

# Burnie Carnival crowd gets free entry to New Year's Eve waterfront party



**Lachlan Bennett**

Sports fans who attend the Burnie Carnival will get free entry into the New Year's Eve celebrations on the Burnie foreshore.

The initiative is designed to unite festivities after the Burnie Carnival was moved from New Year's Day to New Year's Eve.

Burnie Athletic Club president Ricky Aitken said the decision to break from tradition was "underpinned by structural change to compact the Tasmanian Christmas Carnivals Series to respond to the tight calendar for athletes and cyclists alike"

"But more fundamentally to grow on the successes of the combined New Year's Eve party theme in Burnie," he said.

"The key sports of track cycling, athletics and wood chopping will be supported by a range of family entertainment on a grander scale ... In collaborating with council, we can more readily build on the strength of both events."

Live music will kick off at West Park after the carnival while Burnie City Council's 'Bite and Brew' event will start from 5:30pm.

Burnie mayor Steve Kons said revelers would be able to move from the carnival to the council event at the waterfront "where they can continue the evening of fun, food, entertainment, music and SeaFM Skyfire Shows".



**UNITY:** Burnie mayor Steve Kons and Burnie Athletic Club president Ricky Aitken are keen to unite the two New Year's Eve events. Picture: Brodie Weeding

This year's Bite and Brew New Year's Eve will feature all ages entertainment including four bands: Clinton Hutton, Women of Rock (Jimmy Rees and Sherry Rand), Blues Brothers and The Ringmasters.

There will also be a show by *Australia's Got Talent* contestant and bicycle stunt artist Boris Zagrocki, food vans and fireworks.  
Burnie City Council will also attempt to eliminate single use plastics from the event by working with traders, vendors and patrons.

Mr Aitken said the Burnie Carnival had also received backing by corporate partnership "with significant announcements to follow in the coming weeks".

Entry to Bite and Brew costs \$5.