

THURSDAY 4 APRIL, 2024

YOUR Riverland voice

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Red-letter day

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

A MAJOR Renmark winery is already rebuilding relationships and markets following last week's news that China has scrapped heavy tariffs on Australian wine.

While industry leaders are reiterating that the removal of the tariffs is far from a silver bullet, Angove Family Winemakers joint managing director Victoria Angove said she was "cautiously optimistic" about the future.

"We are very excited to be able to take our wine back into China," she said.

"We are very keen to get back into the market and re-engage with that customer base that we have enjoyed trading with historically."

The tariffs were introduced in March 2021 and impacted the region greatly, with many producers struggling to find buyers for significant volumes of red wine varieties.

Over the past three years, exports to China have fallen from close to \$1 billion to less than \$3 million.

Ms Angove said prior to the tariffs, the Chinese market accounted for about 10 per cent of Angove's exports.

"We are very committed to taking the time and getting back into the China market," she said. "Our team has worked hard to maintain the organic certification that we need as well."

CONTINUED PAGE 5



Angove Family Winemakers chief winemaker Tony Ingle with some of red wine from the current vintage. Last week, China scrapped heavy tariffs on Australian wine, bringing "cautious optimism" back to the industry. PHOTO: Stephanie Thompson

School mums say sex presentation 'stole daughters' innocence'...

CUT CLASS

PARENTS have pulled their children out of Renmark High School after a presentation from a local group covered topics such as bestiality and incest.

The Headspace Berri presentation, aimed at year 9 girls, was supposedly about respectful

relationships, however students were subject to graphic content and images, including post-gender transition surgery.

Around 20 to 30 girls watched the presentation, without any teachers or male students present.

PAGE 8 STORY

CORPORATE CUP 2024

FRIDAY MAY 10

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Published & printed by Taylor Group Media,
 Ral Ral Avenue, Renmark, South Australia.
 ABN 22 007 871 007



GOT A NEWS TIP?
OR TAKEN A GREAT PHOTO?

Let us know at:
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The Loxton Lions Park is one of three areas along the river front to receive new toilets in coming weeks. PHOTO: Stephanie Thompson



An artist's impression of how the new Loxton riverfront toilets will look.
 IMAGE: supplied

Loxton's new riverfront toilets almost here

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

LOXTON'S riverfront toilets are finally nearing completion and are expected to be ready by the end of next month.

New toilets will be added to the Loxton river front at the Loxton Aquatic Club, Lions Park and Packard Bend, replacing toilets that were flooded in 2022.

Loxton Waikerie council director infrastructure services

Greg Perry said the upgrades, which are part of the South Australia Constraints Measures project, will allow the community to enjoy the river while environmental water is delivered.

"In the next week or two, contractors will be on site to start preparing all the under floor plumbing and concrete," he said.

"Toilets will be up and operational by the end of May, but a couple of little things we're

doing down there have been held up."

The South Australia Constraints Measures project is removing constraints, or barriers, to the delivery of environmental water, in order to improve the health of the South Australian River Murray's floodplains and wetlands.

Mr Perry said the foundations for the new toilets are above an 80GL/day flow.

Unlike the former toilets, the new toilets are disability compliant.

The works also include sluice gates and bank stabilisation works.

The South Australia Constraints Measures project is being delivered by the Government of South Australia and funded by the Australian Government, as part of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

Wrongdoing drivers detected by Riverland police

A NUMBER of drivers were detected committing traffic offences in the Riverland over the long weekend.

On Saturday 30 March, at about 5.30pm, Berri police stopped a vehicle on Old Sturt Highway, at Berri, where the driver returned a positive breath test of 0.061.

The driver, a 44-year-old man from Bordertown, was reported for drink driving. He will be summonsed to appear in the Berri Magistrates Court at a later date.

On the same day, at about 10pm, Riverland police stopped a 24-year-old Loxton North man driving on Kingston Road, at Loxton.

The man submitted to a breath test and returned a positive result of 0.131.

He was given a six-month

instant loss of licence, had his vehicle impounded for 28 days and he will be summonsed to appear in the Berri Magistrates Court at a later date.

On Sunday 31 March, at about 10.50am, Riverland police stopped a 62-year-old man from Happy Valley on Renmark Avenue, at Renmark.

The driver submitted to a breath test where he returned a positive result of 0.091. He was issued a six-month instant loss of licence, had his vehicle impounded and will be summonsed to appear in the Berri Magistrates Court at a later date.

Between Friday 29 March and Monday 1 April, Murray Mallee police reported five drivers on separate occasions for drug driving.



All people received a three-month loss of licence and may be summonsed to appear in court pending the analysis of their sample by Forensic Science SA.

Police also reported four people for driving while being disqualified.

One driver had their vehicle impounded for 28 days and all five will be summonsed to appear in court at a later date.

Boat fire injures two

A GRANDFATHER in his 60s and his teenage granddaughter have both suffered burns after their family boat burst into flames on the River Murray, at Paisley, on Easter Saturday.

The Advertiser reported a 69-year-old man, and a 16-year-old girl, were on the boat when it burst into flames.

It is understood the pair jumped into the water but suffered burns to their lower bodies.

The boat had been refuelled outside the grandfather's home in Paisley, prior to it bursting into flames as the engine was started at about 12.15pm.

Paramedics attended the scene, and a rescue helicopter was also dispatched.

An SA Ambulance spokesperson said the teenager was taken to the Waikerie Hospital by ambulance with burns to the legs.

The spokesperson said the man who received burns to his legs and face was transported by helicopter to the Royal Adelaide Hospital for treatment.

Riverland Weather

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RIVERLAND WEATHER

RENMARK	THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
	22°	11°	25°	9°	27°	12°	25°	11°	26°	11°	23°	11°
WINDSPEED	9am	S15	3pm	S18	9am	S17	3pm	S19	9am	SSW15	3pm	SSW19
LOXTON	22°	10°	25°	8°	24°	12°	24°	10°	23°	8°	19°	7°
WAIKERIE	22°	10°	25°	8°	24°	12°	24°	10°	23°	8°	19°	7°
LEVELS (METRES)	LOCK 6	19.25	LOCK 5	16.31	LOCK 4	13.28	LOCK 3	9.86	LOCK 2	6.11	LOCK 1	3.14
SALINITY (EC UNITS)	LOCK 6	356	LOCK 5	393	LOCK 4	387	LOCK 3	403	LOCK 2	435	LOCK 1	425
TEMPORARY ALLOCATION: \$28 PER MEGLITRE												FLOW INTO SA
8319												MEGALITRES PER DAY

Former Loxton woman Kimberlee Murdoch (second from left) became a surrogate for Jake Patterson and Brandon Hitch. The baby announcement was made at the wedding of Mr Patterson and Mr Hitch. Kimberlee is pictured with her wife, Amanda Murdoch. PHOTOS: supplied



Baby Elijah was welcomed into the world at the Loxton Hospital Complex on Monday 18 March.

DID YOU KNOW?

An Australian surrogate does not receive any financial payment or other reward for acting as a surrogate in an altruistic agreement. She is however, reimbursed for any medical expenses and general costs associated to the pregnancy by the intended parent/s. Altruistic surrogacy is legal in Australia, although some states have strict regulations.

TYPES OF SURROGACY

Gestational surrogacy is when the surrogate has a fertilised embryo transferred into her. The embryo is the product of in vitro fertilisation (IVF) using the sperm and egg of the intended parents, however gay men and single people can also use donated eggs or sperm. A gestational surrogate has no genetic contribution to the child they are carrying. Gestational surrogacy is the most common type of surrogacy arrangements in Australia.

Traditional surrogacy is when the surrogate herself is with the sperm of the intended father, usually through artificial insemination. A traditional surrogate provides the egg, so she does provide a genetic contribution to the child she is carrying.

Kimberlee's gift of life

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

A FORMER local recently gave the ultimate gift to an Adelaide couple, marking the first surrogacy birth at the Loxton hospital.

Last month, former local Kimberlee Murdoch, 40, gave birth to Elijah Craig, the son of Brandon Hitch and Jake Patterson, of Adelaide.

Ms Murdoch, a mother of two teenage children, said she had always entertained the idea of being a surrogate.

"I first linked up with the surrogacy community right at the beginning of 2022," she said.

"I went to a South Australian surrogacy meet up.

"I got really brave and drove down to Adelaide and I saw this puppy that was so cute.

"I talked to this puppy for five minutes before I looked up the leash and saw the person holding the leash, then talked to the person.

"That was Brandon."

Ms Murdoch described the connection as "natural", with a friendship soon forming with Mr Hitch and Mr Patterson.

"We really connected and my wife, Amanda, really connected with them too," she said.

"The more and more we got to know these boys, the more we wanted to help them."

Ms Murdoch then made an official surrogacy offer, which the couple accepted.

"We got into the counselling and the legal advice required and the contracts and stuff," she said.

"That was all done by June

last year and then we had the first transfer in July, which was a fully natural cycle.

"The 12th of July last year, the three-day old embryo was put in and that's now a baby."

"A very, very cute baby."

The embryo was created by sperm from one of the fathers and an egg donated by a friend of the couple.

"I wouldn't have done it if it was my egg," Ms Murdoch said.

"I think that would have added a whole another layer."

Mr Hitch and Mr Patterson announced the pregnancy at their wedding in September, which Ms Murdoch officiated as a civil marriage celebrant.

"I was 13 weeks pregnant at the wedding," she said.

"It was a huge surprise for attendees."

Ms Murdoch carried the baby for 250 days, with Mr Hitch and Mr Patterson involved for check-ups and appointments.

"I had a finish line," she said.

"The last month of the pregnancy was the hardest.

"But knowing that when he came out, he was going to be handed to his dads where he belongs and I didn't have to do sleepless nights was a bonus."

While Ms Murdoch has lived in Truro since late last year, she said it felt important to birth the baby at the Loxton Hospital Complex.

"It didn't make sense to transfer care to anywhere else," she said.

"My doctor, Kerrianne Harvey, has been my doctor for seven years and she's phenomenal."

"I also got connected with midwife Katherine Seiboth, who is a literal angel."

"Katherine is absolutely in the job she needs to be in."

Ms Murdoch said an induction for natural labour was booked to ensure no one would miss the birth, with it beginning at 8am on Monday 18 March.

"We went for a walk and tried to get labour happening," she said.

The labour intensified and by 2.15pm, Elijah was born, weighing 2.73kg (6 pound).

"It was just beautiful," Ms Murdoch said.

"Cutting the cord was really vital for me and the boys were fine with that."

"That was our physical link. I carried and grown him for 250 days, so cutting the cord was our physical disconnect."

"There will always be an emotional connection; there is no avoiding that."

Following a few days in hospital with Ms Murdoch in a separate room to recover, it was time for everyone to return home.

"The boys went to Adelaide and dropped me off at the farm on the way through," Ms Murdoch said.

"They started their life as a family; a family of three."

Ms Murdoch described the next few days as "really tough".

"The first few days were really emotional," she said.

"I don't regret anything and I know I made the best choice picking these boys and I think they made a pretty good choice

picking me."

"They are amazing dads."

"I have no doubts they are going to do an amazing job raising him."

Ms Murdoch said she looks forward to being involved and watching Elijah grow up.

"Aunty Kimberlee and Aunty Amanda have big plans for baby sitting and farm stays," she said.

Ms Murdoch's own children are now 15 and 19 years old.

"I had Elijah 19 years and 19 days after I had Kaitie at Loxton, so that was pretty cool," she said.

Ms Murdoch spent the first weekend after the birth with the new family.

"It was a really nice way to close out the pregnancy chapter and move onto the next part of the adventure," she said.

"I've already been booked in for some babysitting dates."

"I am just so happy that I had the opportunity to do this and I feel so privileged to have been able to have done it for them."

"I am so happy that the boys get the opportunity to be their family of three."

Mr Patterson said he struggled to put into words how grateful he is to Ms Murdoch.

"It's an amazing gift," he said.

"Brandon and I thought it was off the cards a few times."

"But to have it all pan out and have someone who was so willing to do the process with us was just amazing."

"We've definitely got our little family now with Kimberlee and Amanda in it."

Elmo's in Renmark

RIVERLANDERS have the chance to see one of the country's most beloved children's characters in Renmark this weekend.

Elmo's Circus Dream will be performed at the Chaffey Theatre, on Sunday, with shows at 10.30am and 1pm.



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Optimism over China change

THE region's wine grape grower representative group expects the ending of Chinese tariffs to "make a significant difference" for the industry's future.

The State Government last week announced China had removed all trade barriers on Australian wine.

Riverland Wine CEO Lyndall Rowe said the decision allowed wine exporters access to what was previously the country's biggest buyer.

"The export tariffs were catastrophic for our industry, and restoring the Chinese market will make a significant difference for our growers and producers who have struggled to find buyers, battled to sell their grapes for a reasonable price and have had to hold excess volumes of wine in tanks," Ms Rowe said.

"This is a positive step forward for our Riverland growers, and we are looking forward to rebuilding relationships with Chinese buyers and restoring the market over the coming months and potentially years."

"However, we are also conscious of the fact that this will take time and it won't solve the chal-

lenges our Riverland growers face in the short term."

"Market diversification is essential, which is why we are working to build the reputation of the Riverland as a region in Europe and in other markets."

South Australian Wine Industry Association president Kirsty Balnaves said the state's wines still carried a positive reputation in the Chinese market.

"Significant trade exists between China and Australia, and the removal of import duties on wine will result in South Australian wine businesses re-considering the China wine market and allocating wine to the market," Ms Balnaves said.

"Chinese consumers remain familiar with South Australian wine, as many of our wine producers have visited the market numerous times prior to 2020, and more recent trips have highlighted the strong positive sentiment and deep impression SA wine has made on the Chinese consumer."

"This positive sentiment stems from the premium quality of South Australian wine, our commitment to sustainable production, and con-



Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Clare Scriven (second from right), with Chinese importers Mr Liu, Feifeng Shi, and Weidon Tan. PHOTO: supplied

nection with our South Australian wine story."

Premier Peter Malinauskas said visits to China by both federal and state government representatives were key to removing the tariffs.

"The decision of the Chinese Government to lift tariffs is a significant one for thousands of South Australians whose lives and livelihoods have been significantly hurt in recent years," Mr Malinauskas said.

"At both a state and federal level, the government has been passionately advocating for the removal of trade barriers on

Australian wine and speaking directly with key decision makers in China.

"It's with great excitement the tariffs have now been dropped and our local wine industry can explore opportunities to restore export relationships to our largest trading partner."

However, Ms Balnaves advised consumer demand and new competition in China would be important considerations before re-entering the market.

"South Australian wine businesses understand that the China wine market has changed since the

import duties were imposed," Ms Balnaves said.

"In-market competition for wine is now much stronger than before, meaning that there are increased choices for consumers at various price points."

"In addition, alcohol consumption has declined, and opportunities for consumption, such as events, have reduced."

"South Australian wine exporters will need to visit the market to assess the market opportunity, create awareness, provide education, and re-introduce their wines to consumers – this will take time."

Three locals elected to SA's Voice

THREE indigenous Riverlanders have been elected to South Australia's inaugural Voice to Parliament.

Rob Wright, Sheryl Giles and Darryle Barnes were all elected to Region 4, which comprises the Riverland and South-East regions, including the Murray Bridge district.

Fourteen candidates put their hand up for the seven positions in Region 4, with a total of 285 formal votes received.

Under the election conditions, a minimum of three males and three females were required, with the additional position going to a person of any gender.

Mount Gambier woman Danni Smith topped the tally

in Region 4, attracting 69 first-preference votes.

Ms Giles polled 33 votes, Mr Wright polled 28 votes and Mr Barnes polled 17 votes.

Fellow Riverland candidates Dan Mitchell-Matthews (9 votes), Christine Abdulla (5 votes) and Michael Harris (5 votes) all missed out on election.

A total of 46 candidates were elected from the six SA regions.

Statewide, 2583 formal votes were received from an estimated 30,000 eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The low turnout – significantly below the 30-35 per cent of eligible people that typi-

cally vote in council elections, which are also non-compulsory – has sparked debate about the \$10.3m legislated state Voice.

Despite a voter turnout south of 10 per cent, SA Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Kyam Maher this week claimed "strong interest in nominations".

"(It) will take time to build awareness and engagement," he said.

"We will look to strengthen engagement ahead of the next Voice election that will take place at the same time as the state election."

All elected members of the SA Voice will receive stipends of between \$3000 and \$18,000, plus sitting fees of

\$206 per meeting.

In addition, they will receive allowances for travel, accommodation and meals, plus an additional \$1000 each for a laptop.

No cap exists for the number of committees that can be established under the SA Voice.

The SA Liberals have offered mixed views on the SA Voice, varying from those calling for its abolition and pledging to repeal it if elected, to others stating that it should be monitored and evaluated.

One Nation MLC Sarah Game has been adamant the voice should be repealed, and has tabled a Bill to that effect.

The Voice will be able to

address either house of parliament on any Bill considered relevant to South Australia's indigenous population.

At last year's referendum, over 64 per cent of South Australians voted against establishing a national Voice to Parliament.

REGION 4: RIVERLAND & SOUTH EAST

Riverland Voice candidates first preference votes (quota 36):

- 33 Sheryl Giles (elected)
- 28 Rob Wright (elected)
- 17 Darryle Barnes (elected)
- 9 Dan Mitchell-Matthews
- 5 Michael Harris
- 5 Christine Abdulla

Total formal votes: 285



Sheryl Giles



Darryle Barnes



Rob Wright

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Industry to benefit from support package

LOCAL wine exporters and grape growers will have access to a \$1.85m support package.

The State Government will provide a \$1.85m China Re-Engagement Support Package for South Australian wine exporters and grape growers.

The announcement follows China's decision to remove all trade barriers on Australian wine, as a result of concerted efforts by both the State and Federal Governments to stabilise the trading relationship between the two nations.

SA Premier Peter Malinauskas said he was "delighted" to announce the support package.

"This support package will help prepare our wine markets to re-enter the China market, with opportunities to renew partnerships with Chinese industry and gain insights into China's wine market and consumer trends," he said.

"My visit to China in September was an important milestone in strengthening the relationship South Australia enjoys with the region, which continues to be our state's top export destination for merchandise and is an important partner for our exporters, particularly our wine industry."

"Upon return from China,

I sought to immediately enact plans for this support package, to ensure our producers are in the best possible position to capitalise following the removal of trade barriers."

The support package, to be rolled out over the next two years, will provide South Australia's wine sector with in-market insights and capability building to effectively re-engage with the China market in a risk-managed manner.

This support package will help to re-position South Australia as a market leader in China and support the broader stabilisation of the Australia-China trade and economic relationship.

In October 2020, prior to the start of tariffs, China was South Australia's largest wine export market, with exports valued at \$946.5m, accounting for 47.2 per cent of South Australia's wine exports globally.

The China Re-Engagement Support Package was developed by the Department for Trade and Investment (DIT) in collaboration with the South Australian Wine Industry Association and the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia.

The \$1.85m support package will comprise of a

two-way market activation and immersion, promotional marketing and communication campaigns, a wine export advisor, technical co-operation and exporter capability building.

DIT will engage a Shanghai-based Wine Export Adviser to support market activation and immersion programs over the next two years with in-depth knowledge and connections within China's wine sector.

In conjunction with discussions with the Premier, the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, will travel to China in April to seize the momentum and help further the relationship.

Her Excellency worked in Hong Kong during the early years of China's reform and opening, and later served as Australia's ambassador to China.

South Australian Wine Industry Association Inca Lee "warmly welcomed" the support package.

"South Australian wine has made a deep impression on the Chinese consumer who values quality premium products, and we know this sentiment has not been diminished by the pause in our trading relationship," she said."



