

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2021

YOUR Riverland voice

# Murray Pioneer

\$2.50



## INSIDE

**Town library's  
CBD move  
PAGE 3**



**Local crash  
hot spot  
PAGE 11**



**GIANT-size  
Quarantine Quiz  
PAGE 31**



John Pick, Jo Nettle, David Ness, Shane Nettle with Cobdogla Primary School's Australian Tennis award. PHOTO: supplied

## Cobby tennis goes national

MAKING tennis "inclusive and accessible" played a key role in another chapter being added to Cobdogla's remarkable story of tennis excellence.

A few days ago Cobdogla Primary School – with an enrolment of about 130 students – was named Most Outstanding School at the annual Australian Tennis Awards, joining the honour roll alongside fellow 2021 winners like Ash Barty and Dylan Alcott.

**PAGE 8 STORY**

Leftover wine limiting capacity, hitting grower prices for 2022



# THE BIG SQUEEZE

## HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

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than \$200 expected for several key red and white varieties.

A Berri-based wine industry figure – speaking with the Murray Pioneer on the condition of anonymity – said June data indicated more than two years of wine stock remained in storage across some areas of the region.

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worse considering the decline in the last six months," they said.

"We have lost China as a market – a market which has essentially driven the increase in production and high prices during the last five years.

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we are not able to get shipping space to move it out.

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**PAGE 4 FULL STORY**

VARIETY	2021	2022
Shiraz	\$552	\$340
Cab sav	\$539	\$340
Chardonnay	\$435	\$400

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# CBD move for Berri library



By  
**JOSH BRINE**

josh.brine@murraypioneer.com.au

BERRI'S library service is set to relocate from its home of 23 years on Kay Avenue to the town's CBD, with a local high school to take over the current site.

Berri Barmera Council has formed a working group to oversee the relocation of the community library services due to the Berri Regional Secondary College – formerly known as Glossop High School – requiring full-use of the current library facility to cater for the 800 students set to start the school year at the amalgamated campus.

Since January 1999, council and the school had operated the library under a joint-use agreement, allowing the facility to cater to the public and students.

"Change is inevitable, and although the joint-use agreement has worked very well over the past 23 years the needs of the school and the council regarding their library services have altered to a point that it is probably time to look at alternative arrangements and plan for what would be best for all library patrons into the future," said council CEO Karyn Burton.

Berri Regional Secondary College principal Emily Griggs said the school had "deeply appreciated the connection" it shared with council through the joint-use agreement.

"With the consolidation to Berri Regional Secondary College from 2022, our physical needs as a school will continue to evolve and

grow," she said.

"The relocation of the Berri Community Library will support the school's future expansion and allow a strong public education presence on Kay Avenue.

