

1.

First up. Big political news, as Speaker Sue Hickey has announced she will in fact remain a member of The Liberal Party, following threats of resignation and running as an independent.

This would have forced the state Liberals to relinquish their one-seat majority, and in a statement given not too long ago, Miss Hickey stated she had spoken in-depth with Premier Will Hodgman about the future, and on issues she believed to be of utmost importance to Tasmanians.

The pair have agreed to work together in crucial areas like mental health, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres, homelessness and the housing crisis troubling the state.

As Speaker, Miss Hickey essentially holds the state government's balance of power, and is a centre point for its survival in the House of Assembly, as well as handling budget supplies and the passing of legislation.

2.

In the Supreme Court of Launceston this morning, former bodybuilder and convicted rapist Mark Rodney Jones was sentenced to 22 years in prison for the torture and murder of Launceston man Bradley Breward on New Year's Day in 2017.

Jones admitted to assaulting, waterboarding and suffocating Mr Breward twice with a plastic bag, before dumping the his in Devonport's Lake Eugenana, after Jones's car had been stolen from the side of the ride.

Believed to have been Breward who had stolen the uninsured Nissan Patrol from Westbury Road in Prospect, Jones spent three weeks hunting Breward, and was later tipped off about his whereabouts.

Breward was then abducted by Jones and his associate Ricky Izard, and taken to a unit in Newnham where he died of suffocation following a thirty-minute torturous ordeal.

Both Jones and Izard will serve out 13 years and 6 years in prison, respectively, backdated to February 2017, until they are both eligible for parole.

3.

Emergency Services have responded to a serious two-vehicle crash at the Bothwell Turnoff on the Midlands Highway, just north of Kempton.

Updates suggest the accident involved a truck that ran into a car turning onto the busy highway.

One of the victims has been transported to the Royal Hobart Hospital via helicopter and police have asked motorists to avoid the area until the scene has been cleared.

4.

To sport now, and in local soccer, the Glenorchy Knights take on the Hobart Zebras tonight at KG5 in the National Premier League.

Coming off a fourth straight loss, Glenorchy are looking to improve their form even with the loss of their star forward

Callum Brown who is set to miss the rest of the season due to injury.

The Zebras, who currently sit forth on the ladder will look to defeat the Knights and make it three wins on the trot.

While in local hockey, reigning premiers OHA take on the DiamondBacks in the Premier League at 8 o'clock tonight.

The favourites OHA will welcome back key striker Sam McCambridge from suspension, after racking up three yellow cards last game he appeared in.

McCambridge says he is keen to get back on the field after missing last weeks match, but he feels he doesn't need to change his play style just because of the recent suspension.

And back to you Peter