Last week's news that China has removed the tariffs on Australian wine was welcomed by Angove Family Winemakers chief winemaker Tony Ingle. PHOTO: Stephanie Thompson

Red-letter day

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We are very committed to taking the time and getting back into the China market," she said.

"Our team has worked hard to maintain the organic certification that we need as well."

"China has a particular certification and we've continued to invest in that certification even while the market has been closed because we have been really optimistic that at some point, it would reopen."

"We wanted to be well placed to take advantage of the opportunity."

Ms Angove welcomed the South Australian Government's \$1.85m China Re-engagement Support Package for exporters and grape growers.

"We really welcome all and any support that the government is able to provide," she said.

"I think the most important thing for us as an industry is that it is going to take time

for the industry to return because it has had a very difficult few years."

"It isn't going to be an instant click of the fingers."

Ms Angove said she is excited for the future of Australian wine in China.

"The information that we're getting is that there's a very strong support and interest in Australian wine and food products," she said.

"The integrity and quality of our products is extraordinary."

"I think the consumer in China appreciates what Australia has to offer."

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'Not great, but positive' says Tim

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

SENIOR Riverland politicians say avoiding another reliance on China for wine exports is crucial for the local industry's full recovery.

The State Government last week announced Chinese Government tariffs on Australian-made wines would be removed.

However, Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone said it was crucial to avoid again overcommitting exports to China.

"It's positive news, I'm not going to say it's great news, but it's positive," Mr Whetstone said.

"There's lessons the industry must have learned over the course of the last three years.

"We've seen catastrophic impacts to the Riverland, not only to grape growers, but also to wineries. We've seen some insolvencies, with potentially more to come."

"We were shipping 50 per cent of our volume to China, and that's putting a significant amount of faith in the China basket."

Mr Whetstone said refocusing exports on China would ignore aspects of the market that had changed in recent years.

"We are going back down the China trail," he said.

"We have to continue to sell more wine to more countries, without having such a huge reliance on China."

"We'll never see the value of the wine we sell to China back

where it was, or the volumes we are selling."

"How do smaller businesses find a way into export markets?"

Barker MP Tony Pasin said "no single market" would provide a solution to the wine industry's challenges.

"Around the world, including in China, consumers are drinking less wine," Mr Pasin said.

"As a result, there is a global oversupply of wine of about three billion litres a year – that's three times Australia's annual production."

"We must address the structural over-supply to see a sustainable Riverland wine industry."

"This is why I have been calling for Federal Government support for local Riverland growers since 2022."

Mr Whetstone planned to advocate for further government incentives toward opening new export destinations.

"I've got meetings lined up with Don Farrell and Murray Watt," he said.

"I want to meet with ministers relevant to developing the Export Market Development Grant, which is specific to all of our trading partners. The idea is rekindling markets that were lost during the traffic jam into China."

"Low returns per tonne of grapes aren't sustainable. There's a good reason a lot of growers will remove vines, or exit the industry."

"We've got to have bold leadership and government supporting inbound and outbound trade missions."

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OPINION

EDITORIAL

The disparity of resources

DISCUSSING a problem is always the first step to finding a solution.

At last week's Renmark Paringa Council general meeting, a deputation was given by senior Riverland Mallee Coorong Health Network representatives, and a clinical director of the Rural and Remote Mental Health Service, to discuss the level of, and accessibility to, mental health resources in regional South Australian areas.

The discussion was prompted by recommendations put forward in last year's Review of Rural Mental Health Services report, which – among other stark truths – revealed regional South Australia has the lowest number of psychiatrists per person in the nation.

It didn't take long for the discussion between the representatives, councillors and council staff to reach what is most probably the root cause of the issue: a drastic difference in the amount of financial resources put into metropolitan mental health services compared to those in regional communities.

Perhaps the most clear example of this is the number of psychiatrists working regionally compared with in the city.

Just 19 full-time positions exist in South Australia's rural psychiatry workforce, and of those, four are based outside the metropolitan centre.

Of those four, it is understood one is based in Mount Barker, and one in Gawler.

The more jaded-minded of us might not exactly class these as regional.

Many of us know someone – probably quite well – who has struggled with ongoing mental health challenges, and this lack of available support services makes the picture a little clearer.

It's already difficult enough initially understanding and confronting these challenges, and without the proper support people can hardly be expected to get better on their own.

These numbers of available psychiatrists may have been a bit more reasonable around the turn of the millennium, when stigmas surrounding mental health were very much prevalent in the country.

However, it's clear that as the awareness for mental health challenges in rural areas continues to grow, so does the need for increased access to professionals who can help.

There are a wide array of reasons someone's mental health may be affected, however the above notion may have extra importance when considering the potential effects of building economic pressures on Riverland wine grape growers.

So, what are the next steps to seeing some improvement to the rural mental health approach?

It seems that the problem – considering the numbers mentioned – should be quite recognisable at a state level. Does rural mental health need to be a higher priority for either major party heading into the next election?

It's clear that the cracks in the system are growing, and will swallow more up if changes aren't made.

THE YEARS GO BY



Thoughts of relocating either a disused heavy cement tank (left) or a fully assembled, large shed (right) would be rare, but not for the late Rodney Schubert of Wunkar. He found dilemmas like these a challenge and set his mind to find a way to complete the task. Despite having little formal education, having left school from year 7, almost nothing was too hard for him. Brought up in a poor but happy family, Rodney often wore no shoes, nor any fancy clothes, but he excelled in the university of hard knocks. Here in the tough life of a Mallee farmer he learned both to spend his hard-earned money wisely and yet to give generously. A little quirky in nature, Rodney was a man with vision and a concern for the community, especially in accomplishing tasks most others would frown upon and walk away. To move the old tank, he got hold of some heavy-duty jacks, lifted the tank high enough for a tray top truck to back under and then with the team working in harmony, the weighty tank was lowered to the truck and carted to the new place of service. The challenge had been won. Photo: Schubert family.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the writers, and not those of the Murray Pioneer.

The tactic of obfuscation?

I READ with some amusement Tim Whetstone and Tony Pasin's weekly obfuscation reports.

I smile when I think back to the Liberal arguments about Holden being a private business and therefore not getting any support from government. Even to the point of daring them to close up, causing thousands of job losses. This at the same time as every other car-producing country was getting far more support from their governments.

Our mining industries get handed mega cheques, yet in my view create no real wealth for anyone other than government and a few rich Aussie oligarchs.

Aren't grape growers private businesses just like Holden? Yet we now see a completely different response from the Liberals.

It's amazing to me how indignant and juxtaposed the Libs all are from the passenger seat of government.

My heart goes out to our growers caught up in geopolitical shrapnel. My last day at Holden was a year earlier than I wanted and with an ambulance ride out the door suffering anxiety issues, so I fully understand the mental trauma associated with major upsets in life.

Where is the response from a Labor candidate from this area?

It seems to me all this has happened under the Liberal's gaze.

We're in a safe seat, so maybe it's time for a change people.

Marginal seats seem to get stuff done.

CAPTAIN MICHAEL POLSON
Renmark

Our green future?

AS we have been told numerous times, and as reminded by Brian Measday ('Coal exports getting riskier', letters, 20/3/24), fossil fuel and coal is the leading contributor to greenhouse gasses.

Australia's coal is in high demand from our neighbours, especially China, which makes

all the solar panels and wind turbines we so desperately need for our dreams of a green future.

Let us hope that Australia is able to source all the panels and turbines needed for our future before we have all our coal mines closed.

Can we pin our hopes on the locally produced panels being affordable into the distant future?

KATHLEEN TUBB
Renmark

History repeats itself

ABOUT 20 years ago two – in my view knowledgeable – pastors in Melbourne held a seminar on Islam.

They spoke what I think is truth, as would be expected, but some Islamists who had attended were offended and took the pastors to court.

The Islamists won and the pastors were punished and publicly humiliated.

One statement from their trial sticks in my mind, "truth is no defence, your Honour."

The present federal government in Canberra is drafting a bill to prevent "misinformation" and "disinformation" from being posted on social media.

What you intend to post could well be truth, but if the government does not like it you will be barred from posting.

For example, in Russia the Communist government decides what is true and what is false, and punishes anyone who speaks out against their decision with a one-way ticket to Siberia.

The people themselves must decide what is true and what is false by investigation and reasoned discussion, not have it imposed upon them by governments with political survival at the forefront of their minds.

The people themselves must retain freedom of speech, which I believe this proposed law will take away.

The proposed law will apply only to statements made on social media, but with a nod and a wink the government could expand this, perhaps even to let-

ters to newspapers.

What can we do about it?

Write a letter to the Governor General expressing your concern at this attack on freedom of speech and requesting him to withhold assent to this bill if and when it comes before him.

F Gathercole
Loxton

Cat found in shocking state

RECENTLY, a ginger and white short-haired desexed male cat wearing an orange and blue collar came to my home.

He was in a shocking state. Skinny, broken ribs, starving, thirsty and crying out for help.

I was so heartbroken and traumatised to think who would ignore this cat.

I put him in a safe place with food, water and comfort.

Checked vets for lost cats, council, door knocking houses and put on Facebook lost pets, but no luck.

Heartfelt thanks to Pat and Jim for giving the cat a safe home, kindness and loving care.

Pat named him Stuart. Rest in peace.

MARTINA ROBERTS
Loxton

Explain post box charge

CAN someone explain to me why country folk, and some city folk who have a post box, get charged a yearly fee?

Mine this year is \$82. I also have to drive into town as another expense to collect mail.

The mail is put in our box at the post office. But why is mail delivered free via your local postman? Surely this would be a big cost.

So please tell me why we are charged for our post box.

MARK NEWMAN
Pata

Prepare or face consequences

VARROA destructor, commonly known as the varroa mite, is a

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TEXT
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MAIL
PO Box 832 Renmark SA 5341

BY PETER AND CARLA MAGAREY

parasite with devastating effects on honeybee colonies.

It poses a significant threat to not only apiculture but horticulture worldwide.

Originating from Asia, varroa mites have spread globally, contributing to the decline of bee populations and affecting the pollination services they provide.

June 2022 saw the first detection of varroa mites in Australian hives in the Port of Newcastle, NSW. Since then, despite best efforts to eradicate, we have seen the mite spread along the east coast, with incursions now heading inland.

As a result, we saw the decision by the National Management Group to a shift from eradication to management back in September 2023.

Six months on and apiarists across South Australia have told me they are struggling to get updates or any communication from government about what they can do to help keep bee populations healthy and protected.

The Minister continues to lack leadership, failing to answer simple questions about how many human resources are assigned to manage the bee industry in PIRSA and whether her department has done modelling on the potential impacts of varroa mite here in SA.

With this change to management rather than eradication, it is critical that as a state we arm our apiarists and our industries with the necessary tools to identify and manage the pest.

We know that varroa mite will not only impact our apiarists but will impact thousands of hectares of pollination-dependent crops.

In fact, around 65 per cent of agricultural production in Australia depends on pollination by European honeybees.

As a state we know it is coming and we must be prepared. There must be a plan and industry must be consulted with and communicated to on that plan.

It must be actioned, and South Australia must be ready to go as soon as there is an incursion

"Around 65 per cent of agricultural production in Australia depends on pollination by European honeybees..."

- NICOLA CENTOFANTI

detected.

Over the last six months, I have called on both the State and Federal Labor governments to be clear and swift with their rollout of varroa management activities to ensure that the consequences of varroa mite can be minimised.

We need to be on the front foot to reduce any challenges that may be faced by apiarists and by industry.

It may be a tiny mite, but the threat to our food production and the costs at the checkout are huge.

The threat of varroa mite serves as a stark reminder of the complex interdependence between humans and pollinators, highlighting the need for stringent beekeeping practices, research into alternative control methods, and a national approach to address the threats facing Australia's honeybee populations.

We must be prepared and our leaders need to ensure there is a constant dialogue between the government, apiarists and dependent industry.

NICOLA CENTOFANTI

Riverland-based MLC
Opposition spokesperson for regional South Australia

Commit to Close the Gap

THE National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) calls on governments and health entities to commit to the recommendations of the Close the Gap Campaign Report 2024 to ensure that we, as a nation, realise true health equity for Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Alliance takes a stand with Close the Gap in its call to fully implement the 2021–2031 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan and other supporting plans under First Nations' leadership to ensure that we close the gap in health.

Achieving healthcare equity for First Nations people, especially for the almost 61 per cent living in rural, regional, and remote areas, must be a priority, given the stark disparities in health compared to non-Indigenous populations and those who live in metropolitan areas.

A significant gap exists in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians – 6.8 years for males and 6.5 years for females in rural areas. This gap grows even bigger as remoteness increases – to 12.4 years for both males and females.

Addressing health workforce shortages in rural areas is one step forwards as First Nations peoples continue to face issues

0439 261 337

Let's hope Sustainable Winegrowing Australia and the other corporate bodies refund the fees from the non-existing grape payments I may be lucky to receive, because growing grapes is unsustainable.

You've gotta be joking!

Cartoon comment by Tony Hersey

CAUTIOUS RESPONSE TO LIFTING OF WINE TARIFF

SEE STORY PAGES 4 & 5



in accessing equitable and culturally safe health care.

As such, the Alliance supports the Close the Gap Report's recommendation to invest in the development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce, as outlined in the Health Plan, and create a culturally safe Australian healthcare system that is responsive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We strongly believe that rural workforce training and leadership development programs should support First Nations people living in rural, remote, and regional Australia and ensure there are culturally safe and appropriate healthcare services available. Therefore, we urge the government to invest in expanding opportunities for First Nations people to be embedded in the leadership and governance of the Health Plan.

Additionally, rural First Nations people are challenged by natural disasters throughout the year and feel a major brunt from dramatic climate variances. It is vital to invest in a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Coalition on Climate and Health.

The impact of climate-related disasters has a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of indigenous populations, and more must be done to support First Nations communities to lead climate change prevention, mitigation, and adaptation strategies to improve health outcomes.

SUSI TEGEN

Chief executive
National Rural Health Alliance

Keep sustainability in sight

THE SA/NT branch of Sustainable Population Australia (SPA) has welcomed the State of Environment 2023 (SoE) report for South Australia, which states that human activities are the greatest driver of environmental change.

According to the report, unless we reduce our impacts, adapt to our environment and better appreciate that our health and wellbeing is intrinsically linked to the health of our environment, population growth is likely to be unsustainable.

SPA SA/NT wishes that the report's language were stronger, namely, that growth in the human population will definitely be unsustainable, not just likely to be so, even when action is taken to reduce our impacts.

For too long, our state governments have pursued population growth as an intrinsic good, without taking into account its negative impact on the environment.

We need to keep reminding ourselves that we live in the driest state on the driest continent. Our environment is largely arid and thus fragile.

If ever there were a place in Australia with limits to growth, this is it.

The report rightly notes that water security is critical, yet demands on our water supply for

our communities and the environment are likely to increase with climate change and an expanding population.

The report also notes that with a growing population and in the face of climate change, we need to consider:

□ Food security and water availability, both for the community and the environment.

□ Impacts on green space, natural environments and primary production areas from urban infill and expansion.

□ An expansion of transport needs and industry sectors required to support a growing population that will also increase our environmental footprint through increasing energy and resource demands.

□ More waste and wastewater that needs to be managed.

Ordinary South Australians learned a hard-won lesson about the natural limits to growth 150 years ago. It's called the Goyder Line. Today, the government and its key 'stakeholders' have no regard for any such limits.

Whatever the question, their answer is always endless growth.

When it comes to population, we need to take a precautionary approach.

We can no longer seek population growth as an end in itself, rather, we have to determine what population this state can sustain, particularly in light of climate change, and set policy accordingly.

DR STEPHEN MORRIS
President
SPA SA/NT

TEXT LINE

Congratulations to Sheryl, Eunice, Danni, Lisa, Darryle, Tim and Rob on their election to the SA First Nations Voice.

JACKO
Loveday

Why does Leigh Matthews get to give his opinion on what a football player's penalty should be

after they are reported? There is footage of what Matthews has done over the years, and in my view it can best be described as coward punching. I think he should have faced court and been rubbed out forever. Now he is an expert on what penalty a player should receive?

RED T
Renmark

facebook/themurraypioneer

murraypioneer.com.au

Looking back...

10 years ago 5 April, 2014

The Murray Pioneer

Riverland missing from top 100 list of Aussie holidays, but tourism body says...

We're on the rise

The Riverland's exclusion from a travel magazine's top 100 Australian holidays list is little cause for concern, according to a tourism board.

Mr Shadley said the tourism body was always welcome, but the market was not out there and the region had to prove itself.

He said the tourism body was the kind of thing the Riverland deserved.

Mr Shadley said while recent tourism figures were encouraging, the region had to prove itself.

He said the tourism body was the kind of thing the Riverland deserved.

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Mr Shadley said the tourism body was the kind of thing the Riverland deserved.

'They stole our daughters' innocence'

ALEXANDRA BULL

PARENTS have pulled their children out of Renmark High School after a presentation from a local social organisation group covered topics such as bestiality and incest.

The presentation by Headspace Berri, aimed at year 9 girls, was supposedly about respectful relationships, however students were subject to graphic content and images, including post-gender transition surgery.

Around 20 to 30 girls watched the presentation, with no teachers or male students present.

Parents Nicki Gaylard and Kristy Wundenberg said their daughters were also "yelled at" and "sworn at" by one of the presenters.

Ms Gaylard, whose 14-year-old daughter Courtney White was among the group of girls left the

presentation half-way through, said "this kind of content should not be presented in schools".

"There's not even a word that describes what happened to these kids. These are children – young, vulnerable females," she said.

"Personally, I have heard nothing from the school. Everyone got their generic letters of apologies but I have not had one single phone call to say 'we are aware your children aren't attending school'."

"I have taken three of my kids out of school."

"They will never go back to Renmark High School."

Parents received no letter home from Renmark High School before the presentation.

"All our girls had learnt about so far is respectful relationships with a parent, a sibling, coaches and someone you may have a crush on," Ms Wundenberg said.



Parents have pulled their children out of Renmark High School after a controversial presentation from Headspace Berri. Pictured is Nicki Gaylard (left), Courtney White, Kristy Wundenberg and Emelia Wundenberg, with Courtney and Emelia no longer attending Renmark High School.

PHOTO: Alexandra Bull

"It wasn't respectful of the school to put our daughters in this position. It wasn't respectful of these women to target an age demographic and sex demographic of students."

"When I questioned the principal about who picked the year 9 girls, he said Headspace did and that the presentation was catered to

them.

"Nicki has older children, I have an older son, and all have been through high school and they never had talks like this before."

Ms Gaylard was similarly upset.

"I don't think people actually understand what it's like unless it actually happens to you," she said.

"The feeling as a mother that my child went through this, there is a pain inside of me for what she went through and I had no control over it," she said.

The Department for Education organised a counsellor the following week for students affected by the presentation, with the counsellor only attending the school for one day.

"My daughter has a voice, she will use it. She went to the counselling session to support her friends," Ms Wundenberg said.

"She knew this counsellor wasn't going to be effective, she knew this counsellor wasn't going to do anything. It's why she went in there, firing questions and the counsellor had no answers."

"In a counselling session you expect a counsellor to give you tools to help you progress through the emotions, there was none of that."

"These girls had their innocence stolen."

Ms Wundenberg said her 14-year-old daughter Emelia Wundenberg, was now struggling to interact with her pet dog, which helps with her anxiety, after learning about what bestiality is.

"These girls had no idea what bestiality is, they are 14 and 15. (My daughter) couldn't look at her dog when she got home," she said.

"They don't understand the ripple effect these girls then have to deal with."

"It created fear, it created anxiety...Nicki and me lost the ability to keep our kids, kids."

