



**Dolphin Sands Community Association**

**Annual General Meeting**

**10am Saturday, February 7, 2026, Swansea Courthouse**

**Agenda**

*Acknowledgement of Country*

1. Minutes of previous meetings

Motion: That the minutes of the previous AGM (April 2025) are accepted as a true and accurate record.

2. Business arising

**Reports** (see attached)

3. President's report

4. Secretary's report

5. Treasurer's report

Motion: That the information reports are accepted.

**Election of committee members**

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee members



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**General Meeting**

**Saturday, February 7, 2026, Swansea Courthouse**

**Agenda**

**Motions**

1. Minutes of previous meetings

Motion: That the minutes of the previous general meeting (April 2025) are accepted as a true and accurate record.

2. Motion: That donations for bushfire recovery are spent on plants and/or materials for landscape rehabilitation, following advice from Playstreet Landscape Architects.

**Any other business**

- Guest speaker – Senior Constable Matt Massie
- Tasmania Fire Service update
- Tas Recovery/ Pitt & Sherry update
- Glamorgan Spring Bay Council update

# **Dolphin Sands Community Association Inc**

## **President's Report 2026**

Hi Dolphineers

Well, it has been another 'interesting' year for the Dolphin Sands Community. On the one hand, we again faced a disaster situation in the shape of a catastrophic fire. On the other side, we have been privileged to see the community rally around to support each other and get through difficult times.

I would firstly pass on the Committee's thoughts to those who lost property and suffered personal trauma and stress in the recent fires. The event was massively challenging to everyone as once again we saw part of the community we love destroyed. For many, the experience transitioned a place of happiness and rest to one of anxiety and lost memories.

Even out of this unfortunate shared experience, I would encourage everyone to be grateful for a number of things. First and foremost is that we did not have loss of life or major injury. Secondly, we once again had the support of our emergency services, service crews, businesses and volunteers. Many organisations and groups have contributed hours of work and substantial amounts of money to help the community. Thirdly, on the ground, individuals have been helping each other out in providing resources, effort and mental and moral support to their neighbours. It is unfortunate that sometimes it takes a disaster to bring out the best in us.

Thank you to everyone who has made donations towards bushfire recovery. I would especially note the extraordinary effort of Reef Murfet in running 100km to fundraise a substantial amount for the community. Also a special thanks to the Lake Leake Hotel who have offered to undertake a fundraising activity. The use of donated funds will be put to the community for input.

With the repeated fire events of recent years, as a community, we now must be very proactive to minimise the risk and effects of future fires. We cannot go back to where we were prior to this event. To this end, the DSCA has developed a proposal for actions to minimise future damage. These proposed actions involve residents / landowners, council and government agencies working collaboratively to a common purpose. I would ask that community members review this proposal and provide constructive feedback as to its value. The DSCA committee has already commenced conversations with significant stakeholders in order to keep the issue of mitigation alive. Many will have seen our Secretary Robyn Moore's article in the Hobart Mercury

about the necessity of collaboration and mutual responsibility to achieve a positive end. The Committee will be asking for direct assistance of community members to progress projects.

One of the questions to be asked is the progression of the recommendations of the Bushfire Mitigation Report commissioned by the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council after the 2023 fires. While a number of these recommendations rely on government agencies for implementation, I would once again point out that there are a number of actions residents can take to reduce risk to their and their neighbours properties. These include ensuring:

- clear marking of property numbers
- no planting of vegetation on road verges
- clear access to properties for emergency vehicles
- all property users (including those accessing short stay accommodation) are aware of the risk of fire and comply with fire prevention measures
- properties are in compliance with the various hazard management regulations.

We are awaiting the arrival of a heavy-duty mulcher for use in the GSBC area. This machine will offer a viable alternative for fuel reduction in Dolphin Sands and other parts of the municipality. The purchase of this machine is largely a result of some hard work on the part of Steve Barrett and Robyn Moore in securing a grant. I would also note the positive relationship with the Council in progressing this grant and we all look forward to this significant asset being available for use by our community.

Finally I would like to thank the following for their work over the past year:

- The DSCA committee, Robyn Moore and Paula and Paul Hanson for their contribution. Filling committee roles is always a challenge. I would strongly encourage members to nominate for committee roles
- individuals who take on projects. They provide important support to the activity of the Association
- The Landcare Group for their significant efforts. They punch well above their weight.
- Our emergency service workers, the majority of whom are volunteers. Again, I would encourage everyone in our community to consider their capacity to join one of these services.

I look forward to 2026 being a great year for the people of Dolphin Sands as we continue to recover and build a positive community.

David Galloway

## Secretary's report 2026

Unfortunately, the major event for 2025 was the bushfire on Dec 4-5 which affected 115 properties. We appreciate the support received by the broader community following the bushfire, such as offers of accommodation, showers, clothing, furniture, and fundraising. We're also grateful for the support of GSBC and the Tasmanian Government with the recovery process.



Photo by Ashley Swan

Since the bushfire, our focus has been trying to ensure that our concerns about bushfire preparedness, and our safety, are taken more seriously. We welcome the announcement by Tasmania Fire Service Commissioner Jeremy Smith that the TFS hope to co-design a bushfire plan with the Dolphin Sands community and key stakeholders. We hope everyone will get involved in this process.

