

**Weymouth Progress
Association Inc.
Autumn 2023
Number 2**



Welcome to the second edition of the WPA Fast News for 2023. This will update you on the progress of current WPA initiatives.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on Saturday, March 11 at the Weymouth Hall. There were 72 people in attendance which is an outstanding turnout.

We are delighted to advise of the following Committee and Executive positions, all elected unopposed:

Executive

President: Craig Tyeson

Vice President: Stan van Emmerik

Secretary: Leanne Purchase

Treasurer: Gary Byard

Committee:

Mark Johnson, Sally Sauer, Kylie Clare, Maureen Berry, Peter Jacobson, Brian Roe, Brett Glanville, Brianna Sheppard, Nicola Cox, Jo Widdowson, Julie Dingjan, Kerry Kelb.

Welcome to new Committee members, Nicola, Jo, Julie and Kerry.

Thank you to retiring Committee members Luke Miller, Graeme Bowkett, Eve Hayden and Stephen Crooks.

About Your Committee Members

We will be positing brief Bios for our Committee members here so that you can get to know a bit more about each of our Committee members.

Jo Widdowson:

I am currently working as an administrative officer but have background in banking and hospitality. I am the President of the Friends of Deal Island Wildcare Inc and served on the board of Sacred Heart Catholic school for 6 years.

I have a great love of Weymouth. We were married on the front beach, have been a shack owner for 15yrs and my husband's family for well over 35 yrs.

I believe Weymouth is a special place that we are custodians of with a duty to protect its special values.

Gary Byard:

Treasurer.

Retired from a busy working life.

Very strong Defence and Security focus and interest.

Permanent resident, married to Lindal (Lu).

Active in Golf Administration.

Registered Justice of the Peace and Bench Justice.

Main hobby – N Scale model railroading.

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Kerry Kelb:

Hi, my name is Kerry Kelb. I'm a 50-year-old retired veteran, and I reside as a permanent resident here in Weymouth. Nicole and I were married here only last year. Everybody was so friendly and understanding of us during our wedding day. I started to think about being involved in the community after the WPA's inaugural ANZAC Day commemorative service where I was asked to MC the event. It was here where I really felt the community spirit of this tiny little town. I thank you all for this opportunity.

We will present further Bios in coming editions of Fast News.

Easter Market

Planning is well underway for our Easter Market. To date, we have received requests from 33 stall holders and have received some sensational donations for the Chocolate Wheel, Raffles and Auction.

We still need more volunteers to help us with the BBQ, Produce and Garden Stall, and raffle sales. If you can help, please let us know by email.

ANZAC Day Service

Don't forget our now annual ANZAC Day service which will be held on Tuesday, April 25 at the Weymouth Hall commencing at 10:45 am. This year's commemorative address will be presented by senior student leaders from Port Dalrymple School. The prayers will be delivered by representatives from Hilltop Church. The service will include the unveiling of our new commemorative shield and will be followed by a light morning tea.

Christmas in July: Ticket Sales

Due to quite some interest for advance ticket sales, Ticket Sales are now available for our Christmas in July on Saturday, July 8. The cost per ticket will be \$49.99 plus booking fee and are available online only at

<https://launcestontickets.com.au/event/17880>.

There will be no door sales. The numbers for this event are capped at 80 so get in quickly for you tickets as we are sure they will go fast.

Maintenance Sub Committee

Just a reminder that anyone who wishes to contribute to working bees in and around Weymouth should register with NRE at:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/about-the-department/volunteering/volunteer-registrations>

Volunteer registration with NRE allows you to link your registration to the Weymouth Progress Association.



George Town Council Roadshow

This week Greg Kieser and Shane Power, accompanied by Councillors Dawson, Harris Barwick and Mason, and GTC staff, presented their annual Roadshow which highlighted a range of Council initiatives and priorities.

The following is a summary of their presentation.