"They literally took their innocence and put it through a cheese grater."

"We fight hard as parents to make sure our kids' innocence remains for as long as we can."

Renmark High School principal Mat Evans apologised to the families affected by the presentation.

"I acknowledge that some of the students felt uncomfortable with the content, and subsequently resulted in complaints from parents," Mr Evans said.

"I'd like to thank those parents for raising these concerns with me directly and apologise to those families. We are working with the Department for Education to provide support to students."

Mr Evans said "the school is taking the matter very seriously, and has also raised these concerns with the third-party provider".

"The third-party has been suspended from providing this group presentation to department schools in the future, while the department undertakes an investigation," he said.

"Our normal procedure for notifying parents

ahead of specific presentations was not followed. I apologise unreservedly for that.

"We are undertaking an internal review to ensure that processes around such notifications, and procedures with regard to third parties attending at our school are always met."

"I have reached out to a number of families but would encourage anyone else who would like to discuss the issue with me, to do so also."

Ms Wundenberg and Ms Gaylard both reported the incident to police, but said they were told "there is nothing we can do about it because they weren't sexually touched".

"I said (to the officers) they pretty much had porn put in front of them, and if my 17-year-old son went up to a 14-year-old girl and said 'look at this', they would arrest him," Ms Wundenberg said.

Board chair of FocusOne Health, which oversees headspace Berri, Ian Gartley said the body was "aware of the concerns raised by members of the Renmark community following a presentation by a Lived Experience speaker that headspace Berri facilitated at Renmark High School".

"We have taken this feedback seriously and are continuing our work to ensure everything we do is aligned with evidence and best practice, and is safe and appropriate for young people," Mr Gartley said.



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE 2022-23 RIVER MURRAY FLOOD EVENT

A Select Committee of the Legislative Council has been established to inquire into the 2022-23 River Murray flood event including the preparation, response and recovery, with particular consideration being given to:

- (a) Roles and responsibilities of:
 - i. State Government and Federal Government agencies;
 - ii. Local government;
 - iii. Non-profit organisations;
 - iv. Public and private utilities;
- (b) Review of communication between key stakeholders;
- (c) River flow management and modelling;
- (d) Effectiveness of mitigating infrastructure including but not limited to levy banks and stormwater;
- (e) Review of flood response funding, its utilisation and effectiveness;
- (f) Government (local, State and Federal) grant process, eligibility, and uptake;
- (g) River restrictions methodology, communications, and operation;
- (h) Impact of planning decisions on property inundation;
- (i) Insurance industry response and responsibilities;
- (j) Planning and mitigation for future emergency events; and
- (k) Any other related matters.

The Select Committee will be travelling to the Riverland on Thursday 9 May and Friday 10 May 2024 to hear evidence and conduct site visits. Evidence will be heard at Berri.

Any person or organisation wishing to register an interest in presenting oral evidence or suggest a relevant site visit is invited to do so by Friday, 26 April 2024. Expressions of interest should be addressed to the Secretary to the Committee, C/- Parliament House, GPO Box 572, Adelaide 5001, or by e-mail at scmurrayflood@parliament.sa.gov.au. For any queries, or for information on attending the hearings in the public gallery, please contact the Secretary by telephone on (08) 8237 9490 or as above.

Mr Anthony Beasley
Secretary to the Committee

W22418

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'Are you looking to sell? Are you looking to buy? We can help you, we do this everyday'

RLA 315655

RLA 085759L

Venus packing shed expansion a nod to industry confidence

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

IN a sign of confidence in the region's citrus industry, a local packing shed will redevelop its site to increase production by 80 per cent over the next five years.

Loxton's Venus Citrus' expansion was granted planning consent by the Riverland Regional Assessment Panel last month and marketing manager Helen Aggeletos hopes to see the project begin later this year.

"It's exciting times for our business," she said.

"This is one of our biggest developments."

"Over the years we've done several, but this is one of the biggest that we are doing now."

The development will take part in two stages and include a new large shed, machinery and cool rooms.

Mrs Aggeletos said land behind the existing packing shed, on Gratwick Road, was purchased to allow for the expansion.

"We've basically utilised all the land that's on this property," she

said.

"We've outgrown it."

Mrs Aggeletos said the redevelopment was a sign of confidence in the Riverland's citrus industry.

"I am really positive about the industry," she said.

"We are quite recognised and our brand is sought after."

"We probably could sell twice as much as we have."

Mrs Aggeletos praised the business' local citrus growers.

"We can package and present it (the citrus) right, we can try and source a market for it, but it comes back to the quality," she said.

"I have a very good base of growers and that's where it starts from."

Mrs Aggeletos said the redevelopment was part of the business' 10-year plan.

"We've got a number of growers, including ourselves, who have planted young trees three, four years ago and they are now all started to come in production," she said.

"We are planning for the future."



Loxton-based citrus packing house Venus Citrus will redevelop its site later this year to significantly increase its production. PHOTO: supplied

Included in the redevelopment is new machinery, expected to increase efficiency.

"The new grader is the latest technology," Mrs Aggeletos said.

"In our business, we do a lot of exports, so we are competing worldwide and the cost in Australia is humongous versus other countries."

"We compete directly with South Africa, Peru and Chile."

"Australia has got better pro-

duce, there's no doubt, hands down, but we do have to create efficiencies to pack and market fruit."

With fruit fly continuing to be an issue in the region, produce still needs to be cold treated for most of Venus Citrus' markets.

Mrs Aggeletos said new cool rooms will be included in both stages of the redevelopment.

"That will be a real cost saving," she said.

"At the moment, it costs about \$4 a carton to get it to a facility where they prepare it for cold treatment."

Mrs Aggeletos said she hopes stage one of the project will be complete by next year's citrus season, with stage two to be complete by the end of 2025.

Venus Citrus is a third-generation, family-owned and run business which has been packing and marketing citrus since 1977.

Loxton's main street was a hive of activity for the Easter Picnic on Saturday morning. PHOTOS: Stephanie Thompson



Handing out buns at the Loxton Easter Picnic on Saturday morning were volunteers Joy Kloester and Sally Goode.



Buns and eggs aplenty at Loxton Easter breakfast

THE Easter bunny, hot cross buns and chocolate eggs made for a successful picnic in Loxton's main street on Saturday morning.

The Loxton Chamber of Commerce's Easter Picnic took place near the rotunda and business and events manager Sonya Altschwager said the "unusually warm" weather did little to deter attendees.

"The Easter picnic is something we like to offer visitors and the tourists that are in town, as well as the locals of course, while they are

down the main street and shopping on Easter Saturday morning," she said.

"It is always super busy in Loxton on Easter Saturday."

"It is something to add to the atmosphere and visitors always love to feel like part of the community by going to the picnic."

Ms Altschwager said the Loxton Historical Village's Alive Day was also highly successful.

- STEPHANIE THOMPSON

Former local Adam Walker, now of Adelaide, returned to Loxton for the Easter long weekend. He is pictured with his wife, Kara, and sons Nathan, 2, and James,

4.



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Berri Barmera launches gift card

BOOSTING the prosperity of local businesses is the aim of a new Berri Barmera Council gift card initiative.

Locals and visitors have been encouraged to purchase Why Leave Town gift cards, which can be redeemed at a wide array of participating businesses across the Berri Barmera region.

The council says every dollar spent locally generates at least an addition 75 cents in "additional value", such as increased employment opportunities, business growth, and reinvestment in local infrastructure and services.

"This initiative embodies the spirit of community and solidarity that defines Berri Barmera," said Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall.

"By supporting our local businesses, we are investing in the prosperity and well-



why leave town

being of our entire community.

"I encourage all residents to join us in embracing this initiative and making a positive impact right here at home."

Local businesses can join the initiative for free, as ratepayers are absorbing all the running costs.

Over 70 local businesses have already signed up and council is keen to expand on that number.

In a media release, council said both redeeming and accepting the cards was "a breeze".

"Simply treat these cards like any other digital or physical gift card," the council said.

"If you ever need guid-

ance, the cards themselves include instructions on how to process them."

Anyone interested in participating can register by visiting the following website:

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/996449bdb823d2ff23a15de460241898?r=use1>

Physical and digital gift cards can be purchased online via the Why Leave Town website (<https://www.whyleavetown.com/card-purchase-portal/>).

Anyone requiring more information about the gift cards should contact the Berri Visitor Information Centre (phone 8582 5511 or email tourism@berribarmera.sa.gov.au).

BACK OPEN: Renmark Paringa Council contractors last week finished construction on a new wombat crossing, located adjacent to the 180 Murray Avenue open space development.

The area had previously been closed to vehicles while construction was ongoing.

PHOTO: supplied



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WAIKERIE FORMAL PICS PAGES
28-29



How do you know you're a Berri local? Submit your answers to us and we'll compile a list for next week's paper. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

How do you know you're a local?

LOCALS took to social media and directly to The Murray Pioneer to share how they know they are from Barmera.

The Murray Pioneer is compiling lists about each major Riverland town in coming weeks.

Barmera residents shared

a range of things, with Lake Bonney a common theme.

The next town is Berri.

We are asking our readers to complete this sentence, 'You know you're a Berri local when...'.

A list compiling some of the top answers for Berri will be published in next

week's Murray Pioneer.

Answers can be emailed to [@murraypioneer.com.au\), or visit our Facebook page and find the post \(facebook.com/TheMurrayPioneer\).](mailto:(stephanie.thompson@murraypioneer.com.au))

Answers for Berri must be received by 10am, Monday 8 April.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A BARMERA LOCAL WHEN...

- You can spot Lake Bonney by the majestic gums.
 - You have hundreds of Lake Bonney sunset photos on your phone.
 - You got your lollies from Ken's Deli.
 - You know the few areas to overtake all the slow cars between Barmera and Berri.
 - When you love the crisp smell off the lake on a beautiful sunny morning.
 - The only sporting colour you'll ever wear is light blue.
 - A good day is spending it having a barbecue down the lake with family and friends.
 - You know the Barmera Pageant fireworks are always the best.
 - Vanilla slice.
 - You know everyone.
 - Sheep running down the main street is a celebrated event.
 - You miss the old drive-in.
 - You have lived here for over 40 years, and can't find any other place to compare.
 - You know the best fruit and vegetables came from Mason's.
 - You have woken up from sleeping on the footy oval or lake front from a hard night.
 - When you are blessed to call this
- place home and to walk along the beautiful path daily and have the most stunning sunsets and sunrises.
- You've seen the town fountain with bubbles or foam.
 - You always drop the, 'It's worth a trip to Barmera' line.
 - It has been your home for over 40 years after coming from another Riverland town.
 - Watching a beautiful sunset or storm coming across the lake.
 - You're eating the best pastry ever.
 - You're lucky to take magical photos of Lake Bonney.
 - You can rattle off what all the shop fronts have had in them and who owned them over the past four decades.
 - When you still say, 'I'm from Barmera', but haven't lived there in ages.
 - You know that the June long weekend is for country music.
 - You get to enjoy the breathtaking sunsets across Lake Bonney.
 - You have a 'secret' spot on the lake shore.
 - You can get the best pies from the bakery in the main street and then sit down the lake.
 - You've chucked a few 'lakies'.

TERRY'S TAKE

A LIMERICK BY TERRY MARTER



With our previous gov'ment (that's Feds),
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Now we have a redemption:
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Time to roll out more-useful hogsheads!

PAGES 4-5 Tariffs over

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Time to quit your way?

AN annual health campaign is again set to support Riverlanders seeking to quit smoking.

Quit your way in May is an event emphasising the importance of smokers quitting their own way.

It reinforces the 1 May quit date, provides platforms for participants to quit alongside other community members, and celebrates their quitting attempts with lots of encouragement.

The 2023 Quit your way in May campaign achieved 550 registrations and over 9000 visits to the Quit your way in May website, indicating considerable interest surrounding the event and in quitting smoking.

Of participants surveyed one month after the 2023 event, 69 per cent had remained smoke free.

A variety of resources are provided to registrants including evidence-based quitting strategies, quitting tools such as the My QuitBuddy app, and distraction techniques to assist quitters to combat their cravings and withdrawal symptoms.

Registrants can sign up for regular emails of support from Quit your way in May that offer advice on quitting smoking, distraction techniques and words of encouragement to set participants up for ultimate success.

Registrants can also participate in the Quit your way Facebook support group, which has been reported by previous participants as being a highly valuable source of support.

In 2024, Quit your way in May's advertisement with animated buddies will be back, demonstrating different distraction techniques. This year, vaping cessation resources will also be linked on the Quit your way in May website.

Participants are encouraged to visit their doctor for support to quit smoking.

Clinicians can help the Quit your way in May event by supporting smokers to quit and encouraging them to register online (quityourwayinmay.com.au).

Free online training for health professionals to assist smokers to quit is available by visiting the website (www.quit.org.au/resources/quiteducation/quittraining/).

Murthro Road toilets get green light

A RIVERLAND council has secured funding to build new toilets at a local camping area.

Renmark Paringa Council last week announced funding had been agreed upon for construction of the Murthro Forest Campground toilet facilities.

The project had been previously delayed due to the River Murray flood.

The Department for Environment and Water has contributed \$75,000 for the costs

to deliver the project on its land, and will also formalise campsites to be managed by National Parks and Wildlife Services.

A Renmark Paringa Council statement on the subject said the new facilities would "greatly complement the area, not only for locals but also visitors to the region".

It is understood a construction contract has been awarded, with the toilet facilities anticipated to be completed by August.



**Renmark Paringa
Council**

Renmark Lions Easter raffle hits \$3000 total raised

Renmark Lions president Paul Farr presenting a donation of \$3000, raised from the group's Easter raffle, to WCH Auxiliary secretary Sue Gates. PHOTO: Hugh Schuitemaker

Shann Hausler, in the presence of Lions secretary Jocie Cooper and president Paul Farr.

Prizes in the raffle included:

□ 1st prize: Wheelbarrow full of gifts for the family, won

by Di Cresp

□ 2nd prize: A beautiful hand-made quilt, wine, Easter bunny and chocolates, won by Miranda Corman

□ 3rd prize: Six bottles of

red wine, chocolates and nuts, won by Tish Moritz

Mr Farr said "we are pleased to be able to make this substantial donation to the hospital on behalf of our community".



WCH Auxiliary members Jocie Cooper and Shann Hausley conducting the raffle with Mr Farr PHOTOS: Alexandra Bull



The raffle was held at Renmark Square Shopping Centre.

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Riverland Vietnam veterans, with Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall, and Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter Hunter at last Friday's commemoration for US National Vietnam Veterans Day.
PHOTOS: Hugh Schuitemaker



Our veterans gather for their 'brothers in arms'

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

LOCAL veterans of the Vietnam war showed support for their American counterparts in a "first of its kind" commemoration.

Riverland Vietnam veterans, fellow locals and local government representatives gathered last Friday at the Vietnam Veterans and Post WWII Memorial, in Berri, to mark US National Vietnam Veterans Day.

Loveday-based Vietnam veteran David Langdon – an American expat and a key figure in organis-

ing the event – expected the commemoration to become an annual tradition.

"While this was the first initiative of its kind, I hope the event can be held again next year, which will close the 50th Anniversary Commemorations of the end of the decade-long Vietnam War," Mr Langdon said.

"I've been in contact with American ex-servicemen's associations interstate and I'm confident that a contingent of ex-pat American Vietnam veterans will

make the journey to the Riverland next year to attend and participate in another commemoration.

"The war memorial in Berri is the ideal venue to bring people from all over Australia to come together and share in a solemn tribute to our American brothers-in-arms."

Rivergum Christian College school captains Nicola Samaras and Hayden Rosenzweig were among those who laid a wreath at the ceremony.

Berri Barmera Mayor Ella

Winnall – who gave a speech at the commemoration – said connections to the Vietnam War ran throughout the Riverland.

"The Riverland Vietnam Veterans association are an amazing group in our community, and we are very proud to be able to support them to host events at the Vietnam Veterans and Post WWII Memorial in Berri," Ms Winnall said.

"For the veterans to support each other by wanting to hold a service to commemorate the USA

Vietnam Veterans Day is a great display of mateship, allowing defence force personnel and their families to come together and stand by each other in remembering the complex conflict that was the Vietnam war.

"The Riverland had one of the highest contingents per capita serving in Vietnam, and it's pleasing to see the Vietnam veterans services grow in significance and support from the community."

Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter Hunter also attended the event.



American Vietnam veteran David Langdon, who now lives in Loveday, was key in organising the commemoration.

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Waikerie the equestrian destination

EQUESTRIANS from across SA converged on Waikerie for its annual Easter horse show.

The event was held at the Waikerie Horse and Pony Club grounds, on Curtis Road, from Good Friday until Easter Sunday.

Waikerie's pony club has been operating for 62 years and is the only pony club left in the region.

The show featured the return of the dressage category, show jumping, including the Balharry Cup and Foster Cup, topsy events, encourage hacking, show hack, and hunter classes.

Inter-school and bred-to-race thoroughbred classes were also run.

Photographer Paul McCormick captured some of the action.

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The annual Waikerie Easter Horse show was held over the long weekend.

PHOTOS: Paul McCormick



Sport project to enhance our local communities

AN initiative aimed at increasing sporting participation and opportunities will be brought to the Riverland.

The State Government last month announced the Connected and Active Communities (CAC) Project would be expanded into the Riverland.

The three Riverland councils at their December 2023 general meetings passed motions to support implementation of the project, and for a part-time staff member to be based within the District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton said enhancing sporting facilities and opportunities would benefit the region.

"This collaborative approach by the three Riverland councils signifies a strategic effort to improving sporting and recreation opportunities and assets across the region and is a continuation of our commitment to promoting active lifestyles and fostering community wellbeing," Mr Norton said.

"I am confident that this role will be a driver for positive change, allowing us to effectively co-ordinate programs, engage with local clubs and groups, attract new

opportunities to region, and ultimately, better the quality of life for those that live in the Riverland."

Within the project, a CAC project officer – funded for three years – will lead initiatives including:

- Future leaders – increasing the amount, and capacity, of diverse leaders within the sport and recreation community.

- Club health check – understanding the needs of clubs.

- Facility co-ordination – maximising local assets to increase participation for all.

- Mental health in clubs – making clubs a safe space for mental health conversations.

- Volunteerism and micro-volunteering – making it easier for people who care about sport and recreation to find ways to help.

- Heart of the community – working with sport and recreation communities to be as inclusive and welcoming as possible.

- Performance pathways – providing development opportunities for athletes, coaches and officials.

- Increasing community events – increasing physical activity opportunities through events.

- Supporting active lives – addressing barriers

to participation and lifelong engagement.

Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall said "the approach the Riverland councils have taken on this is a great example of how we can collaborate in the Riverland to achieve better outcomes for the whole community".

Minister for Recreation and Sport Katrine Hildyard said heightening physical activity participation in regional communities was a goal of the program.

"People in regional communities understand their own needs better than anyone else," Ms Hildyard said.

"As part of the CAC Project, we've visited the regions, listened to what they've had to say and have captured their expertise to lead a sustained cultural change.

"We've already seen some incredibly positive outcomes... and we're excited for the expansion to continue into the Riverland and Whyalla.

"Through sport and recreation initiatives that have been driven by the community, we aim to bring people together, create a strong sense of belonging and improve participants' physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing."



Renmark Paringa Council last week began upgrades on the Lock 6 Boat Ramp.

PHOTO: supplied

Renmark Paringa starts boat ramp works

A LOCAL boat ramp will be closed for more than two months as a Riverland council undertakes upgrades at the site.

Renmark Paringa Council last week commenced construction on the Lock 6 Boat Ramp upgrade.

The upgrades had previously been delayed due to impacts from the Murray

River flood event.