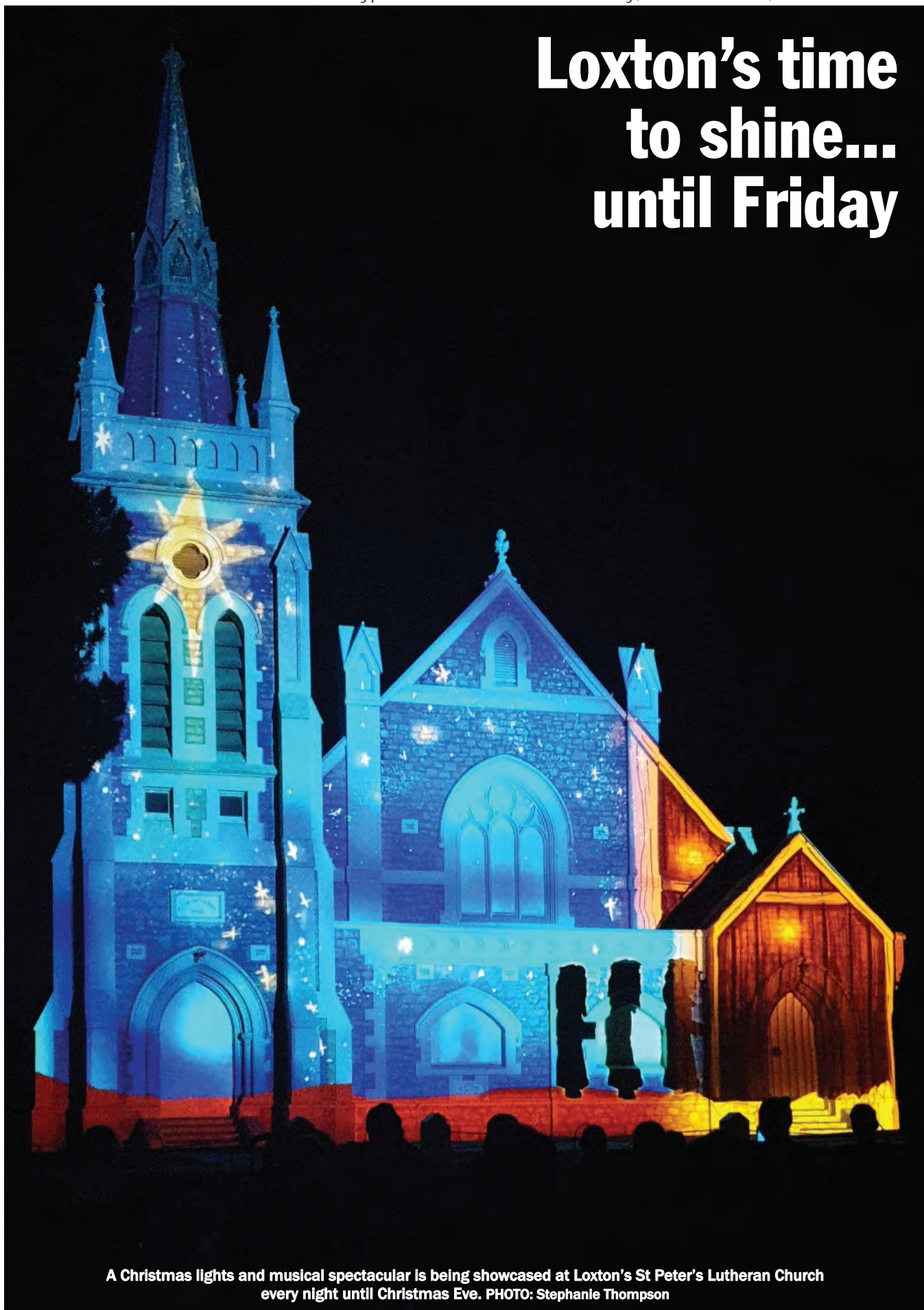
"On the finalisation of the agreement, Berri Regional Secondary College students and staff will continue to engage with our own site resource centre while also maintaining strong connections with services offered through the Berri Barmera Public Library to support our students' learning."

A council spokesperson said bringing the library into the CBD would have "many advantages", with the former Irving's building at 29 Riverview Drive identified as a "likely location".

"A relocation to the Berri CBD will bring about a number of benefits to businesses within the CBD by way of additional visitors to the area, as well as provide other service-related and financial benefits to rate-payers and the broader community," they said.

"The opportunity to provide community members with a modern 'community hub' incorporating its library and information services is exciting."

The working group will consult with the community in the coming weeks to "ensure that all public library patrons are catered for".



A Christmas lights and musical spectacular is being showcased at Loxton's St Peter's Lutheran Church every night until Christmas Eve. PHOTO: Stephanie Thompson

LOCALS and visitors have just three nights left to view Loxton's newest Christmas lights display.

Featuring every night until Christmas Eve, the fully illustrated and animated Christmas lights and musical spectacu-

lar, Shine, is projected onto the facade of Loxton's iconic St Peter's Lutheran Church.

An opening night was held on Friday and continues to attract large crowds each evening as Loxton celebrates 30

years of the Loxton Lights Festival.

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Leftover wine limiting capacity, decreasing prices for 2022...

# The big squeeze

## HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

YEARS of leftover stock clogging Riverland wineries is poised to slash local growers' incomes by up to 40 per cent for certain grape varieties at the upcoming vintage.

Early indicative 2022 prices for wine grapes have begun to be released, with decreases of more than \$200 expected for several key red and white varieties.

A Berri-based wine industry figure – speaking with the Murray Pioneer on the condition of anonymity – said June data indicated more than two years of wine stock remained in storage across some areas of the region.

“This number is (now) far worse considering the decline in the last six months,” they said.

“We have lost China as a market – a market which has essentially driven the increase in production and high prices during the last five years.

“Essentially we are producing a lot more that we can sell. If we can sell it the other issue is we are not able to get shipping space to move it out.

“Shipping issues will be around for the next 12 months, and will also never see the shipping prices we had 12 months ago. It is now all three to four times the amount and will increase even further.”

Early 2022 indicative pricing shows between \$340 and \$410 will

Wine grape price drop		
Variety	2021 average price	Minimum indicative 2022 price
Shiraz	\$552	\$340
Cab sav	\$539	\$340
Chardonnay	\$435	\$400

be paid for shiraz grapes, depending on the winery, with cabernet sauvignon selling for between \$340 and \$370, and chardonnay between \$400 and \$450.