We have received a lot of feedback about the importance of the Facebook page during the bushfire. Note that we also post updates on our website and send emails when necessary. There are limitations to Facebook's workability. For example, it's not possible to organise posts in order of importance. In emergencies, we will limit the number and type of posts to help people find the info they need. For example, we will:

- Decline any non-urgent posts
- Create posts with specific themes and ask people to add a comment to the relevant post rather than creating a new post. For example, post about the spread of the fire over time (including the status of various properties); post about immediate support available (accommodation, safe refuge, evacuation etc); post with TasAlert updates; post about the location of particular people; post about how to get further info (eg TasAlert, Tas Police, Tas Networks); post about the status of the road (if it's open etc)
- Decline posts about longer term offers of support, eg offers of furniture
- Decline 'how did it start' posts

## Recent bushfires at Dolphin Sands



Source: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-12-08/tasmania-dolphin-sands-bushfire-community-dismayed/106113646>

### Bushfire preparation

One of our recent initiatives to help reduce the risk of bushfire was to apply for a \$125,000 National Emergency Management Agency grant to help council purchase a chipper/shredder to collect community members' green waste. We aim to reduce the incentive to burn vegetation. We were notified of our successful grant application in December 2024 and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the chipper/shredder. Additional steps in acquitting this grant included completing an Implementation Plan, which we submitted in January 2025. We then had to wait while Resilience and Recovery Tasmania (RRT) reviewed the plan, forwarded it to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for endorsement, and for the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) to enter into a grant agreement for release of funds. On June 30, 2025, once the grant deeds were signed, GSBC ordered the chipper/shredder. At the time of writing, it has arrived in Melbourne and is due in GSB soon.

### Landcare group

Thanks to our committed Landcare group for continuing to manage public land on the peninsula. As in past years, this year our focus was weed control and rubbish collection. We also maintained beach access tracks. We were fortunate to receive a grant from Landcare Australia to tackle remnant patches of gorse on the peninsula.



## **Cambria Drive beach access stairs**

After a lengthy process, NRE (Dept of Natural Resources and the Environment) agreed to allow us to extend the handrails on beach access stairs at Cambria Drive. It was a minor change (40cm) but means that the stairs are usable by people in our community who rely on the handrails. Thanks to the complainants and to Steve for installing the new handrail. In the photos below, you'll notice that Steve has installed a narrow handrail that is easier to grip.



## **Mental Health Week**

This year, members of the Dolphin Sands Community Association collaborated with Jo Raspin from the Swansea Chamber of Commerce to organise a fabulous week of events for Mental Health Week. Our grant application to the Mental Health Council of Tasmania to cover some costs was successful. Many individuals and businesses donated time, expertise, accommodation, and money to make the week a great success. Special thanks to Di Bricknell for dealing with the multitude of emails required to design all our flyers. Thanks also to Paul Walker & Brenton Wheare for their support, and to Kunst Beach Pod and Beach Haven for donating accommodation.



Logo by Di Bricknell



## Treasurer's Report 2026

### DSCA income and expenditure 1.1.2025 - 31.12.2025

Income	Amount
Membership 132 @ \$15	1980
Water testing 12 @ \$45	540
Mental Health Week grant	1800
NEMA grant - GSBC mulcher	100000
Donations - general	90
Donations - bushfire	1300
Donations - Go Fund Me	4020.98
Recycle Rewards	0.8
<b>Total INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 109,731.78</b>
Expenditure	
Mental Health Week	1862.87
Emergency messaging service	38.89
Cambria handrail timber	111.67
DSCA post office box	51
Neighbourhood Watch subscription	30
GSBC mulcher	100000
DPWIE - water testing	727.43
Annual return	74.8
Courthouse meeting room hire	30
Mulching	1500
Donation - historical society	50
Gorse control	282
Donation - Disability Voices Tasmania	200
Catering - post-bushfire meeting	450
<b>Total EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$ 105,408.66</b>
Opening Balance 1/01/2025	\$ 13,303.09
Income 2025	\$ 109,731.78
Expenses	\$ 105,408.66
Surplus	\$ 4,323.12
Closing Balance 31/12/2025 \$13303.09 + \$4,323.12	\$ 17,626.21

<b>PETTY CASH 2025</b>		
Carried Over	1.1.25	\$67.35
<b>Income</b>		
Water testing payments		\$135.00
<b>Total income</b>		\$135.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
Fuel for Landcare		\$50
Postage – Living @ 9MB booklet		\$3.30
Printing		\$5.50
Gloves for Landcarers		\$31.60
Landcare biscuits		\$5.85
Post-fire meeting drinks		\$18.70
<b>Total expenses</b>		\$114.95
<b>PETTY CASH ON HAND</b>	31.12.25	<b>\$87.40</b>

<b>Mental Health Week Swansea 2025</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Donations	\$300.55
<b>Expenses</b>	
Bush dance	\$600
Ecopulse – Ta Ke Ti Na	\$440
Donation – Speak up! Stay ChatTY	\$200
Accommodation cleaning	\$100
Morris Store ingredients	\$462.56
Curry night	\$250
Thank you cards	\$83.86
Thank you gift	\$27
<b>Total expenses</b>	\$2163.42
<b>Expenses less donations</b>	<b>\$1862.87</b>

Total Go Fund Me donations @ January 24: \$12, 915