The works are estimated to take approximately 10 weeks, and during this time the boat ramp area will be inaccessible to enable the contractors to work safely.

Council advised alternate boat ramps can be found at Customs House and Headings Cliff.



Maximising the use of local sport facilities to increase participation is a target of the CAC program. FILE PHOTO



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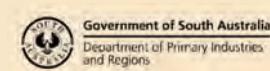
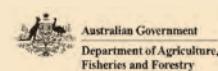
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Native vegetation events coming to the Riverland

LOCAL Heritage Agreement landowners and landholders are encouraged to participate in a series of upcoming events aimed at improving the care for native vegetation.

Trees for Life, in partnership with the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) and Department for Environment and Water's Native Vegetation Branch (NVB), will hold Native Vegetation Q&A sessions at Hotel Renmark, on Wednesday 10 April, at 5pm, and at Calperum Station, on Thursday 11 April, at 10am.

A Drop in Session day will then be held at the MRLB office, at 28 Vaughan Terrace,

in Berri, for landholders to speak with a native vegetation officer about native vegetation, incentives and opportunities, or clearance approvals.

Interested landholders can also participate in a series of 10 online workshops, beginning in May, covering subjects such as weed control, pest animal management, plant identification, bird identification, fire management and property planning.

For further information, or to register for the events, visit the website (www.environment.sa.gov.au/nvhagrants), or contact the NVB via phone on 8303 9777, or email (NVC.HAProgram@sa.gov.au).



Riverland Heritage Agreement landowners and landholders are encouraged to attend upcoming events aimed at improving the care for native vegetation. FILE IMAGE



River users have been advised to prioritise safety, with river levels currently lower than this time in previous years. FILE IMAGE

River safety crucial amid lower water levels

RIVERLANDERS and those holidaying in the region have been advised to prioritise safety, with river levels currently lower than this time in previous years.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority senior director of river operations Tom Zouch said high storage volume in Lake Victoria and available water in the Menindee Lakes meant less was needed from Hume Dam to supply South Australia.

"Our primary focus is to

supply this seasons' demand while making sure we're optimising water availability for future seasons," Mr Zouch said.

"That means while there should be reasonable flow in the river, levels will be lower than recent years.

"We encourage river users to stay abreast of forecast river levels and plan their activities accordingly. Recreational activities that require deeper water such as boating can take advantage

of weir pools along the river where suitable.

"It's important to remember that river levels can change and may not be the same as the last time people visited the river. It's a reminder to all of us to always consider safety when using our rivers."

Updates regarding river levels and forecasts can be viewed by visiting the website (www.riverdata.mdba.gov.au/system-view).

Renmark Lions hit new fundraising heights

THE Lions Club of Renmark recently held its Lions Biggest BBQ event as part of the Australian Lions annual fundraising for the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF), whose mission is to prevent kids with cancer from dying.

This year's event was held in conjunction with the regular monthly Fundraising Bazaar on Saturday 23 March.

The local community showed tremendous support this year, resulting in \$1500 being raised. This amount has been donated to ALCCRF.

Renmark Lions president Paul Farr said "we thank our community who supported us at our recent bazaar".

"Our club has supported ALCCRF for many years, and with the success of our monthly fundraising bazaars enjoying tremendous community support, we felt it would be a good platform to raise funds to donate toward this very worthwhile cause," Mr Farr said.

"With this great support we were able to increase the amount of funds raised this year compared to previous years."

Funding to 'turbocharge' housing developments

A NATIONAL funding program is open for applications from Riverland councils seeking to increase housing availability.

The Federal Government last week opened applications for Stream 1 of the \$500 million Housing Support Program.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure Catherine King said improving "efficiency of the planning process so that housing construction can start sooner" was a goal.

"Through the Housing Support Program, we'll be helping to turbocharge planning so we can deliver more homes for more Australians," Ms King said.

"Strengthening planning capability through the program will help kick-start housing supply from local, state and territory governments, and master planning reforms, were also targets."

"Our government has a broad and ambitious housing agenda to help address

"It's a critical part of plan to work with states and territories and help them meet the ambitious national target to build 1.2 million well-located new homes."

Projects must demonstrate alignment with planning, zoning and regulatory reforms agreed through National Cabinet's National Planning Reform Blueprint, land-use planning for disaster resilience and the aims of the National Housing Accord, aiming to build 1.2 million new homes nationally, over five years, from 1 July.

Federal Minister for Housing Julie Collins said supporting the sharing of resources between local governments, and master planning and planning reforms, were also targets.

"Our government has a broad and ambitious housing agenda to help address

Australia's housing challenges, and the Housing Support Program is a critical part of that agenda," Ms Collins said.

"I urge all councils and state and territory governments to submit their projects so we can work together to get more homes on the ground, faster."

"Our ambitious housing reform agenda is working across the board – more help for renters, more help for homebuyers and more help for Australians needing a safe place for the night."

Applications for stream 1 of the Housing Support Program will remain open until 12 noon on Monday 29 April.

Further information is available by visiting the website (www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/cities/housing-support-program).

“ Through the Housing Support Program, we'll be helping to turbocharge planning so we can deliver more homes for more Australians... ”

Federal Minister for Infrastructure Catherine King

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Berri Barmera COUNCIL



Waikerie High School's night of nights

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

WAIKERIE High School (WHS) Year 12 students enjoyed the glitz and glamour of their formal recently at the Waikerie Golf Club.

Principal Craig Griffiths said 35 couples took part in the event.

The students and their partners arrived in a traditional procession of vehicles made up of vintage cars, semi-trailers, and sports cars.

Mr Griffiths said he and year 12 home teachers Dion Higgins, Paul Tripodi, and senior school assistant principal Phil Valentine were proud to greet the couples and present them to the crowd of families.

"It is a highlight to see the Year 12s looking so terrific and so dazzling," he said.

"It was nice to have a great meal and to spend some time with them."

Mr Griffiths congratulated students on their organisation of the event, involving several presentations during the evening.

He said 10 students from across year 7 to year 10 assisted by serving meals.

"It was good to see them supporting the senior students," Mr Griffiths said.

He thanked the year 12 home teachers, Mr Valentine and WHS business manager Felicity Ziegler for helping make the formal a success.

Mr Griffiths said the school was also grateful to butcher Nigel Rollbusch and the Waikerie Golf Club for catering the event.

He said having the formal in term one was an ideal way to start year 12.

Mr Griffiths said this would hopefully provide students with the incentive to focus on the year ahead.

"It is obviously a big year for all of them and we look forward to working with and supporting them in their learning and chosen pathways."

The teachers and those attending the formal also chose the formal's award winners.



Flynn and Sophie at the Waikerie High School formal. PHOTO: supplied

“It was nice to have a great meal and to spend some time with them...

Craig Griffiths

Harry and Natalia were named Formal King and Queen, Hayden and Gemma were chosen as Best Dressed Couple, Ellen and Dakota won the Cutest Duo prize, and Jasmine and Cameron won the Best Car award.

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Council grants only covering half the costs?

MID Murray Council community groups will still be required to pay half the cost to deliver projects or events successful in an annual grant program.

Mid Murray Council last week announced applicants for its upcoming Community Grants Program would need to contribute 50 per cent in either cash or in-kind support for the costs of their potential projects.

Other changes for the 2024 program include community groups only being able to apply for a grant from one funding stream, and a requirement for funds to be used for the intended purpose as outlined in the application.

Mid Murray Mayor Simone Bailey said the funding could assist the delivery of community projects or events, with a separate stream also supporting locals

attending sport, music, art or other cultural events.

"This program gives real support for many community groups, organisations and individuals to provide meaningful outcomes for the Mid Murray," Ms Bailey said.

"Over recent years the grants have assisted with the promotion and running of local events, funded much-needed medical and sporting equipment, and given a boost to groups working towards facility upgrades and local history projects.

"It's a way that council can recognise and support the efforts of our fantastic community groups and individuals in providing opportunities for our residents in a wide range of activities, including recreational, cultural, community and environmental.

"Interest in these grants is always significant, and the

changes to the application process this year will ensure the grants deliver the maximum benefit for our community."

Groups applying for funding must also provide quotes to the equal value of the funding request – with preference given to applicants using local businesses or suppliers where possible and within budget, community group meeting minutes demonstrating support for the project or event application, and evidence of the group's current financial position.

Applications for the Community Grants Program are set to open on 1 May and close on 15 June.

Further information is available by visiting the website (www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au/community/grants).



Mid Murray Council community groups will still be required to pay half the cost to deliver projects or events successful in an annual grant program. FILE IMAGE

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WZ10606-V10



Dental support for Mid Murray

MID Murray locals will be able to access increased support for dental emergencies through a new service.

Berri Dental, in partnership with the Australian Dental Foundation, recently established an extended, out-of-hours emergency dental triage service for Mid Murray residents.

The services will enable clinician partners to operate an after-hours phone emergency service to support initial response to dental emergencies.

Video dental consultations can also be provided online for patients with the experienced team of local dental clinicians where appropriate.

Further information regarding the new service can be found by visiting the website (www.dentalfoundation.org.au/programs/tele-dentistry-program/).



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WZ10606-V11

RFDS report highlights 'poor' rural outcomes

RESIDENTS of regional Australian areas – including the Riverland – are experiencing “significantly” lower access to health services, according to a major new report.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service last week released the Best for the Bush, Rural and remote Health Base Line 2023 report.

RFDS federation executive director Frank Quinlan said the report “again demonstrates significantly poorer health outcomes and more limited access to primary health services” in rural communities.

“Our postcode should (not) be what determines access to health services,” Mr Quinlan said.

“All Australians should expect reasonable access to primary healthcare services no matter where they live. For Australians living in rural, remote and regional Australia, access simple services such as a nurse-led clinic, a GP, a dentist or a specialist is so much harder.

“As we look to reform Medicare across the country, we need to help people living outside the reach of mainstream services, who rely on services outside the Medicare system.

“This report recognises rural and remote communities need rural and remote solutions that are designed with local communities to respond to need.”

The report showed regional residents:

- Are 2.9 times more likely to be hospitalised

- Are 2.8 times more likely to be hospi-

talised for reasons that are preventable

- Are 2.7 times more likely to die from potentially avoidable causes

- Life expectancy for Indigenous males living in remote and very remote areas was 5.2 years lower than that of Indigenous males living in major cities (67.3 years compared with 72.5 years)

- The equivalent comparison for Indigenous females was 4.2 years lower (71.3 years compared with 76.5 years)

National Rural Health Alliance chief executive Susi Tegen said the report provided “further evidence for the government to implement not only the recommendations of the RFDS, but also the many recommendations made through their own reform and reviews of the healthcare workforce, health access and flexible funding for rural and remote communities”.

“(The) report demonstrates the massive health underspend in rural areas that contributes to a heavy burden of disease and shorter life expectancy,” Ms Tegen said.

“Most of these diseases are preventable with better access to primary health care.

“We stand with the RFDS in its recommendations for expanded health funding that would help remove barriers to healthcare access.”

The full Best for the Bush, Rural and remote Health Base Line 2023 report can be read by visiting the website (www.flyingdoctor.org.au/download-document/best-bush-rural-and-remote-health-base-line-2023/).



RFDS Riverland Support Group president Alan Eckermann was a guest speaker at the recent meeting of the Riverland 4WD Club.
PHOTOS: supplied

Driving support for local RFDS group

MEMBERS of the Riverland 4WD Club came together at Paringa on Tuesday 12 March 2024.

Some dined at the Paringa Hotel, prior to moving to the Paringa Friendship Centre for their regular monthly meeting.

Guest speaker for the evening was Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Riverland Support Group president Alan Eckermann.

Alan explained what the RFDS does in Australia and pointed out many regular places that are covered to assist isolated people all over the country.

Four-wheel drivers have always supported the RFDS, as members travel to many isolated areas of Australia and never know when medical services will be required should someone within the group become ill or need urgent medical attention.

Alan explained the recently installed medical transfer station, at the Remark



The club presented a donation of \$409 to the RFDS group.

Airport, catering for ambulances and their staff to safely transfer patients to an RFDS plane, is very successful. The transfer station caters for not only patients, but has facilities for relatives who are there to farewell the patient to a metropolitan hospital.

The RFDS transfer station was the first to be built in

regional South Australia and is a forerunner for other airports.

During the evening a collection was taken for the RFDS, and together with donations made at other meetings this year, a cheque for \$409 was presented to Alan.

Supper was served and the general meeting followed.



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Matthew Fry, of Loxton, with the giant pumpkin that earned him first place. PHOTOS: supplied



Murray River Giant Pumpkin and Sunflower Competition organiser Kevin Myers managed to grow the biggest sunflower head.



Daniel McGurgan, of Cadell, won the strangest entry ever with his bridal pumpkin.



Darren Goodrich, of Karoonda (right), who won second place in the tallest sunflower and biggest sunflower head categories with his daughters Hannah and Emma-Lee, who both won prizes for their pumpkins.

Cadell's pumpkin and sunflower comp a hit

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

A CADELL-based pumpkin and sunflower growing contest is generating interest from overseas and across Australia.

Cadell Community and Tourist Association vice-chairperson and Murray River Giant Pumpkin and Sunflower Competition organiser Kevin Myers said interest from participants and other parties had been overwhelming.

He said a Sydney-based television show contacted him about the contest after viewing its Facebook page and were interested in visiting next year.

Mr Myers said pumpkin contest enthu-

siasts from Canada and New Zealand were also among those engaging with the Easter event on social media.

The 2024 competition, held on Saturday, attracted a field of 38 pumpkins and 16 sunflowers.

It was the first time sunflowers were part of the annual event.

The winner of the Giant Pumpkin category was Matthew Fry, of Loxton, with a pumpkin weighing in at 182.4kg.

Bushy won the tallest sunflower, which measured 3250mm, and Mr Myers cultivated the Biggest Sunflower Head with a measurement of 1525mm.

Mr Myers said most of the entrants took part in both the pumpkin and sunflower categories, as they were offered both types of seeds to plant.

He said some competitors discovered the challenges of planting pumpkins and sunflowers at the same time.

Mr Myers said by the time pumpkins were ready for harvest, the sunflowers were all shrivelled up.

"That is where a lot of people messed up a little bit," Mr Myers said.

"A pumpkin needs a growing period of 120 days, while a sunflower only requires 90 days to grow."

Mr Myers said those wanting to enter the competition next year, being held on 19 April, should follow the event's Facebook page for instructions on when to plant their pumpkins and sunflowers.

MURRAY RIVER GIANT PUMPKIN AND SUNFLOWER COMPETITION WINNERS:

GIANT PUMPKIN

- 1st Matthew Fry, of Loxton, 182.4kg
- 2nd Janet Blacksell, of Renmark, 129.0kg
- 3rd Kevin Myers, of Cadell, 127.6kg

TALLEST SUNFLOWER

- 1st Bushy, of Cadell, 3250mm
- 2nd Darren Goodrich, of Karoonda, 3000mm
- 3rd Emillia Malycha, of Spalding, 2670mm

BIGGEST SUNFLOWER HEAD

- 1st Kevin Myers, of Cadell, 1525mm
- 2nd Darren Goodrich, of Karoonda, 1470mm
- 3rd Teddy Myers, of Winkie, 1390mm

FANCY DRESSED PUMPKINS

- 1st Emma-Lee Goodrich, of Karoonda, "Karen"
- 2nd Ali McGurgan, of Cadell, "Pretty Pumpkin"
- 3rd Hannah Goodrich, of Karoonda, "Minion"

STRANGEST ENTRY EVER

Winner: Daniel McGurgan

Waikerie market rescheduled for this Saturday

THE Rotary Club of Waikerie has organised a market this Saturday to compensate for the cancellation of last month's River Fringe market.

Rotary Club of Waikerie Markets co-ordinator Andre Skujins said the market will run from 9am to 2pm, in the Civic Gardens, and will feature a circus performance by Fit to Fly, at 11am.

The Riverland circus performers had been scheduled to perform at the River

Fringe market, cancelled last month due to high temperatures.

Temperatures at Waikerie on 10 March – the day when the event had been scheduled – reached 39.5C and market organisers were relieved they had made the right decision.

Mr Skujins said unfortunately The Chasers, who were also set to perform last month, were unavailable for the market on Saturday.

He said Riverland musi-

cian Dale Broughton, who has previously entertained Waikerie market attendees, would perform instead.

A Mad Hatter theme will be featured at the market, with local artist Susie Skujins running art workshops for children centred on this topic.

Mr Skujins said Fit to Fly Circus will also base their performance on the Mad Hatter theme.

- CHRISTINE WEBSTER

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Loxton Waikerie Library Service newsletter

LOXTON and Waikerie Libraries hosted authors Ruth and Don Pollock on Thursday 14 March.

The husband and wife team spoke on their publishing journey and were well received by the audience.

The libraries have had an 'egg-citing' time in the lead up to Easter, with many children participating in the Easter Egg Challenge. Children have found eggs in the most unusual locations, and all enjoyed their chocolate reward.

STEM activities during term 1 have been very popular with children and their parents at both libraries, with

good attendances at all sessions.

STEM activities will be offered in term 2 with programs being available at the libraries and on the Facebook page.

School holidays are fast approaching and both libraries will be holding free story and craft sessions for children on Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 April, and Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 April. The Loxton Library will be exploring fishing, rockets, tractors and trains, while Waikerie Library's circus theme will be offering pinwheels, a lion and the ring of fire, the big top, your



School holiday activities are being held this month at the Waikerie Library.

PHOTO: supplied

favourite circus entertainers and a wearable jester's hat.

For further information or to book phone Loxton Library on 8584 8051, or Waikerie Library on 8541 0720.

BOOK REVIEW



TOP 10 OCTOBER READS:

The Secret
by Lee Child and Andrew Child

The 24th Hour
by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro

What Happened To Nina?
by Dervla McTiernan

Never Too Late
by Danielle Steel

The Atlas Maneuver
by Steve Berry

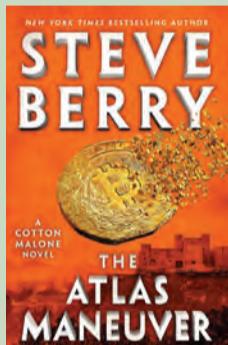
Charlotte Pass
by Lee Christine

Three-inch Teeth
by C. J. Box

The School Run
by Ali Low

Lady Tan's Circle Of Woman
by Lisa See

Red Dirt Home
by Renae Black



TITLE:

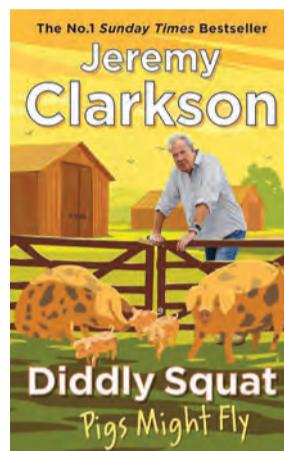
Diddly squat: Pigs Might Fly

AUTHOR:

Jeremy Clarkson

BOOK REVIEW BY:

Karen Flavel



DIDDLY Squat: Pigs Might Fly is a continuation of Jeremy Clarkson's farming adventures on Diddly Squat Farm. The book is a compilation of Clarkson's newspaper articles covering his farming adventures and provides a great insight into rural life, the environment and Clarkson's growth as a farmer.

Jeremy is always coming up with inventive schemes and ideas on how to diversify his farm income, the latest being a brilliant plan to build a business empire on rewilding and making nettle soup.

Most of his schemes and ideas are met with opposition and derision from Kaleb, his trusty farm helper, and the red trouser brigade, and are usually defeated by the Council Planning Department.

The animals at Diddly Squat add to the chaos – the sheep, who looked nice in the field, have gone, the cows have been introduced

to Break-Heart Maestro – a rented bull – and the pigs are multiplying. Jeremy also introduced goats to his farm, but found them to be psychopaths.

