jill van den Bosch

President

Bridport Innovations Inc.

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BRIDPORT | TASMANIA

Bridport Village Market
Brought to you by CWA Bridport, supporting the community since 1938.

Spring Markets!!
Bridport Community Hall
Saturday, 3rd October, 2026
9:30am - 1:00pm

*Homemade Goods proudly Crafted, Baked & Grown here in Tassie !!
BBQ, and a little Bric a Brac for spice...*

CAR BOOT & OUTSIDE STALLS WELCOME
October 2026 to Easter 2027
on the Village Green

*Come along!
40 fabulous
Stalls and
counting!*

Next market - Long Weekend, Saturday 31st October, 2026

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

Join CWA, have fun & become a member, or friend of the Bridport Branch!

U3A Bridport Seniors Social Group



All seniors welcome
Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm
Bridport Hall

7 Oct	10 am	Meet	28 Oct	10 am	Meet
	10.30	Chair exercises with Dee		10.30	Chair exercises with Dee
	11.00	Bingo		11.00	Guest speaker -
	12.30 pm	Lunch at On The Go, Scottsdale		12.30 pm	Willy Richards, retired journalist Lunch followed by cards

Dee is enjoying a break on 14 and 21 October.

There will be no exercises.

We will meet at 10.30 am to
enjoy fellowship and activities.

Spring Has Sprung – And So Has Hay Fever!



Spring has finally arrived in Bridport, bringing longer days, warmer weather, colourful gardens... and, unfortunately for many of us, hay fever!

Hay fever (allergic rhinitis) occurs when the immune system overreacts to allergens such as grass, tree and weed pollen. Common symptoms include sneezing, a runny or blocked nose, itchy or watery eyes, an itchy throat and sometimes coughing. For some people, symptoms can make getting through the day — or getting a good night's sleep — surprisingly difficult.

The good news is there are plenty of ways to manage hay fever. Antihistamines are a popular first-line treatment and can help relieve sneezing, itching and a runny nose. Modern, non-drowsy antihistamines are available, although some people may still experience a little sleepiness.

For a blocked or particularly troublesome nose, steroid nasal sprays can be very most effective when used regularly during the allergy season, rather than only when symptoms become severe. Correct technique is important, so ask your pharmacist to show you how to use one properly.

If itchy, watery eyes are your main problem, antihistamine eye drops can provide targeted relief.

There are also some simple things you can do to reduce your exposure to pollen. Check pollen forecasts where available, keep windows closed when pollen levels are high, shower and change clothes after spending time outdoors, and avoid drying washing outside on particularly high-pollen days.

If hay fever is interfering with your sleep, work or enjoyment of spring, pop into Bridport Pharmacy and have a chat with our team. We can help you choose the most appropriate treatment for your symptoms and make sure you know how to use it effectively.

Spring should be about enjoying the sunshine — not spending it sneezing!



Bridport Coastcare Inc.

Annual General Meeting

The Bridport Coastcare annual general meeting will be held on Sunday the 25th of October 2026 at
176 Westwood Street, Bridport at 1:30pm.

New members are always welcome.

John Davey, President
Bridport Coastcare
0419 306 285



Beach Walking by Mike Douglas

One of the popular short walks is the traverse of Adams Beach, distance about 2-5 kilometres return.

After surmounting the minor hiccup of descending the eroded dune scarp you might be striding along on hard sand at low tide, slogging in softer sand later on, or just wandering slowly to the northern extremity bounded by the Little Forester River.

This is a designated dog beach, evoking a rapturous response from our canine friends.

In summer and autumn when there is a reduced flow, you can easily ford the river near the mouth at low tide to gain the Lades Beach spit - but don't take your dog since this is an important nesting area for shorebirds including the threatened hooded plover.

Out on the margin of the tidal flats of Lades Beach you are likely to see crested terns, a bird often reported as a victim of the H5N1 virus. You might also spot a fairy tern - after all, one good tern deserves another.



High Fliers on Adams Beach

New Group Formed

A new group has been registered with Parks and Wildlife aiming to care for the natural elements of our coastline: our beaches, wetlands, and reserves. Called the 'Friends of Bridport', the group will hold working bees to remove weeds such as boneseed and sea spurge from the shore. Revegetation work on the foreshore may also be on the agenda.