- ***Flood Mitigation and Recovery.***
During the last rain event, a number of bridges and 23 roads were impacted. Council has been working to repair the damage. Permanent bridges that need to be replaced will be replaced with more flood resistant structures.
- ***Trevor Street Extension and Breakwater repairs.***
Plant will be mobilized this coming Monday to commence works on the access road to the Trevor Street boat ramp. Works will take approximately 3 months. Repairs to the breakwater will commence in about 6 weeks, after which the Trevor Street extension will be completed to provide improved access for boat trailers.
- ***Dalrymple Road Upgrade.***
Improvements to Dalrymple Road including the Dalrymple Road, Industry Road intersection, the Bangor Road section of Dalrymple Road and The Glen will go to tender soon.
- ***Weymouth Recreation Area.***
There has been no further action from the private developer.
- ***Village Character Plans.***
This project will investigate the “look and feel” of villages based on feedback from residents. This may include improved signage, vegetation and recreation areas. Conversations with local community members will commence in 2024.
- ***Artisan Guild.***
A grant of \$380k from the Government will provide a retail and work space for local artisans. This funding will be for three years after which it is hoped that the Guild will be self-funded. A retail space has been secured in Macquarie Street.
- ***Get Out Into the Wild.***
A Grant from Austrade of \$400k will allow the Council to promote existing activities within the Municipality such as scuba diving, rock climbing, sky diving.
- ***Colonial and Heritage Trail.***
This initiative will combine interpretation boards with storytelling. QR Codes will enable visitors to link to heritage sites where they will be able to see

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digital imagery of the site and read historical transcripts. This will also include public artworks. There has been a \$300k commitment by the private sector for seed funding which will be matched by the GTC and supplemented by State and Federal funding. The program will include the kanamaluka trail which will provide a First Nations perspective on the history of George Town. This program also includes a Commitment to Reconciliation. Acknowledgment of Country will be included on Council assets and dual flags will be flown on Council flagpoles. A part time Aboriginal Liaison Officer has been appointed.

- ***G is for Gastronomy.***

Launceston has been recognised by UNESCO as a City of Gastronomy. There will be follow on benefits for the George Town community and north east of Tasmania.

- ***Our Futures.***

The Tasmanian Community Fund has provided funding of \$500k to establish a Youth Advisory Group. This will consist of 10-15 12-25 year olds under the guidance of Community Youth Development Officer, Andy Beeston.

- ***Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre.***

This will be funded by a Federal election commitment of \$15m with a further \$2.5m from the state Government. The GTC will contribute \$2.5m-3.5m to this project which will be linked to improved opportunities for residents of the George Gown Municipality to engage with the NDIS programs and therapies such as hydro therapy and aqua aerobics. The Centre will provide Learn to Swim courses, Child Care and a café. Annual operating costs are estimated to be \$600k.

Attendees at the Roadshow raised a number of questions including:

- Historical context relating to the Colonial and Heritage Trail
- Disability access to the main beach.
- Access the Nearby Safer Place.
- Rate rebates for Commonwealth Health Care Card Holders.
- Roadside verges and overhanging trees.

The General Manager and Mayor provided responses and undertook to follow up any unanswered questions.

The GTC presentation was the followed by a presentation by Kirsten Seaver from Tamar NRM, which addressed the five focus areas of:

- Sustainable agriculture
- Environmental education

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- Biodiversity
 - Weed management
 - Sustainable living.

A new App has been developed to target Boneseed, Ragwort and Sea Spurge. The App will allow residents to identify weeds and report on weed density to Tamar NRM. The App will be released in April.

Kirsten also talked about feral cat management and fuel reduction burns.

Dates to Remember:

- Weymouth Easter Market: Saturday April 8, 2023 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- ANZAC Day Service: Tuesday, April 25 commencing at 10:45 am
- General Meeting and Winter Solstice Lantern Walk: Saturday, June 10.
- Christmas in July: Saturday, July 8, 2023 commencing at 6:00 pm
- General Meeting and Anniversary Event: Saturday, November 4, 2023

If anyone has news, information, or pictures they would like to share with Weymouth residents, please forward them to:

weymouth.progress.association@gmail.com

We can then either post them to Facebook or include them in the next Fast News Update.

Please do not hesitate to contact a Committee member if you have any issues you believe we should address.