Jeremy is always optimistic about farm life and tries his hardest to highlight the plight of farmers and what they go through to try and make a living. He relies on Cheerful Charlie to help him sort through the stifling amount of red tape that is forever incoming – fortunately he charges by the hour.

There are poignant moments in the book that show a side to Clarkson we don't often see, as well as the usual humorous situations he always manages to embroil himself into. Clarkson's storytelling is engaging, providing an entertaining read that could be easily read in one session.

APRIL



For this week's edition of *hugh cooks with hugh*, the boys have gone with a classic chicken and mustard sauce that is created entirely using just one pan.

For chicken with mustard sauce (serves one)

- 1 chicken breast
- Salt and pepper
- 100g butter
- 1 tablespoon wholegrain mustard
- 1/4 bunch parsley
- 100ml cream
- 1 bunch broccolini
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 100ml chicken stock
- 1 tablespoon thyme
- 1 tablespoon olive oil



method

1. Season chicken breast generously with salt and pepper. Preheat oven to 180C.

2. Add oil to a pan and heat to high. Cook chicken, skin down, for 5 to 10 minutes until skin is crisp. Allow to finish cooking in oven.

3. Remove chicken from pan and allow to rest. Add pan back to medium

- heat. Add, butter crushed garlic and thyme.

4. When butter is foaming, add chicken stock, cream and mustard.

5. Reduce liquid by half and add parsley, and any extra seasoning if needed.

6. Serve alongside grilled broccolini.



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OUT & ABOUT

IN THE RIVERLAND



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Kira, Daniel, Anna, Jennifer, Owen and Macy McCullough at the Loxton Village Alive Day held over the Easter long weekend. PHOTOS: supplied



Helen Kaesler, Rowan Chapman and Grant Chapman enjoying the Easter celebrations.



Jetty Baks doing flower demonstrations.



Merv Gladigau and Ian Cass.



Raelene Gladigau playing pedal organ in the chapel.

the quiz



1. What part of a corgi's body is smaller than a normal dog its size?
2. What portable gaming device did Nintendo introduce in 1989?
3. What is the only city to host the modern Olympics in an odd-numbered year?
4. What is the latitude of the North Pole?
5. What type of animal is known to beat its chest as a dominance display?
6. What was the name of the throne everyone was fighting over in "Game of Thrones"?
7. What South African cape is often known simply as "The Cape"?
8. What did Justin Timberlake say he was "bringing back" in a 2006 song?
9. In which country would you find Omaha, Juno, and Utah beaches?
10. In what movie is the main character given a choice between a red pill and a blue pill?
11. What last appeared in the inner Solar System in 1986 and will make its next visit in 2061?
12. In what type of sea creature do the males carry fertilized eggs inside them?
13. What Japanese company has been the world's largest motorcycle maker since 1959?
14. Fill in the blank: Neoprene is a synthetic form of ____?
15. What particle within an atom is positively charged?
16. It's a three digit number. If you add up the digits you get 27. What is the number?
17. What four words stereotypically start a fairy tale?
18. What does sushi have that sashimi does not?
19. What country is home to the world's five oldest surviving businesses – all founded before the year 800 AD?
20. Where would you find a skipper and a bosun?

BONUS QUESTION:

What song was the Christmas Number One in the UK in 1975?
Answer in next week's Quiz.

Answers on
page 34

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
QUIZ MASTER
TOM TRIFONOFF

OUT & ABOUT

IN THE RIVERLAND



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DAY FOR A RIDE: Approximately 100 Loxton Primary School students either rode, walked or scooted to school last month as part of National Ride Safely To School Day. PHOTOS: supplied



I HOPE YOU LIKE JAMMING TOO: Kingston-on-Murray Primary School students attended Cobdogla Primary to see the Just Add Music (JAM) band. A spokesperson said the day was "a fantastic opportunity for our school communities to come together and enjoy some live music". PHOTOS: supplied



WOOD IS GOOD:
Berri Regional Secondary School students recently finished building their first table with their volunteer mentor Steve. Students develop woodwork skills each week and will be building projects to improve yard spaces throughout the school.
PHOTO: supplied



Berri Regional Secondary School teacher Josh Vater at last week's Riverland Interschool Athletics Day.
PHOTO: supplied

Community Diary

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A guide to what's on in the Riverland for community non-profit events. Email:
editor@murraypioneer.com.au with an event description in 30 words or less.

WEEKLY

Guided tours of **The Pines**

Historic House are held every Sunday at 2pm, at 18 Henry Street, Loxton. Gardens open seven days. Extra tour inquiries to Marian 0412 649 766.

WEEKLY

Barmera Theatre Art & Craft Gallery in the Bonney Theatre complex open for sales Tuesday to Friday 10am to 2pm, and Saturday 9.30am to 11.30am. Inquiries to Ruth 0428 899 506.

WEEKLY

Palms Bingo Club hold a bingo session every Tuesday at the Monash Club. Doors open at 11am and eyes down at 11.30am. Lunch and drinks available.

WEEKLY

Social badminton at the **Barmera Recreation Centre** Thursday evenings, 6.30pm to 8pm, and Tuesday mornings, 9am to 10.30am. Racquets available and all welcome. For more information contact Judy 8588 8000.

WEEKLY

Card and boards games every Monday, even long weekends, 1.30pm to 4pm. Carpet bowls every Wednesday, 1.30pm to 4pm. Renmark Lutheran Church, 62 Seventeenth Street, Renmark. Phone Yvonne Kruschel 0428 963 195.

WEEKLY

Ukulele every Thursday during school terms, from 5.15pm to 6.45pm at the **Monash Hall** supper room. Inquiries to Margot (0407 796 508). Beginners welcome.

WEEKLY

USA Riverland yoga in the CWA rooms, Loxton. Every Wednesday from 9.30am.

WEEKLY

Renmark Bowling Club on Cowra

Street would like to welcome you to bingo. Every Thursday night from 7pm.

WEEKLY

The **Barmera Community Men's Shed** is open Monday and Thursday from 8am to 12.30pm at the Bruce Oval. All men are welcome. Not open on public holidays.

WEEKLY

Berri Senior Citizens welcome anyone over the age of 55 to attend the BSC Hall at 4 Draper Road, Berri, each Tuesday, 1pm to 4pm. Activities include bridge, cards, games, pool, computer use and socialising.

WEEKLY

Barmera Lake Bonney Quilters meet every Wednesday 9am to 4pm at the Riverland Field Days site. Friendly group. All welcome, beginner or experienced. Contact 0438 837 307.

WEEKLY

The **SACWA Loxton District Branch** meets every Thursday, from 10am-2pm, at its hall on Kokoda Terrace, Loxton. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and companionship.

WEEKLY

Riverland Woodworkers at the old Renmark High School, Ral Ral Avenue, Wednesdays 9am to 4pm, Thursday 6pm – 9pm, Sundays 1pm to 4pm. Any skill level welcome. For more information contact Luke Bihun 0400 253 572.

WEEKLY

Meet, Greet & Eat at **Loxcare Community Hub**, 13 Drabsch Street, Loxton, every Friday at 10am. Come and enjoy morning tea and a chat. For inquiries phone 8584 6954.

WEEKLY

Rock 'n' roll and partner dancing at **Monash Community Hall**

Mondays from 7pm to 10pm with the River Rock Dance Club. \$5 entry, visitors welcome to come along and enjoy great music, dancing and a friendly atmosphere.

WEEKLY

Loxton Historical Village open Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, and public holidays. Pet friendly. Phone 8584 7194 or visit the website (www.thevillageloxton.com.au).

WEEKLY

Riverland Concert Brass Band meets Monday nights 7pm to 8.30pm, except public holidays. 1 Verran Terrace, Berri. All musicians welcome.

WEEKLY

Loxton Senior Citizens Club meet every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm at RVCC, corner of Bookpurnong Road and View Street. New members welcome. Please phone Jean 8584 7313.

WEEKLY

AA meetings throughout the Riverland. Kingston Institute Hall, Sunday, 2pm. Loxcare, Tuesday, 8pm. Loxton Uniting Church Hall, Thursday, 12.30pm. St Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Berri, Thursday, 8pm.

WEEKLY

The **Berri Community Men's Shed** is open from 8am to 12 noon on Mondays and Thursdays. New members welcome. Inquiries phone president Ian Campbell 0418 839 963.

WEEKLY

Mainly Music for children aged 0 to 5 at Rivergum Christian College. Every Thursday, 10am to 11.30am during school terms. \$5 per week, per family. Cost goes towards morning tea for adults, pack a snack for your child. Come and try your first session free.

Olivewood Historic Homestead and Museum open Thursday to Monday, 10am to 4pm and on public holidays. Pet friendly. Inquiries call 8586 6175.

WEEKLY

Visit the **Renmark Paringa Community Museum** and watch the Paringa Bridge lift most days at 2.30pm. Preserving the past, more than 70 vintage stationary engines. Contact Wayne 0407 618 311, open Mon/Wed/Fri from 10am to 3pm.

WEEKLY

Sing Australia meets on Thursdays 7pm – 8.30pm in the Monash Hall in school terms. Come and share in the joy of singing. You may visit three times before joining. Inquiries Margot 0407 796 508.

MONTHLY

Berri Barmera Garden Club meets every third Sunday of the month at the Riverland Central Church on Mortimer Road, Berri at 1.30pm. New members welcome. For more information phone John 0409 885 811.

MONTHLY

The **Loxton Legacy Widow Group** meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am at the Loxton RSL hall.

MONTHLY

Loxcare Community Hub free mobile phone/tablet/computer questions and answers on the third Friday of each month from 10am. Enjoy a cuppa and learn about your devices as part of the Be Connected Network.

BI-MONTHLY

Ostomy Support Group Riverland. First Thursday of May, July, September and November at Renmark RSL, 91 Fifteenth Street. 10am till 12 noon. All Ostomates and partners welcome. Contact Neville Sharp

0419 849 822 for further information.

THURSDAY 4 APRIL

Charity for All Bingo for the Garden Club at the Loxton Club. Doors open at 6pm, seated by 6.30 for eyes down at 7pm. Don't be late to join in the fun.

MONDAY 8 APRIL

Christian Women Communicating International dinner, 6pm to 9.30pm at Loxton Hotel. Cost \$8. Buy own meal. Women's speaker Rosemary Harris. Enquiries to Jill 0467 010 814.

TUESDAY 9 APRIL

Christian Women Communicating International morning tea 10am to 12.30pm at Barmera Uniting Church Hall. Cost \$10. Includes morning tea. Women's speaker Rosemary Harris.

THURSDAY 11 APRIL

Dementia Australia will host a free Communication and Dementia session at the Renmark Paringa Council Chambers, from 1pm to 4pm. Please contact Paula Nitschke for bookings on 0472 804 145.

SUNDAY 28 APRIL

Renmark Lions Club Fundraising Bazaar 8am to 12noon at Renmark No.2 Oval - W E Wood Hall. Many bargains. Eftpos, barbecue, hot doughnuts. Funds raised go to Lions local community projects. Note change of day. Contact Colin 0419 801 996.

SATURDAY 4 MAY

Olivewood Historic Homestead and Museum Members Memorial Wall launch. 10am, as part of the 2024 SA History Festival. For more info contact Ann on 0429 040 046.



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A BIT OF SWING: A new basket swing and fence were recently installed at the Kingston-on-Murray Primary School playground.

PHOTOS: supplied

State says no more parking in electric vehicle spaces

NEW parking offences prohibiting non-electric cars from parking in designated EV parking areas – and parking in a charging area when the vehicle is not being charged – came into effect across South Australia this week.

The rules are part of a raft of changes to the Australian Road Rules, which also include new child restraint laws.

Under the two new EV parking laws, first-time offenders will incur \$75 on-the-

spot fines, while second-time offenders will be fined \$111. Local councils will install signage by electric vehicle parking bays to remind drivers of the new offences.

“We’re... embracing the increasing numbers of electric vehicles on our roads by ensuring smooth integration and access to charging infrastructure,” said SA Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Tom Koutsantonis.

The State Government has

also removed restrictions on the sale and use of certain non-standard child restraints, to make it easier for parents and carers of children with a medical condition or disability to source specifically-designed restraints. After extensive advocacy from groups such as Mobility and Accessibility for Children in Australia Ltd (MACA), parents and carers will no longer be required to have their vehicle and the associated child restraint inspected, but will still need to

carry a certificate from a medical practitioner when driving. Further changes include revisions to some rules relating to U-turns and giving way to cyclists and pedestrians. It is also now illegal to interrupt or interfere with funeral processions.

The amendments and technical changes to the Australian Road Rules dictionary were approved following an agreement by Infrastructure and Transport Ministers in June 2023.



HAVE YOU HAD YOUR SAY ABOUT FRESHCARE?

If you would like to provide feedback on Freshcare, you need to get in quickly. The survey closes on Friday 5 April.

When filling out the survey, take a detailed look at the number of regulatory and compliance systems citrus growers adhere to – the list is quite extensive, and it is worth emphasising the numbers that impact you.

Freshcare, in partnership with Hort Innovation, is asking for input into an industry-wide grower survey to help businesses and exporters meet regulatory requirements more efficiently, giving Australian agriculture a trade advantage.

The project is focused on how Regulatory Technology (RegTech) could be used to reduce the level of system duplication that exists for grower businesses related to compliance with industry, regulatory and crop-specific requirements.

Freshcare's grower survey will help assess the level of compliance responsibilities for grower businesses in the horticulture industry, identifying the factors contributing to regulatory challenges faced by participants.

The survey can be completed by visiting the website (www.research.net/r/st220099_survey1) and takes approximately 5 to 10 minutes.

Results of the survey will be used to understand the factors impacting growers, including time, costs, training requirements and broad number of systems to determine:

- Level of duplication across systems
- Cost of system compliance for grower businesses
- Business case for removing duplication using Regulatory Technology (RegTech).

FRUIT FLY FRUIT MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS

Are you aware of the restrictions and regulations around fruit movement this harvest? PIRSA has set out guidelines which can be found by referring the email sent out by Citrus SA on Friday 29 March.

MELBOURNE TRIP – POSTPONED

The proposed study tour to Melbourne in May has been postponed due to limited interest. We hope to reschedule at another time.

IMPORTANCE OF COPPER APPLICATION

Copper plays a crucial role in managing fungal diseases both before and after harvest, including brown rot, greasy spot, and septoria, which are significant concerns across all fruit markets. Application of copper is necessary for all varieties, starting with M7 and Navelina and potentially extending to Afourer and Tango where access between rows is challenging. In orchards with heavy crops where fruits are nearing the ground, special attention must be given to ensure thorough coverage, particularly on the lower parts of the trees.

Effective coverage of the copper spray is paramount. Copper isn't systemic, so particle size matters, generally smaller particles are more effective. The spray recommendation varies depending on the stage and type of fruit:

- All varieties, including Valencia: Copper should be applied according to label rates to control diseases like septoria, greasy spot, phytophthora, and issues related to anthracnose.

For wind blemish reduction, the use of high-quality red copper has shown better results compared to blue copper. Growers opting for red copper may observe lighter blemishes, which positively impact pack-outs and returns.

All citrus varieties should be sprayed at label rates, starting with the earliest maturing ones. Some important notes to consider when using copper:

- Ensure thorough agitation and follow specific copper label recommendations.
- Do not mix copper with other products like GA and nutrients.
- Allow fruit to dry completely before nightfall, especially in humid conditions.
- Avoid applying copper to wet fruit, particularly when cells are turgid, such as early morning or after rain.

- Maintain a tank mix pH above 6.0 to prevent fruit burn due to copper ion accumulation.
- Certain copper products can be mixed with summer oil following label directions, which can help with issues like sooty mould, red scale, mealybug, or mites.

Varieties like Imperial and Afourer are sensitive to copper marks. Consider applying high-quality red copper under optimal conditions. Adjusting label rates and water volumes may also be necessary, especially for early applications with row access issues.

Allow a 14-day gap after applying copper spray before re-entering the orchard with foliar sprays, including 2,4-D.

If an oil spray has been recently applied, wait 2 to 3 weeks before applying copper spray.

New copper formulations on the market may also improve fruit firmness, reduce splits, and show fewer instances of albedo. Consult with your chemical reseller for more information, especially considering current shipping challenges.

APRIL PRODUCTION TIPS

Copper sprays: Aim to begin your copper application at the start of April to help minimise any fungal diseases. Spray by variety order, starting with early navels and mandarins, mid-season navels, Cara Cara's, bloods and mandarins, and then late season navels and mandarins.

Stop Drop 2,4D application: Start applications from mid-April but make sure that its applied at least two weeks minimum after your last copper application.

Autumn GA: Consult your agronomist about rates and your packer regarding your harvest strategy. Delaying or lengthening your harvest window coming into a year with so many uncertainties could prove to be beneficial.

Quality control: Continue removing sunburnt fruit, removing now while visible will help aid with your pack out.