The group will complement the wonderful work done by other community groups such as Girl Guides and the Surf Life Saving Club who keep our beaches clear of rubbish.

The working bees will be advertised locally to encourage interest from the wider community. It will be a fairly casual group, though people joining will need to register names, phone numbers and email addresses with Parks. If there is anyone reading this column who genuinely cares for the environment or who is looking to make friends with others who are likewise, and would like to join the F.o.B. group, please contact me - we have thirteen members already. I can help you navigate the 'green tape'. We want people with a big dose of enthusiasm and ways of making the jobs fun.

Of course, safety has been considered and the leaders have been briefed by Parks Rangers. Safety vests and eye protection will be available. Members could bring their own hand tools such as pruning saws and secateurs, but a small number also will be provided.

The group will have a mission similar to that of Bridport Coast Care and it has a friendly liaison with the North East Field Naturalists Land Care group whose members monitor the eradication of Rice Grass in the Trent Water.

A small group began work recently digging out a weed near Elephant Rock at the end of Gofton's Beach. Polygala, a native of South Africa, looked harmless enough with its pretty purple flowers, but in the three years since it was noticed, it had spread rapidly enough to become an environmental weed, prohibiting the growth of the white correa which is a Tasmanian native. The group liaises with Dorset Council and the picture shows the pile Council removed after the job was done.

Lou Brooker
0417 149 244



Polygala removed - August 2026

Possible changes to Northern Tasmanian Football Association structure?

The NTFA through President Peter Gutwein, issued a statement a month ago about changes to the current structure, believing that there are not enough players for the 22 teams across three Divisions.

The changes might be Clubs that could go or be asked to merge with other Clubs to boost numbers to avoid Clubs' players doubling up which has happened this year on a regular basis, from Premier league to Div 2.

At this stage the Bridport FC, who won the Div 2 Premiership this year, do not know which Division they will be in. There have been rumours indicating that the league could go to 2 Divisions but it's speculation until the NTFA let Clubs know of any impending changes.

The Statement from the NTFA has caused concern for Division 1 and 2 Clubs. The unknown has caused delay in recruitment of players and sponsors. The community is also concerned. The BFC has contacted Mr Gutwein but he has not indicated the possible changes as yet. This is frustrating and we can only hope that we find out very soon so we can move on to 2027.

Steve Mckillop



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By collecting and donating phones, fundraising, or donating funds, you'll ensure we can continue changing lives.

Join us in our mission to break the cycle of violence and create a future where everyone is safe and valued.

dvsafephone.org



Bridport Lions Club turning old phones into lifelines



The Lions Club is joining DV Safe Phone to collect old mobile phones and help people affected by domestic and family violence stay connected and safe. Bridport Lions is the first Lions club in Tasmania to take part in the initiative.

Community members are encouraged to donate unused phones, which can be securely wiped, tested and passed on as Safe Phones to victim-survivors across Australia. A safe phone can help someone experiencing violence stay connected to emergency help, family, housing, support services and a fresh start.

Every donated phone can make a practical difference. Old phones sitting in drawers can become lifelines for people in crisis. Please sign out and reset your phone before donating if you can. DV Safe Phone also checks devices to ensure data has been erased. Phones that cannot be reused are responsibly recycled, helping reduce electronic waste.

To support the local collection, please donate old phones of any age or condition into the DV safe Phone collection box at the Bridport Pharmacy. A huge thank you to Boris and the Bridport Pharmacy for being the Bridport community drop-off point.

For more information regarding this initiative visit - www.dvsafephone.org

Bridport Lions Club



20th Charity Golf Day A Huge Success

The Bridport Lions Club has celebrated the 20th Barnboughe Charity Golf Day with a strong turnout, fine weather and outstanding community support at Barnboughe.

The milestone event brought together 25 teams, 30 generous sponsors, Barnboughe staff, Lions Club volunteers and supporters, all contributing to what organisers described as a highly successful day.

Sponsors played a key role, with 30 businesses and individuals recognised throughout the day and in social media promotions in the lead-up to the event.