***As always, this advice is general in nature and you should always check with your chemical reseller, agronomist or packing shed.**

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FRUIT FLY FRUIT MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS

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TV GUIDE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 TO TUESDAY, APRIL 9

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

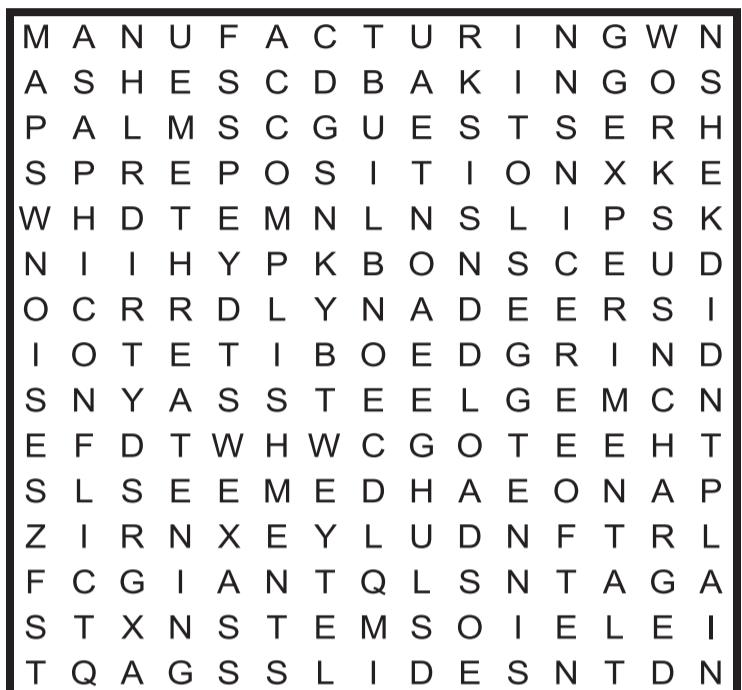


6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Four Corners; 10:50 Antiques Roadshow; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 12:30 National Press Club Address; 1:55 Anh's Brush With Fame; 2:25 Back Roads; 2:55 Old People's Home For 4 Year Olds; 3:55 Long Lost Family; 4:40 Grand Designs; 5:30 Antiques Roadshow	5:00 hoopla doopla!; 5:15 Ready, Jet, Go!; 5:25 Children's Programs; 5:35 Pop Paper City; 5:45 Ginger And The Vegesaur; 5:55 Fireman Sam 6:05 Kiya and the Kimoja Heroes 6:20 Bluey 6:30 Peter Rabbit 6:40 Andy's Global Adventures 6:55 Shaun The Sheep 7:05 Karma's World 7:20 Bluey 7:30 Would I Lie To You? 8:30 Death In Paradise 9:30 The Beast Must Die 11:00 Close To Me 11:50 Would I Lie To You? 12:20 Louis Theroux Interviews Stormzy 1:05 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 1:30 Tate Britain's Great British Walks	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 Hometown Killer; 2:00 Beat The Chasers UK; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 TBA 8:30 The Front Bar 9:30 Talking Foothy 10:30 Seven News 11:00 Unbelievable Moments Caught On Camera 12:00 Parenthood 1:00 Travel Oz 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Sunrise	6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra; 11:30 9news Morning; 12:00 Gordon Ramsay's Food Stars; 1:15 Ageless; 1:45 Talking Honey; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 9news Afternoon; 5:00 Tipping Point Australia 6:00 9news 7:00 A Current Affair 7:30 Gordon Ramsay's Food Stars 9:10 Australian Crime Stories 10:10 9news Late 10:40 Footy Classified 11:40 The Equalizer 12:30 Tipping Point 1:20 Pointless 2:10 Destination Wa 2:35 Home Shopping 4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory 4:30 A Current Affair 5:00 9news Early	6:00 Everyday Gourmet With Justin-eSchofield; 6:30 My Market Kitchen; 7:00 The Talk; 8:00 Entertainment Tonight; 8:30 Neighbours; 9:00 The Bold & The Beautiful; 9:30 Deal Or No Deal; 10:00 Good Chef Bad Chef; 10:30 Judge Judy; 11:00 Dr Phil; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Entertainment Tonight; 1:30 To Be Advised; 3:00 Good Chef Bad Chef; 3:30 10 News First; 4:00 Neighbours; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:00 Deal Or No Deal 6:30 The Project 7:30 I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here! 9:00 FBI 11:00 The Project 12:00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 1:00 Home Shopping	5:00 World News; 9:00 Paul O'grady For The Love Of Dogs; 10:00 Wonderful World Of Baby Animals; 10:50 Mountain Vets; 12:00 World News; 2:00 Dateline; 2:30 Insight; 3:30 Point; 3:35 Destination Flavour China; 3:45 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw; 4:15 Worlds Most Scenic Railway Journeys; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 Alone Australia 8:30 Jimmy Carr's I Literally Just Told You 9:25 Litvinenko 10:20 SBS World News Late 10:50 Blinded 11:45 The Wall 3:05 Mastermind 4:05 Going Places With Ernie Dingo
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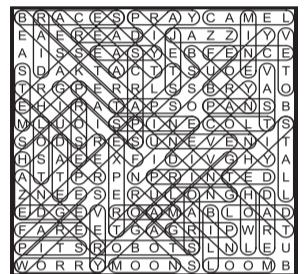
How many words can you find?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS	DITCH	INDEX	PLAIN
ASHES	ENTRY	INNER	PREPOSITION
BADGE	EQUATE	KNELT	SCREW
BAKING	EXPERIMENTAL	LOADS	SEEMED
BEGAN	FISTS	LODGE	SHIRTS
CHARGED	GEESE	MANUFACTURING	SIGNS
CONFFLICT	GIANT	NICER	SLEEPY
CREWS	GRIND	NOISE	SLIDES
DIDN'T	GUEST	OFTEN	SLIPS
DIRTY	HELLO	PALMS	STEEL



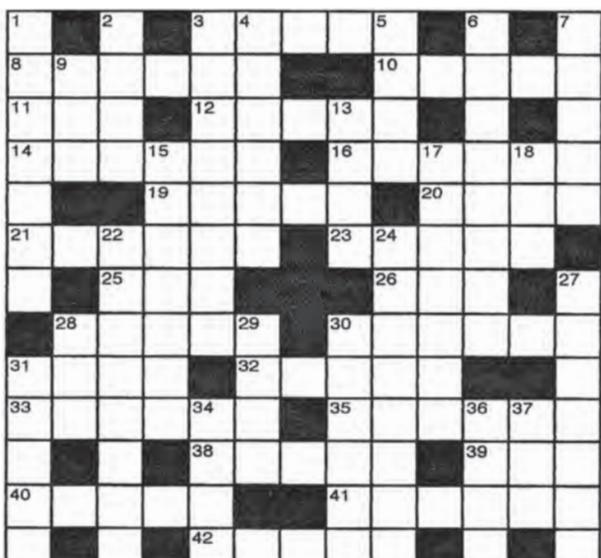
M	A	N	U	F	A	C	T	U	R	I	N	G	W	N
A	S	H	E	S	C	D	B	A	K	I	N	G	O	S
P	A	L	M	S	C	G	U	E	S	T	S	E	R	H
S	P	R	E	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	X	K	E
W	H	D	T	E	M	N	L	N	S	L	I	P	S	K
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Z	I	R	N	X	E	Y	L	U	D	N	F	T	R	L
F	C	G	I	A	N	T	Q	L	S	N	T	A	G	A
S	T	X	N	S	T	E	M	S	O	I	E	L	E	I
T	Q	A	G	S	S	L	I	D	E	S	N	T	D	N

Last Week's Solution

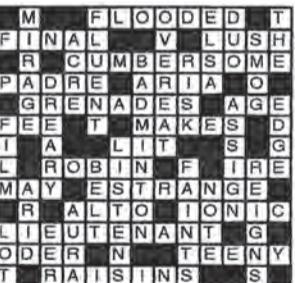


CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
3. Razor sharpener
8. Hinder
10. Merge
11. Female sheep
12. Merry
14. Legume
16. Canadian city
19. Frantic
20. Vocal
21. Hatred
23. Foe
25. Fetish
26. High card
28. Perpendicular
30. Arenas
31. Turf used for fuel
32. Rig
33. Bug
35. Truth
38. Turkish sultan
39. Type
40. Inexpensive
41. Clatter
42. Hydrocarbon radical



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



- DOWN
1. Protection
2. Augury
3. In sequence
4. Felt hat
5. Golf stroke
6. Deprived of weapons
7. Foot lever
9. Solemn wonder
13. Swelling
15. Praise
17. Shoe parts
18. Route
22. Syrup
24. Patriotic
27. Made watertight
28. Female swan
29. Punts
30. Sweet
31. Throw
34. Handle
36. Feel sorry for
37. Pipe elbow

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April 2024 Horoscopes: week 1

ARIES (March 21st - April 20th)

Don't let a friend hold you back: even though they may seem to mean well, their advice will push you in the wrong direction. **Romance.** A favourable aspect to Neptune will help your powers of intuition. You will be surprised how easily you can work out what other people are thinking. You will need to keep one step ahead at the moment!

TAURUS (April 21st - May 21st)

A comment which you feel is harmless may upset the person concerned. Try not to take advantage of a hidden weakness in a colleague. **Romance.** Your emotions will be running on overdrive at the moment. Be especially careful to calm down before an important meeting around the middle of the week.

GEMINI (May 22nd - June 21st)

A disagreement with your boss may disturb the peace: you will be the one who has to back down, though. **Romance.** A difficult aspect to Uranus could make you feel a need for more independence in your life. At times it may be difficult to find a balance between this and your ties to the other people in your life.

CANCER (June 22nd - July 23rd)

You may need to sort out a conflict between two of your best friends. Do your best to negotiate between them in a way which is impartial. **Romance.** Your love-life will improve substantially over the next few days. A promise which you thought was unrealistic will finally be carried out, although not in the way you expect.

LEO (July 24th - August 23rd)

React quickly to a comment made by your boss. If you don't give the right answer, there could be trouble! **Romance.** Follow your partner's advice. They have much more insight into your personality than you realise. A meeting later in the week will go well, so long as you are prepared to listen to other people's input.

VIRGO (August 24th - September 23rd)

This will be an excellent time to start a new project. It is important that you are prepared to keep going to the end, however. You have some good ideas, but may not realise just how much stamina you will need to carry them all out. **Romance.** This might be a less than exciting week. You have plenty to look forward to later in the week, however.

LIBRA (September 24th - October 23rd)

A difficult aspect to Saturn could make you negative at times. You may feel that there is no light at the end of the tunnel! A chance event later in the week will turn things around faster than you expect, however. **Romance.** You may need to give in a little more in order to put a recent disagreement with your partner to rest.

SCORPIO (October 24th - November 22nd)

A long trip away from home will give you a chance to deal with some issues which have been troubling you recently. **Romance.** If you are starting a new relationship, you may want to wait a few weeks before making a major move. This relationship will take a while to build up strength. A meeting around the middle of the week will go well.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23rd - December 21st)

Look between the lines to work out what has really been going on: recent events may not have happened in quite the way you think. **Romance.** This will be an excellent week for romance. You will have to take it easy at first, though. Be careful to avoid getting into an argument over money.

CAPRICORN (December 22nd - January 20th)

An old friend will soon be coming back into your life. You will learn a lot about yourself from this person! **Romance.** Try to be very easy-going on your partner at the moment. They are going through a bit of a rough patch, and need your support. Be especially sensitive later in the week, when there may be a conflict over money.

AQUARIUS (January 21st - February 19th)

If you don't let other people know how you feel, you will not get what you are looking for. Don't be too shy to express your concerns! **Romance.** Something which you say to a friend will not be forgotten easily. This person is attracted to you, and wants to find out as much about you as possible.

PISCES (February 20th - March 20th)

A phone call from an acquaintance could be the prod you need to get your social life back on track. **Romance.** Time spent extending your circle of friends will pay off in an unexpected way. You may need to be the one who takes the initiative, however. A meeting with a close friend later in the week will help you to put everything in perspective.

SUDOKU

No.473

To solve a sudoku puzzle, fill the empty cells with the numbers 1 to 9

4	5	1	6	2	8	7	9	3
9	8	7	5	3	1	2	6	4
2	6	3	7	9	4	1	5	8
6	7	9	3	4	5	8	2	1
1	2	4	9	8	6	3	7	5
8	3	5	1	7	2	9	4	6
3	9	6	4	1	7	5	8	2
5	1	2	8	6	9	4	3	7
7	4	8	2	5	3	6	1	9

Each number only appears once in each row, column and 3 x 3 box.

Solution No. 472

	7	5	2	1				
2	6				9	8		
5	8							7
7					3	4		
		2					7	
		3	1					9
1								6
	5	4				9	7	
	4		9	1	5			

WAIKERIE HIGH PROM



Ashton and Jakob



Axel and Milo



Aaron and Jackson



Arian



Brodie and Madeline



Dakota and Ellen



Cody and Katie



Claire and Emma



Hayden and Nikita



Cassidy and Courtney



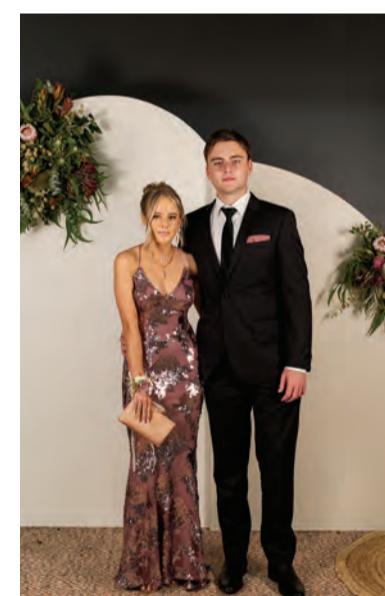
Flynn and Sophie



Chloe and Amity



Georgia



Jasmine and Cameron



Chloe and Harry



Harry and Ryan



Harry and Tali

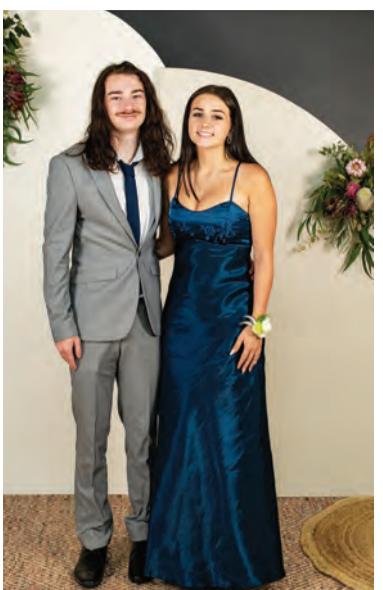


Gemma and Jess

WAIKERIE HIGH PROM



Lachy and Jade



Jay and Ella



Klancie and Kieren



Zack



Seth and Latia



Mal and Martha



Navdeep and Zali



Ruby and Alicia



Sara and Angel



Shana and Jacob



Noah



Tahni and Matilda



Sofie and Ethan



Thomas and Charlotte



Opal and Tild



Sam and Sienna



Makaylah and Bradley

EASTER COLOURING-IN

COMPETITION



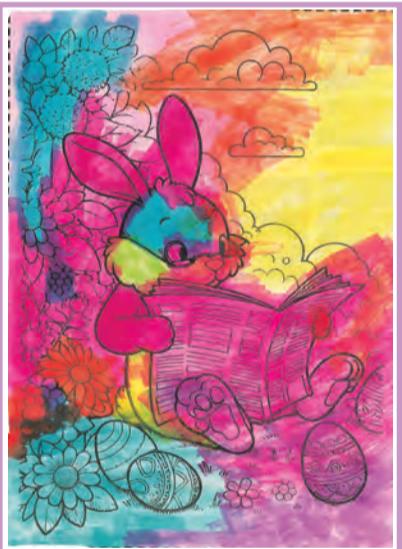
1

AINSLEE
Age: 12 // Loxton

The Murray Pioneer team would like to thank all our young readers for their entries into this year's Easter colouring-in competition.



Delaney
Age: 10 // Loxton



Lachy
Age: 7 // Berri



Chloe
Age: 12 // Loxton



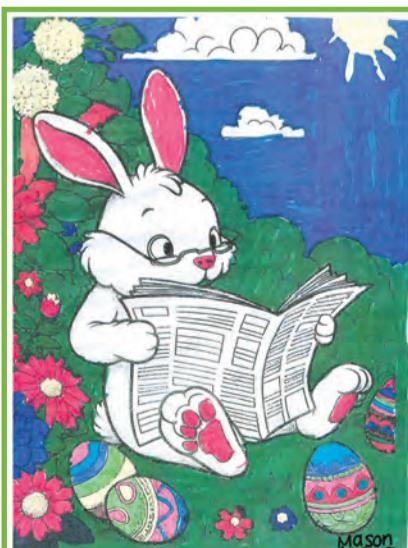
Sam
Age: 6 // Renmark West



Victoria
Age: 7 // Barmera



Caleb
Age: 6 // Renmark



Mason
Age: 9 // Loxton

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Facility and Grounds Officer
Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network
Ongoing Full Time – WHA3 Barmera and Berri
Job Ref: 859491

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Construction and Maintenance Worker Lake Victoria

Job number 500456
Work Type Full time, 12 month maximum term
Location Lake Victoria, NSW

Get out of the hustle and bustle of the town and cities in this unique role which involves a range of tasks like earthmoving, civil construction, land management and maintenance of the lake. The successful candidate will be required to live at the lake private self-contained accommodation is provided.

For a position description and to apply go to, <http://careers.sawater.com.au>

Please upload a copy of your application before Monday 15th April 2024

We believe innovation and great outcomes for our customers are best delivered by a diverse and inclusive workplace that reflects our community. That's why we encourage people from all backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, as well as people seeking flexible working arrangements to apply and join our team.

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SA Water

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Council is seeking three enthusiastic individuals to join our dedicated infrastructure team for the ongoing improvement of Council's infrastructure, public facilities and amenities.

In these roles, you will need to enjoy working outdoors, have an excellent work ethic, a good attitude, have logical and practical capabilities with initiatives and desire to take pride in your work. In each of these roles you will require a HR licence to operate a variety of plant and equipment.

CONSTRUCTION TEAM MEMBER

Your role will include a range of activities including road and footpath construction and maintenance, stormwater drainage, capital works, special projects and quarries.

2 X MAINTENANCE TEAM MEMBER

Your role will include a range of activities including footpath maintenance and construction, grave digging, plant operations, concreting and road repairs.

Closing date: 12.00noon, Thursday 11 April 2024

Apply online at www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au/your-council/employment

All enquiries to Manager Infrastructure and Operations, David Pluckhahn on 08 8582 1922.

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solan

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Solan (SA) Pty Ltd | Waikerie SA | Full time

Solan operates a protected cropping nursery supplying early generation potato seed to the Australian potato industry. The business operates a plant tissue culture facility, a greenhouse production space and cool storage facility. This roll will cover operations within the greenhouse nursery in conjunction with laboratory staff, the cool storage room and maintenance of infrastructure. This role provides opportunity to be involved in Australia's Potato Supply Chain providing potato seed and essential services to Stakeholders throughout Australia and Internationally.

Tasks & responsibilities

- Greenhouse nursery production
- Oversee all facility maintenance and equipment
- Liaise with manager
- Supervision of nursery staff

Qualifications & experience

- Plant agronomy experience including nutrition, irrigation, pest and disease management.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office suite
- Forklift license.
- Chem-cert accreditation
- Driver's license

Remuneration will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Solan operates under strict Biosecurity Protocols and is a non-smoking worksite.

For further information or to submit an application, email: admin@solan-nursery.com.au

I can be part of a friendly country community health service which means that I am part of the big picture, serving my clients as a nurse or midwife, as well as being an important member of the community myself. This brings joy and meaning to my work, and leads me to experience a vast array of diverse clinical experiences.

RN1/RN2 Registered Nurse or Clinical Nurse
Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Loxton Job Ref: 860202

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i can

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MORRISON, Sandra
'Sandy'.

Our hearts are
breaking at the
passing of our much-
loved mother, sister
and auntie on
25 March, 2024,
with family and
friends by her side.

With love, Shaun.
Lance, Jan,
Heather, Allan,
Tamara and Cloe.

As per Sandy's
wishes, she was
privately cremated.



DEATHS



OCIEPA, Joseph Kevin.

4/3/1946—
28/3/2024

Aged 78 years.
Passed away suddenly
at Renmark hospital.

Devoted and much-
loved husband and
best friend of Maureen.

Loving father and
father-in-law of
Michelle and Mark,
Craig and Karen.

Loving pop to
Madison (in Heaven),
Zane, Delaney,
Zoe and Abbey.

Although my
heart is broken,
you will never leave it.
Love and miss
you always.

Til we meet again.

Privately cremated as
per Joe's wishes.

OCIEPA, Joseph Kevin
'Joe'.

Passed suddenly
away at the Renmark
hospital on 28 March,
battling on til the end.

Much-loved dad,
father-in-law and
granddad of
Craig, Karen,
Abbey and Zoe.

A strong man who
always provided
and gave us every
chance in life.
You will be sadly
missed but always
with us.

"See ya, Pops".



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DEATHS

OCIEPA, Joseph Kevin.

4/3/1946—
28/3/2024
Aged 78 years.

Passed away suddenly.
With tears, we
watched you struggle
each and every day.

Even when you
were oh so tired,
You fought so hard
to stay.

Through our tears
and sorrow,
We know that
you are free.
Your memory lives
on in our hearts,
And that's where
you'll always be.

Although we can no
longer see you or feel
your warm embrace,
We just have to close
our eyes to see your
smiling face.

Dad/Pop, you were
one-in-a-million,
This we know is true.
We will never forget
the memories
we shared,

And we will always
love you.

Love and miss you,
Dad and Pop.

♥ Michelle, Mark,
Madison (in Heaven),
Zane and Delaney.

xxxxx



PANNACH, Marjorie
Gwen.

22/2/1919—
24/3/2024

Passed away
peacefully at the
Renmark Nursing
Home.

Dearly loved
mother of
Colene and Don
Sonnemann
(deceased).

Sincere thanks to the
wonderful staff and Dr
Smith at the Renmark
Nursing Home.

Mum, remembering
you is easy,

I do it every day.

But there is an ache
within my heart,
That will never go
away.

Love forever.
Treasured memories.
Privately cremated.



DEATHS

PANNACH, Marjorie
Gwen.

Passed away 24
March, 2024.
Aged 105 years.

Wife of Allan
(deceased).
Dearly loved
mother of Geoff and
mother-in-law of
Barbara.

Beloved nan of
Amanda and Michael,
and much-loved great-
grandmother to
Jack, Ashley,
Evie, Tyler,
Cohen, Audrey
and Frankie.

Forever in our hearts.

SCHULTZ, Brian Clive.

Born 26 June, 1936.

Passed away
peacefully at the
Riverland General
Hospital, Berri on
Thursday 21 March,
2024.

Aged 88 years.
Loved husband
of Elaine.

Loving father and
father-in-law of
son Peter and
wife Angela,
and son John
and wife Maria.

Loved pa and
grandfather to
Nicole, Kimberly,
Sarah and Carla.

Will be sadly missed
and always in our
hearts.

VINEY, Shane William.

Passed away
peacefully,
surrounded by love,
at the Loxton hospital
on Monday 18 March,
2024.

Aged 51 years.
Cherished father
of Nyoka.

Loved son of
Bevan and Maxine
(both deceased).

Loved brother
of Ann and uncle
of Angus, Declan,
Portia, Raamah
(deceased),
and Paeton.

Loved and
respected by many.

Now at peace,
resting in God's care.

**Riverland
FUNERALS**

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Member AFDA

DEATHS

JENNINGS.

The relatives and
friends of Colin
Jennings are
respectfully invited
to attend his funeral
service to be conducted
at the Riverland
Funerals Chapel, 231
Twentyfirst Street,
Renmark on Friday 5
April, 2024 at 11am.

At the conclusion of
the service, the cortège
will proceed to the
Renmark Cemetery for
the committal.

**Riverland
FUNERALS**

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SCHULTZ.

The relatives and
friends of the late
Mr Brian Schultz are
respectfully invited
to attend his funeral
service to be conducted
entirely at the gravesite
at the Barmera Lawn
Cemetery, McKenzie
Road, Barmera on
Thursday 11 April,
2024 at 11am.

In lieu of flowers if
desired, a donation
to St John Ambulance
SA in Brian's memory
would be appreciated.
Donations may be
made at the service.

**Riverland
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VINEY.

Family and friends
of Shane Viney
are respectfully
invited to attend his
funeral service to be
conducted entirely at
the Loxton Lions Park,
riverside ON THIS DAY
Thursday 4 April, 2024
at 1pm, followed by a
private cremation at the
Riverland Crematorium.

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**RETURN
THANKS**

JERICHO, Naomi.
Raymond, Andrew,
Miranda and families
would like to thank
everyone for their
thoughts and prayers
on the loss of their
mother, mother-in-law,
grandma and great-
grandma.
Special thanks to
staff of the Barmera
hospital for their care
and concern.

BAKER, Valmae Dawn.

27/3/2016
Those we love
don't go away,
They walk beside
us every day.
Unseen, unheard,
but always near,
Still loved, still
missed, but very dear.
To our dearest
soulmate and mum,
we miss you heaps.
Your loving
husband, Kevin,
Daryl and Veronica,
Di and Marc,
and families.

xxxxxx

CLUSE, Colin George
'Georgie'.

29/3/2012
12 years have passed
and we still love and
miss you dearly.
Warren, June,
Karen, Paul,
Michelle, John,
Rhys and Gabby.

HOFFMANN, Bruno
Adolf.

31/1/1926—
4/4/1999
25 years ago.
Remembered always
by Janet and Neville,
Glen and Sharon,
Carol and Neil,
and families.

STANLEY, Grant
James.

Tragically taken on 29
March, 2023.
Husband to Carlie.
Father to
Noah and Amelia.
We love you,
We miss you,
What else can we
say?
We love you,
We miss you,
Every single day.

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BOAT Stessl. 3.85m, open boat, silver, aluminium. Yamaha 30hp motor, carpet seat and floor, 3 fold down seats, 2 fuel tanks, life jackets, Bimini and Sealink trailer, all registered. \$6500. Loxton. Phone 0407601271.

CAMP trailer - Campomatic, 2001. Hard floor, full annexe with zip-on walls, 3m Stessl (no motor) on a side swing boat lifter. Registration YHY899. \$12,000 ono. Phone 0400723514.

CARAVAN Coromal E452, 2004. 14ft 6in, single axle, single beds, airconditioner, annexed, tidy and well looked after. \$18,500. Phone 0483367427.

CARAVAN Colorado Summit 2015. 20ft, single axle. In excellent condition. 2 large single beds, full ensuite, cafe-style dining, 2-door fridge/freezer, TV, microwave, stove, reverse-cycle airconditioner, rollout awning, all towing accessories, excellent to tow, many extras. Tare weight 1880kg. Registered to April. \$44,000. Phone 0427104205.

CARAVAN Jayco Freedom 2005. 14ft, single-axle, pop-top. Excellent condition. 2 large single beds. Fridge-freezer. Reverse-cycle air-conditioner. Microwave, stovetop and grill. Radio and TV accessories. Roll-out awning. All towing accessories. Registered to February 2025. \$19,500. Phone 0427778327. Inspection welcome on request.

CARAVAN Jayco. 20ft, retro, excellent condition, large annex. \$5000. Phone 0434230265.

FURNITURE - outdoor setting, glass top table 200cm x 90cm, eight chairs, and one La-Z-Boy. \$150. Phone 0427955124 anytime.

HOUSEBOAT road trailerable, 7m, steel mono hull, Dumbier galvanised tandem trailer. Yamaha 9.9hp, 4 stroke, high-thrust outboard, less than 200hrs from new. 200W solar with twin 120amp AGM batteries. Recent makeover, some work to finish. Selling due to ill health. \$25,000 ono. Phone 0466385178 from 6pm - 8pm only. No messages.



TANK - Over 200,000L, dismantling and freight at buyer's cost. \$10,000 negotiable. Bookpurnong. Phone 0419833517.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ACCOMMODATION required for participant in senior tennis tournament, 17 - 20 May. Australian gent, 80 years, non-drinker, non-smoker. Phone 0458430514.

FIREWORKS display. Lake Bonney, 6 April at approximately 9.15pm. Contact Sean 0417877116.



POP-UP shop. Rustic garden wares. Friday 5 April and Saturday 6 April, 10am - 2pm. 128 Jellett Road, Monash.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUE - able to buy. Kensington Antiques requires: antiquarian, estates, china, shed stuff, collectables, records, frames, paintings, old tools. 167-169 Magill Road, Maylands. Closed Mondays. Phone 0421901075.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

KENSINGTON Antiques. Always buying records, posters, estates, bric-a-brac, old bottles, petroliana, postcards, photos, watches etc. 167-169 Magill Road, Maylands. Closed Mondays. Phone 0421901075.

TRACTORS AND MACHINERY

VINEYARD under cordon pruners and cutter bars for sale. Reduce labour cost with our patented under cordon and "H" vine pruners. Look us up at (riverlandengineering.com.au) or call us on 0409516827.



STORAGE - 24/7 keypad entry, CCTV and monitoring. Various site sizes available. Phone 0488050482. Renmark Central Storage.

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FOR BEST VALUE CLASSIFIEDS CALL THE MURRAY PIONEER 8586 8000

Riverland

CHURCH NOTICES



Lutheran Church of Australia

BERRI | BARMERA

Sunday 7 April

Barmera 9am
Berri 11am
Pastor Peter Klemm
All Welcome
Phone 0493021960

LOXTON

Sunday 7 April

St Peter's 10am
64 Bookpurnong Terrace
Phone 8584 5522

RENMARK | PARINGA

Sunday 7 April

Renmark 9am
Paringa 10.30am HC
All Welcome
Pastor Roland Adams
Phone 0460 300 492

WAIKERIE

Sunday 7 April

Lowbank 8.45am
Ramco 8.45am
Waikerie 10am
All Welcome
Phone 8541 2689

Anglican Church Riverland

Saturday 6 April

5pm - Monash St Oswald's

Sunday 7 April

9am - Barmera St Edmund's
9am - Renmark St Augustine's
11am - Loxton The Resurrection
11am - Waikerie St James
Contact:
Fr. David Patterson
8586 3288

One Voice CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday 7 April
10am

Loxton Senior Citizen Hall
25 Tobruk Terrace

Ps Red Elliott
0439 507 096
Ps Sheryl Giles
0423 884 002

FULL GOSPEL CHURCHES OF AUSTRALIA RIVERLAND

NO SCAMS

When you advertise with The Murray Pioneer

ads@murraypioneer.com.au

8586 8000
DEADLINE
MONDAY 3PM

85952400.

Riverland Volunteers

Call: 8586 8000

Volunteers Notice Board FREE SERVICE

Looking for Volunteers?

The Murray Pioneer, can help.

Email the name of your organisation, the type of volunteer needed and contact details to: ads@murraypioneer.com.au and we will print your request

Free of Charge!

Word Limit

60 words or less.

Personalise your Classified



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OR CHOOSE YOUR OWN



Two Hearts



Rose



Hearts



Love



Butterfly



Rings



50th WA



Candle



100 100BDay



Birds



Balloons



Rainbow



HBDay1



Goodluck



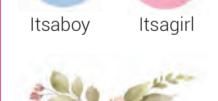
Bunch_2



Itsaboy



Itsagirl



Floral



Olive Branch



Please note

logos are not guaranteed to appear in colour

Berri Barmera COUNCIL

Community Development Grants CLOSING SOON

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15 APRIL 2024

Building a better community berribarmera.sa.gov.au/grants

LZ13119

MARDI GRAS LOXTON

Community Grants

LOCAL GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS **APPLY NOW**

Application forms for grants available by contacting Liz Dymott 0418 803 650 or Peter Magarey 0418 808 296. Grant winners requested to attend AGM.

Applications close 30th April 2024

LZ13119

RIVERLAND MUSICAL SOCIETY INFORMATION NIGHT

Riverland Musical Society Information Night for 2024 show EVITA

Wednesday 10th April 7pm @ Bonney Theatre, Barmera

Performers and Musicians encouraged to attend. *Also celebrating 70 years of the Riverland Musical Society.*

For more information contact committee@riverlandmusicalsociety.com

LZ13128

Sprint FREIGHT & LOGISTICS

LOCAL BUSINESS FOR SALE

A great opportunity to work for yourself.

Sprint Freight and Logistics Loxton Franchise is a self-managed, well-established local family-owned Riverland freight franchise. The business brings with it, established and reliable clientele with potential for further growth if desired.

Included in the sale:

1991 Mitsubishi flatbed truck with gates, all current clientele and good will.

There is also the option to purchase separately a 1998 Hino12 pallet torque liner with tailgate lifter, pallet jack and its own good will.

Genuine enquiries only, call Ken: **0438846211**

LZ13147

Mid Murray Council

Facilities Review - Morgan Public Library, Morgan Activity Centre and Blanchetown Hub

Mid Murray Council is inviting feedback from the community on their views about the future service delivery of the Morgan Library, Morgan Activity Centre and the Blanchetown Hub.

The consultation process is open from Thursday 28 March 2024 to 12pm Friday 26 April 2024, and will provide an opportunity for community input into the future service delivery of the Morgan Library, Morgan Activity Centre and the Blanchetown Hub.

Please refer to Council's Facebook page and website www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au for information on the consultation process and opportunities to provide feedback, including dates for Community sessions and a public meeting of Council.

Ben Scales
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WZ10925

the quiz answers

1. It's legs 2. Game Boy 3. Tokyo in 2021 4. 90°N 5. Gorilla 6. The Iron Throne 7. Cape of Good Hope 8. Sexy 9. France 10. The Matrix 11. Halley's Comet 12. Sea Horse 13. Honda 14. Rubber 15. The proton 16. 999 17. Once upon a time 18. Rice 19. Japan 20. On a ship

BONUS QUESTION ANSWER (from last week): The world record largest chocolate Easter egg was made in Tosca, Italy.

WZ10926

District Council of Loxton Waikerie

LZ15750

PUBLIC CONSULTATION Speed Limit Review

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is currently undertaking a review of default speed limits in the council district.

Over time, outlying areas of Loxton and Waikerie have become more heavily populated prompting a need to review the current speed limits in place.

Eleven different areas have been included within the review, with changes recommended within sections of Loxton, Loxton North, Pyap, Moorook, Kingston on Murray, Holder, Waikerie South, Ramco, Taylorville, Sunlands & Qualco.

Council is recommending that all roads with a default speed limit of 100km/h that fall inside the signified locations are reduced, creating 80km/h speed limit areas, with speed signs already lower than 80km/h to remain.

To provide your feedback and access more information about the consultation and recommended changes, please visit <https://engagement.lwdc.sa.gov.au/speed-limit-review>

We invite you to provide your feedback using the interactive map on our website to navigate around the different areas under review, indicate your level of support, and provide further comments.

Submissions from the community are encouraged

- Online at engagement.lwdc.sa.gov.au
- by email at council@lwdc.sa.gov.au, or
- by post to PO Box 409, Loxton SA 5333, or
- in person, in writing, at the Council's offices at 35 Bookpurnong Road, Loxton or Strangman Road, Waikerie.

If you wish to present your submission to the Council in person or by advocate, please indicate that in your submission.

Public consultation will conclude 5.00 pm on Thursday 25 April 2024.

For further information please contact Greg Perry, Director Infrastructure Services, on 8584 8000.

David Beaton
Chief Executive Officer

LZ15750

RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS

Available From Eileen Stanley 1 Timor Street Loxton North Phone 0457 700 710



MONASH CLUB

The Palms Bingo AGM
Tuesday 9th April Monash Club

After Bingo session (approx. 2.45pm)
All positions vacant.
Everyone welcome.

LZ15756

LOXTON RSL 2024 ANZAC DINNER

The President and Members of Loxton RSL Sub-Branch cordially invite you to the **2024 ANZAC DINNER**

Saturday 20th April, 2024
at the RSL Clubrooms,
15 Tobruk Terrace, Loxton
commencing at 6pm for 6.30pm.

\$50 per person for a 2 course meal.
Catering provided by the Loxton Hospital Complex as a fundraiser for the Hospital.

Guest Speaker
Smart Casual Attire
Mess Dress/Uniform to be worn.
Medals and decorations (miniatures) to be worn.
Raffle and lucky door prize.

RSVP by 10th April 2024 to Lorraine Masters - 0473 364 881

Payment details:
Either online - BSB 105 059, A/c No 035862240, with your name as the reference, or by cash in the Memorial Room on any Wednesday

Your support of Loxton RSL Sub-Branch and the Loxton Hospital is greatly appreciated.

LZ15752

Government of South Australia
Department for Environment and Water

Science in the Pub - Celebrating 20 years of The Living Murray

To celebrate 20 years of The Living Murray (TLM) program at Chowilla Floodplain icon site, the Department for Environment and Water invites you to join us for a night of presentations and 'Science in the Pub'.

Date: Wednesday 10th April 2024
Time: 5.30pm – light meal and registrations
6.15 - 9.30pm – presentations
Location: Renmark Hotel, Murray Ave, Renmark SA.

Registration is free but venue capacity is limited and catering provided, so **RSVP is essential by Tuesday 2nd April** via the webpage <https://bit.ly/TLM-Chowilla>.

For more information visit the event page on the link above or if you have any questions, please contact us on DEW.WIOcommunications@sa.gov.au

WZ22434

Help keep the Royal Flying Doctor flying

With a waiting room of 7.7 million square kilometres, the RFDS provides 24-hour aeromedical emergency services that can reach anywhere, no matter how remote, within hours – with an average of two flights to the Riverland every day.

To donate, visit www.flyingdoctor.org.au or call 1300 669 569

WZ22434

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office@murraypioneer.com.au | 8586 8000

LZ15757



2024 AFL FOOTY TIPPERS COMP

Top THREE weekly tipsters plus TWO bonus vouchers drawn each week.

1ST PRIZE

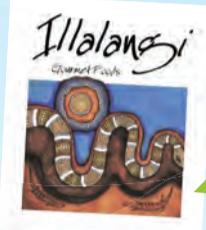


2ND PRIZE



\$1000 VOUCHER SUPPLIED BY BERRI BETTA

3RD PRIZE



\$500 VOUCHER SUPPLIED BY ILLALANGI GOURMET FOODS

**HOUSEBOAT HOLIDAY
VALUED AT \$2,500
SUPPLIED BY RENMARK HOUSEBOATS**

ENTRY LOCATIONS

Renmark Plaza Newsagency
Berri Newsagency
Barmera Newsagency
Loxton Newsagency

Viewpoint Cafe & Service Station, Waikerie
Murray Pioneer (Renmark)

Round 4

Points margin in highlighted game:

Entries close Thursday 4 April, 4pm

Adelaide Crows	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melbourne	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brisbane Lions	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Melbourne	<input type="checkbox"/>
Port Adelaide	<input type="checkbox"/>	Essendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Coast Eagles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sydney Swans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fremantle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carlton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western Bulldogs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geelong Cats	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gold Coast Suns	<input type="checkbox"/>	GWS Giants	<input type="checkbox"/>
Richmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	St Kilda	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collingwood	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hawthorn	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Round 5

Points margin in highlighted game:

Melbourne	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brisbane Lions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western Bulldogs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Essendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
GWS Giants	<input type="checkbox"/>	St Kilda	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carlton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adelaide Crows	<input type="checkbox"/>
Port Adelaide	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fremantle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gold Coast Suns	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hawthorn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geelong Cats	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Melbourne	<input type="checkbox"/>
West Coast Eagles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richmond	<input type="checkbox"/>

BYES: Collingwood, Sydney Swans

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Terms and conditions apply. For full terms and conditions contact the Murray Pioneer.

ROUND 2 RESULTS

Louise Thiel	(4)23	Melissa Greer	(6)20
Chris Schutz	(7)22	Jeff Westbrook	(5)20
Barry Seagrim	(6)22	Noah Warner	(5)20
Adele Johnson	(5)21	Stephen Greer	(5)20
Yvonne Scutter	(5)21	Tony Miller	(5)20
Geoff Armanini	(4)21	Stephen Matic	(5)20
Joel Stoeckel	(4)21	Mark Farley	(4)20
Ross Sumner (Jnr)	(4)21	Widge Heywood	(4)20
Katelyn Lynch	(4)21	Rosemary Campbell	(4)20
David Brindley	(4)21	Trevor Flint	(4)20

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR TOP THREE TIPSTERS

Chris Schutz, Barry Seagrim & Melissa Greer

AND BONUS VOUCHER WINNERS

Nicole Ryder & Rebecca Boot

WEEKLY WINNERS

If there are more than three winning tipsters, then it will be decided by the points margin. Winners announced in Wednesday's edition. Voucher amounts may vary.



RFL backs new concussion rules

By
LACHLAN
DAND



sports@murraypioneer.com.au

RIVERLAND Football League chairman Henry Crawford has supported new concussion guidelines recently released by the South Australian Football Commission.

The new guidelines will see a minimum 21-day concussion protocol come into action in the 2024 season for the SANFL and SANFLW competitions, as well as affiliated community football leagues across the state, including the RFL.

The earliest a player can return to the field is on the 21st day after the concussion incident, provided they receive a medical clearance to do so.

"As an affiliated league of the SANFL, they are our governing body, so at the end of the day what they say is final," Mr Crawford said.



Henry Crawford

"They've been privy to a lot more data and medical research than what we have, so we have to trust that decision."

"Where my concern lies is more so the practical implications in terms of who the responsibility falls on within the clubs to manage these protocols."

"Players themselves are always pretty determined to play, so managing their expectations is going to be a challenge too, particularly if it happened across a finals campaign."

"It's all good in theory, but it's the practical realities of the situation where it can get a little bit tricky."

SANFL CEO Darren Chandler said the health and safety of all players at every level of football in South Australia was a priority.