This year also saw the introduction of welcome bags for participants, featuring items from the Bridport Lions Club and a booklet of 10 per cent discount vouchers for Bridport businesses, encouraging participants to explore the wider Bridport area during their stay. The Barnboughe Golf Pro Shop also offered players a discount on the day.

Organisers would like to thank all players, Barnboughe staff, Bridport Lions Club volunteers and friends of the club for their ongoing support in making the Barnboughe Charity Golf Day 20th anniversary a resounding success.



Part Two - 20th Century Significant Bridport pastoralists

Unfortunately, due to space limitations in the October edition, we were unable to publish the article which follows on from September's article - 19th Century Pastoralists of the Bridport District from the Dorset Tasmania History Society.

Apologies for any inconvenience and we aim to publish Part Two in the November edition.



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TUESDAY OCTOBER 6TH
11AM - 2PM

Learn To Skate Workshop
Hosted by Drop in Skate School (BYO Helmet)

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FREE ENTRY **RAFFLE DRAWN ON THE DAY**

PlantFest!

The Grounds of St Paul's Springfield
35727 Tasman Highway Springfield 7260
Saturday 17th October 2026
Gates Open 9:30am
11:00am OFFICIAL OPENING
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Barnyard Buddha Boy
Wooden Toys 'n' Things
Maz's Farm Gate
Deanna Scott Crafts
Face Painting by Sam and Tracey
Matt Slager's Music

DORSET TAS. HISTORY SOCIETY
Family History

FREE OFF STREET PARKING For Event details contact: **0429 425 030**

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Vale Aunty Patsy Cameron

Last week, our community and communities at large lost a very special person with the passing of Aunty Patsy Cameron OAM. We mark her passing with sadness, but also acknowledge her lasting legacy in her work advocating for Aboriginal people, particularly for educational opportunities; sharing Aboriginal culture, history, heritage and stories with the whole community to encourage a stronger bond and understanding between all Tasmanians. In recent years her beautiful picture books have been a wonderful introduction for children to our shared natural world.

For Bridport Innovations, Aunty Patsy was an invaluable source of inspiration, willing to share her time and knowledge, whether it was working with the River Forest Track construction team explaining sites of significance along the way; performing and explaining the smoking ceremony; giving a Welcome to Country; providing a map of the North Eastern Nations for the visitor information boards; suggesting ways in which Aboriginal history might be recognised in Bridport.

Aunty Patsy will be missed but remembered for her warmth, wisdom and passionate wish to share her people's culture and heritage.



Aunty Patsy engaging in a cultural ochre practice



CELEBRATE AGEING

SENIORS MONTH OCT 2026

Event host:
Bridport Croquet Club

Event title:
Free Morning Tea & Croquet

Event time and date:
Tuesday 6th October 2026 10am–12pm

Event location:
Bridport Golf Club

Other event details:
Croquet is an easy, inexpensive social game, suitable for all ages. This event is free. Please call Judy Northeast on 0407 779 076, or email: judithnortheast@gmail.com to book your spot before 29th September 2026.





Celebrating a respectful, age-friendly island



CELEBRATE AGEING

SENIORS MONTH OCT 2026

Event host:
Bridport Surf Life Saving Club - Silver Salties Group

Event title:
Salty and Silver: A Morning At the Beach

Event time and date:
Saturday 10th October 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 midday

Event location:
Bridport Surf Life Saving Club - Goftons Beach Bridport

Other event details:
Meet at our Bridport Surf Life Saving Club Rooms to enjoy beach accessibility for seniors, safe swimming practices, beach exercises, basic first aid, i.e. defibrillator demonstration and morning tea.
Come share the sand, the smiles and the community spirit - a Silver Salties beach morning for everyone to enjoy.
Meet new friends, enjoy the beach and be part of a vibrant Bridport morning by the water. Silver Salties is an activity that runs through the summer months at Bridport - we warmly welcome new members. Come along and discover all the fun things you can do as part of our Silver Salties Group.
Enquiries- Leonie Johnston - 0438 281352





Celebrating a respectful, age-friendly island

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

Brought to you by

BRIDPORT
innovations

If you have an upcoming 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