"The wellbeing and safety of players is paramount and we will continue to take the advice from the AFL and medical and scientific professionals to deal with the important topic of concussion," he said.

"We are also committed to supporting all clubs and their volunteers with the management of concussion and will continue to work closely with the AFL as well as community leagues and clubs."

Both Mr Chandler and Mr Crawford's comments were supported by Berri Football Club president Jayme Peltz, who said his club was fully supportive of concussion management protocols.

"This is what has now been put in place so we just have to work the best we can," he said. "There's a lot more science behind it now, and there's a lot more known about the effects of concussion and head knocks compared to when I was playing."

"If this is what the professionals are saying, as a club we have to take it seriously and go with the rules set in place."

"It does make it difficult for everyone, but at the end of the day we have to look after our players in the best way we can."

"We just don't know what the impacts will



New concussion guidelines will see players miss a minimum of 21 days after a head knock. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

be in 10 to 15 years' time, and at the end of the day it's just a game of footy."

The onus is now switching to club trainers, and Mr Peltz said Berri would have a club-wide stance on concussion, ensuring players are treated the same across all grades and age levels.

A concussion seminar is set to be held at the Barmera Club on 13 April, with all Riverland sporting clubs encouraged to attend.

"We'll go through a bit of a process before the start of the season and make sure everyone knows our views," Mr Peltz said.

"That will involve trainers, players, coaches, and everyone relevant because that's the ruling and we'll abide by them."

"We'll certainly be attending the seminar, and any information that we can gather and bring back to the club is going to be important for the season moving forward."

Mr Peltz's comments were backed up by Mr Crawford, who also said increasing the number of people trained on concussion would benefit the league in the long run.

"As a minimum we want those who are involved with training and looking after players on match day trained up," he said.

"It's critical that they're aware of the protocols, and if we can get a broad understanding of the information across all clubs, that will smooth out the implementation of the rules."

Recently, Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone told

The Murray Pioneer that the effects of concussion guidelines needed to be understood by all Riverland sporting clubs.

"Concussion management has been in the headlines more and more, and the overhaul to concussion protocols will provide clubs with the tools and direction that are missing," he said.

"However, we need to understand the effect these guidelines will have on our grassroots clubs".

Mr Whetstone said ideally, the SA Government would provide "support and financial assistance to ensure these changes can be implemented while minimising risk to our sportsmen and women associated with our sporting clubs or organisations".

Berri product Kregar makes SANFL debut

BERRI junior Oscar Kregar has taken the next step in his footballing journey, debuting for West Adelaide in its round one SANFL fixture against Woodville West Torrens on Good Friday.

Kregar, named on the wing, finished with 10 disposals, two tackles, and a goal as Westies were defeated

by the Eagles to the tune of 64 points.

Kregar played alongside fellow Berri junior Darcy Minchella, who recorded six disposals out of the back half.

The SANFL now enters a league-wide bye due to the AFL's Gather Round, with West's next fixture to take place against Port Adelaide at Waikerie Oval on 14 April.



Berri Football Club product Oscar Kregar (pictured with his family) made his SANFL league debut for West Adelaide on Friday afternoon at Woodville Oval.

PHOTO: West Adelaide Football Club

Riverland darts doubles

AFTER a short break in competition due to season changeover, Riverland darts returned to the Monash Club last Thursday, as Shane McKinnon and Ray Stemp advanced to the mystery doubles grand final.

With a boisterous crowd in attendance, the mystery doubles event saw new players and familiar faces combine for quality dart throwing.

McKinnon and Stemp advanced to the grand final with an undefeated record.

McKinnon and Stemp were challenged throughout the decider, before flexing their muscles, and hitting a maximum peg of 170 to claim the title, defeating Wayne Bonham and Jayden Strother.

RESULTS

S. McKinnon/R. Stemp d W. Bonham/J. Strother.

BARBERA

Wednesday 27 March –

Stableford

P. Morris 39pts, R. Formiatti 39, J. Maschotta 39, B. Taylor 38, H. Brown 37, P. Frahn 37, N. Kelton 37, K. Magain 37, T. Hansen 37, Kim Martin 36, Allan Thurmer 36, P. Fisher 35, E. Van Hensbergen 35, C. Berry 35, L. Wurth 34.

Thursday 28 March – Ladies

Par

A. Threadgold +3, C. Pickering +3, W. Featherstone +1, S. Smith-Alen 0, D. Platt -1, C. Watkins-3, S. Minns -4, J. Marrett -4, S. Thomas -6, S. Rogers -8, B. McPherson -10, A. Newson -13.

Saturday 30 March – Stableford

Ladies – V. Arnold 30pts, S. Minns 27, J. Feehan 26, Men – M. Jericho 43pts, B. Uren 40, L. Wurth 37, R. Swanbury 37, M. Cenko 36, B. Finn 36, R. Chabrel 36, J. Szalbot 35, E. Van Hensbergen 34, T. Fisher 34, B. Taylor 34, P. Butterworth 34, S. Fisher 34, K. Magain 34, J. Kanyi 33, G. Blythman 32.

Sunday 31 March – Stroke

M. Gladwin 68/80, J. Kanyi 72/90, M. Ubhey 73/92, M. Kubank 73/95.

Monday 1 April – Stableford

G. Blythman 36pts, M. Stavrou 34, S. Stavrou 34, J. Marr 33, T. Hansen 32, R. Swanbury 30, B. Blythman 25.

BERRIWednesday 27 March –
Stableford

R. Keightley 40 pts, L. Campbell 36, W. Hocevar 36, K. Wyman 35, P. Mudge 34, J. Curran 34, G. Harris 34.

Saturday 30 March – Stableford

R. Dale 39, L. Berry 37, G. Caligie 36, C. Berry 36, M. Wilksch 36, I. Mc Hugh 36, I. Bradshaw 35, P. Mudge 35, P. Efthimieu 35, L. Kruger 35, P. Frahn 35, L. Campbell 34, S. Schloithe 34, D. Dawson 34, R. Keightley 34.

Monday 1 April – Stableford

R. Keightley 36, S. Hawkins 35.

LOXTONWednesday 27 March –
Stableford

Men – S. Williams (Willunga) 41, S. Semmler 36, J. Reynolds 36, P. Hamilton 36, K. Wagnitz 35, A. Hucks 34, D. Peberdy 33, P. Richardson 33, D. Pateyjohns (Willunga) 33, E. O'Callaghan 33. Women – J. Patching 36, S. Grein 36, M. Tyler 35, M. Thomson 35.

Saturday 30 March – Stroke

Men A – P. Morris nett 66, K. Martin 72, J. Goldsworthy 72, D. Tyler 74, O. Walkley 74, C. Wooldridge 74, L. Gray 75, S. Breakwell (Berri) 75, R. Paige 75. Men B – G. Schultz nett 69, M. Carr (Thaxted Park) 71, E. O'Callaghan 71, N. Henschke (Barmera) 72, N. Andonopoulos 74, R. Harman 74, C. Cassell (Barmera) 74. Women – S. Pannell nett 74, S. Grein 76, D. Harman 78.



Rowers reflect on world record

LACHLAN DAND

EASTER weekend marked 40 years since nine members of the Renmark Rowing Club achieved a world record, embarking on a 210-kilometre row.

While the journey is significant in its own right, the crew of Michael Bodroghy, Bill Parousis, Rick Edmonds, Sam Pearce, Michael Lang, Stewart Scott, Brendan Dempsey, Chris Vine, and cox Colin Tucker achieved the feat in just 24 hours.

While achieving the record was a goal, they were also fighting to raise funds to acquire a new boat for the club, which was aptly named 'Marathon 84'.

The crew's never-give-up attitude was recognised by many, and together the members raised \$5000, which the club says is a testament to their dedication, and enduring legacy of an incredible achievement.

Although the record has since been surpassed, team member Rick Edmonds still has fond memories of the marathon.

"At the time we were looking at ways of trying to raise money to buy a new

boat, because in those days we didn't have many boats" he said.

"We thought about doing a rowathon to raise some cash, and then that turned into trying to set a record, and that's where it all came about."

We trained with (Renmark man) Alan Coulter for six months coming in to the event, and we had some intense training sessions with him.

"It's the fittest I've ever been, so we knew we'd physically be able to get it done and we just powered on through."

Mr Coulter, who has been involved in sports fitness for more than 40 years was approached by the rowing team, having previously spent time with the Renmark Rovers Football Club.

Mr Coulter admits he knew little regarding rowing, with his main policy being a 'one in all in' approach, due to the team nature of rowing.

Initially it started with a cardio test so I could see where they were at and they were all over the place which was the first challenge," he said.

"I designed a pro-

Rowers Stroke to Record

Eight local rowers returned to a heroes' welcome in Renmark on Saturday morning after establishing a record in long distance rowing.

A crowd of about 150 people saw the exhausted crew pull into the rowing club ramp after managing to clock up 150 river miles during the 24-hour row, which took them as far upstream as the 420 mile mark near Pollard's Cutting.

They are hopeful the record will qualify for inclusion in the next edition of the Guinness Book of Records.

The crew comprised Chris Vine, Brendan Dempsey, Sam Pearce, Michael Lang, Stuart Scott, Rick Edmonds, Bill Parousis and Michael Bodroghy, coxed by 15-year-old Colin Tucker.

The grueling attempt capped off several months of intensive training which included long rows, gym routines, running and psychological preparation.



● The Murray Pioneer, 24/4/1984

gram around the aerobic and strength components, because in rowing you rely a lot on driving through your legs.

"The golden rule was that we had to start training at 6am three times a week, and everyone had to be there otherwise I told them to go home.

"From there they realised they had to work as a

unit, so if you did something wrong you had support from your teammates, and they had a lot of self-belief."

Mr Edmonds said there were difficult moments along the journey, admitting the team was at breaking point several times throughout.

"It probably was tougher than we originally thought, and we had some points

where we were pretty close to giving up," he said.

"For some reason we kept going. We'd had a hypnotherapist and a psychologist who helped get our minds right and make sure we didn't give up.

"We rowed from Berri to Renmark as part of our training which was the longest row we'd done and we felt sore after that so we spent even more time with Alan and got to 100 per cent."

The hypnotherapist was Dave Thistle, a friend of Mr Coulter, who helped shift the thought processes of the rowing team prior to the marathon.

"The purpose of him coming to the training sessions was solely to give the team a different mindset," he said.

"When things started getting rough you went into another mindset, and brought that back into a positive state of mind."

"He was instrumental in backing me up, because I could do the physical but the mind is just as important so it ended up working really well."

2024 RIVERLAND INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL RESULTS

100m

Under 13 girls: C. Camilleri-Turner (BRSC)

Under 13 boys: A. Nikolajevic (LHS)

Under 14 girls: O. Gartner (RHS)

Under 14 boys: H. Keynes (RHS)

Under 15 girls: K. Harman (LHS)

Under 15 boys: G. Morgan (RHS)

Under 16 girls: M. Sampson (LHS)

Under 16 boys: T. Harrison (RHS)

Under 20 girls: A. Fenwick (BRSC)

Under 20 boys: J. Koehne (LHS)

100m hurdles

Under 16 boys: T. Harrison (RHS)

Under 20 girls: A. Fenwick (BRSC)

Under 20 boys: J. Koehne (LHS)

1500m

Under 13 girls: M. Thiele (LHS)

Under 13 boys: M. Liebich (WHS)

Under 14 girls: A. Lehmann (WHS)

Under 14 boys: T. Nettle (BRSC)

Under 15 girls: S. Haseldine (RHS)

Under 15 boys: M. Johnson (BRSC)

Under 16 girls: S. Gibbs (LHS)

Under 16 boys: O. Lang (RHS)

Under 20 girls: S. Smith (LHS)

Under 20 boys: L. Marks (BRSC)

400m

Under 13 girls: M. Hughes (BRSC)

Under 13 boys: A. Nikolajevic (LHS)

Under 14 girls: A. Lehmann (WHS)

Under 14 boys: T. Nettle (BRSC)

Under 15 girls: H. Brattoli (LHS)

Under 15 boys: N. Martinson (RHS)

Under 16 girls: B. Hahn (LHS)

Under 16 boys: O. Lang (RHS)

Under 20 girls: S. Smith (LHS)

Under 20 boys: C. Hennig (LHS)

Under 13 girls: N. Uren (LHS)

Under 13 boys: A. Nikolajevic (LHS)

Under 14 girls: O. Gartner (RHS)

Under 14 boys: J. Briant (WHS)

Under 15 girls: K. Harman (LHS)

Under 15 boys: G. Morgan (RHS)

Under 16 girls: M. Mitchell (LHS)

Under 16 boys: O. Lang (RHS)

Under 20 girls: S. Rudd (LHS)

Under 20 boys: J. Koehne (LHS)

Discus

Under 13 girls: S. Brar (WHS)

Under 13 boys: M. Obst (LHS)

Under 14 girls: B. Gilgen (BRSC)

Under 14 boys: S. Humphries (LHS)

Under 15 girls: B. Gum (LHS)

Under 15 boys: A. Kent (LHS)

Under 16 girls: B. Hahn (LHS)

Under 16 boys: C. Gibbons (BRSC)

Under 20 girls: G. Koop (LHS)

Under 20 boys: A. Hodgson (BRSC)

High Jump

Under 13 girls: M. Thiele (LHS)

Under 13 boys: M. Liebich (WHS)

Under 14 girls: A. Lehmann (WHS)

Under 14 boys: T. Nettle (BRSC)

Under 15 girls: S. Glen (BRSC)

Under 15 boys: N. Martinson (RHS)

Under 16 girls: S. Gibbs (LHS)

Under 16 boys: O. Lang (RHS)

Under 20 girls: S. Smith (LHS)

Under 20 boys: L. Marks (BRSC)

Hurdles

Under 14 girls: M. Butson (BRSC)

Under 14 boys: R. Johnson (BRSC)

Under 15 girls: M. Poole (RHS)

Under 16 girls: S. Sampson (LHS)

Long Jump

Under 13 girls: N. Uren (LHS)

Under 13 boys: T. Klingbiel (BRSC)

Under 14 girls: N. Uren (LHS)

Under 14 boys: R. Johnson (BRSC)



Emerging Riverland driver Brodi Dominic pictured in pit lane in front of his car. PHOTO: Facebook

Berri boy Brodi takes on the mountain

LACHLAN DAND

ALMOST every motorsports enthusiast in Australia dreams of racing at Bathurst, and one young Riverlander's dreams were realised last weekend.

Berri's Brodi Dominic drives a Hyundai Excel in the 1500 class series for the Robilla Racing in the CERA Dunlop Destiny Series, and described his most recent opportunity as "super exciting".

"It's always been a dream to go to Bathurst," he said.

"I'd raced at Tailem Bend and Mallala, but I've done a lot of simulation work on the computer and the Xbox with the Bathurst track, and I've grown up watching races there."

"I know the layout reasonably well, and it's just crazy to say that I'll have actually been because I've always loved watching the races there."

"I started getting into motorsport when I was 14, and that came from being out on the paddock in motorbikes and cars, and after doing some simulation racing online I really

got into it."

"After that we built our own car, and then got into racing the very next season a little over two years ago."

The 17-year-old had been in good form coming into the Bathurst race, and despite it being the first official round of competition, his work leading into the race has been significant.

"We've had our first state series round at The Bend Motorsport Park, and we came sixth," he said.

"The car has been in pretty good condi-

tion so wherever we go it's about dialling it in and making the most of our practice sessions.

"Whether that means having a feel of the car, seeing what lap times the other guys are doing, or tuning it in to make the changes we need to get the best results possible."

Hampered by practice issues, Brodi finished 42nd overall on the weekend, but is looking to bounce back in the next two rounds of the championship, with his dreams of racing in the Supercars championship becoming more of a reality each day.



Riverland ten-pin bowling star Katrina Topperwien.
PHOTO: Facebook

Medal success for Waikerie's little athletes

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

WAIKERIE Little Athletics Club competing in the recent State Individual Championships (SIC) at Mile End took home several medals and achieved multiple personal bests.

Six young athletes from the club – Hunter Danton, Peyton Fitzgerald, Skye Golding, Chloe Golding, Lucas Zimmermann and Noah Seres – were selected to compete in the State Individual Championships:

Danton won a gold medal in the under 12 shot put, with a throw of 11.11m, and a bronze medal for the under 12 discus, with a throw of 26.77m.

Zimmermann took out a gold medal in the under 12 boys javelin, with a throw of 26.90m, and Golding won silver medal in the under 10 800m, with a time of 2.47.38.

Zimmermann, Seres and Fitzgerald also competed in the State Challenge.

Waikerie Little Athletics Club president Nissa Fitzgerald said the SIC was the club's most successful yet, with some athletes selected to compete in up to four events.

She congratulated the young Waikerie team on their performance.

"It is very good considering Adelaide clubs train up to three times a week," Ms Fitzgerald said.

She said the club was grateful to the support coaches Jason Wilson and Julia Golding provided to the youngsters.

Ms Fitzgerald said their dedication, support, experience and passion for athletics were a tremendous asset for the club.

"Our little athletes did our club proud, showing determination, resilience, courage and most importantly wonderful sportsmanship," she said.

"It was amazing to see the black and pink on the podium."



Competing in the SA Little Athletics State Individual Championships and State Challenge at Mile End recently were Lucas Zimmermann (back), Skye Golding, Hunter Danton, Peyton Fitzgerald, Noah Seres. Jacob Fitzgerald (front), Chloe Golding. PHOTO: Jenni Christiansen



Chloe Golding won silver in the 800m.



Lucas Zimmermann won a gold medal for Javelin. PHOTO: Julia Golding



Hunter Danton won a gold medal for shot put and a silver medal for discus.

PHOTO: Julia Golding

Topperwien's state ten-pin success

ONE Riverlander recently travelled to participate in the South Australian disability ten-pin bowling state titles, held at the Noarlunga Bowling Centre.

Katrina Topperwien bowled in 18 games over a two-day span, exceeding her average in 15 of the matches.

Topperwien finished second in the ladies singles and all events, comprising singles, pairs, and trios scores, also taking out the trophy for the highest ladies scratch game with a total of 211.

Following on from the state titles, the teams for the national championships, to be held in Canberra from 5-15 June were decided, and Topperwien has been selected in the Cole Cup team.



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Sport

Hockey returns

AFTER a long off-season, Loxton is set to embark on its A grade men's premiership defence when Riverland hockey returns this Friday night.

In an exciting showdown at Glassey Park, Loxton will take on women's reigning premiers Berri from 6.30pm in the women's A grade competition, with the men's fixture following suit at 8pm.

In an action-packed Saturday, matches ranging from under 12s right through to A grade will also be played, with the under 12s kicking things off at 9am, before Renmark tackles Berri at 8.15pm on Saturday.

An in-depth preview of all Riverland hockey sides will be the annual Gameplan magazine, inserted free inside next week's edition of The Murray Pioneer.

THIS WEEKEND'S FIXTURES:

A grade men: Berri vs Loxton, Sunraysia vs Waikerie.

A grade women: Berri vs Loxton, Sunraysia vs Waikerie.

B grade men: Loxton vs Waikerie, Renmark vs Berri.

B grade women: Renmark vs Waikerie.

Note: Full fixtures can be found via the Riverland Hockey Facebook page

FOOTBALL

NEW CONCUSSION RULES

TO IMPACT RFL

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Hockey returns

Renmark Rowing Club captain Tom Sullivan (left) with president Tony Townsend in front of the 'Marathon 84' boat.
PHOTO: Lachlan Dand



Reflecting on club's oar-some occasion

LACHLAN DAND

THE Renmark Rowing Club recently celebrated the 40 year anniversary of its record breaking 24-hour rowing event in 1984.

PAGE 37 STORY



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