The figure said a decline in global and domestic wine consumption – caused by the Covid-19 pandemic – would also limit the capacity of Riverland wineries for the 2022 vintage.

“Production increased in 2021 by 21 per cent (and that) increase is a huge amount when sales are declining,” they said,

“Wineries are still holding large volumes of 2019 and 2020 red stock that was allocated for China.

“Production now needs to be a calculation of what we can sell and what we will get shipping for, but also needs to factor in the stock we are holding (that) needs to be sold. It’s not a case of ‘there is space in the winery, so bring the fruit in’.

“Wineries are now required to make a huge stock write-down in value in order to sell the past vintage stock. This will equate to millions and millions of dollars.”

Riverland Wine interim executive officer Andrew Weeks said co-operation between wineries and growers would be crucial during the next vintage.

“Growers should be talking constantly, and as early as possible, with their intended grape purchaser,” Mr Weeks said.

“Make sure there’s a very clear understanding about what the requirements are, so they can plan their business and the coming vintage.

“Things are still very fluid in the wine industry... what we see reflected in grape prices is a result of what’s happening in the large-volume bulk-wine market.

“If wine grapes are in demand



Riverland Wine interim chief executive officer Andrew Weeks says wineries and growers would have to work together closely during the next vintage.



Barker MP Tony Pasin says local wine producers would have improved access to the UK market due to a new free-trade agreement.

because winemakers are making lots of money, they’ll be able to pay more for fruit. When it’s in low demand and you’ve got a heap of fruit lying around, grape prices drop.”

However in positive news for the industry, a free trade agreement signed this week with the UK is expected to open up more export opportunities for Australian wine grape growers.

Barker MP Tony Pasin said

Australian wine producers would have “immediately improved access to the UK market at lower or zero duties”.

“Australian farmers will benefit from the historic deal by having better access to a market of more than 65 million UK consumers who value safe, sustainably produced foods and beverages with the strong provenance Australia offers.” Mr Pasin said.

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## Council makes call on prime river-front site...



# Waikerie Lions to be moved on

**STEPHANIE THOMPSON**

A PRIME river-front spot in Waikerie will soon be vacant for potential tourism and hospitality ventures after a local council decided to move on its current service club tenants.

At Friday's Loxton Waikerie council meeting, elected members unanimously agreed to give the Waikerie Lions Club three months' notice from January 1, 2021, evoking its lease over the Lions' Den, also known as the old Bond store.

Councillor Clive Matthews moved the motion and said he gets "constantly" asked why the Lions Club remains in the river-front location.

"It's been going on for eight years that council has been trying to negotiate with the Lions Club to relocate," he said.

"That building should potentially be something for tourism or something like that in Waikerie."

Council agreed to offer vacant shedding at Penaluna Drive to the Waikerie Lions Club, plus use of the common room and toilets under a shared-facility lease.

Council also agreed to consider installing a second roller door into the shed and a new meter box, plus assist with the relocation.

"We now have a vacant

building at Penaluna Drive, which is up where the Men's Shed and Rotary is, so all the service groups are there," Cr Matthews said.

Councillors also agreed to investigate what the river-front building requires to advertise for expressions of interest for commercial development, with a focus on tourism and hospitality.

Council's director of commercial and community services Andrew Waters said negotiations with the Waikerie Lions Club were ongoing.

"They've had numerous site meetings at the Apex shedding (at Penaluna Drive) and have a few concerns that their caravan is too large and it may not be perfect for their needs," he said.

Waikerie Lions Club president Pam Stendara reiterated that the former Apex shed at Penaluna Drive was "not big enough".

"The food van needs electricity, so it would have to be fully functional with a sink, like we have at the Lions' Den," she said.

"Give us something. Don't keep saying you don't have any money, because they are spending millions down at the river front.

"They are not giving us better than what we have now."

Mrs Stendara said Lions' eight-metre long food van

would struggle to fit in the former Apex shed.

"We need a proper facility to move," Mrs Stendara said.

"We are not happy unless they extend that shed.

"We will go out on the street – there is nowhere else to go. It will be, 'Council kicks out service club'."

The Waikerie Lions Club's lease with council for the river front Lions' Den is \$250 per year, with CPI annual increase.

The Waikerie Lions Club currently has 20 members and holds monthly auctions at the river front.

Mrs Stendara said the club agreed that the Lions' Den could be transformed for tourism potential.

"We agree fully that something else could go down there," she said.

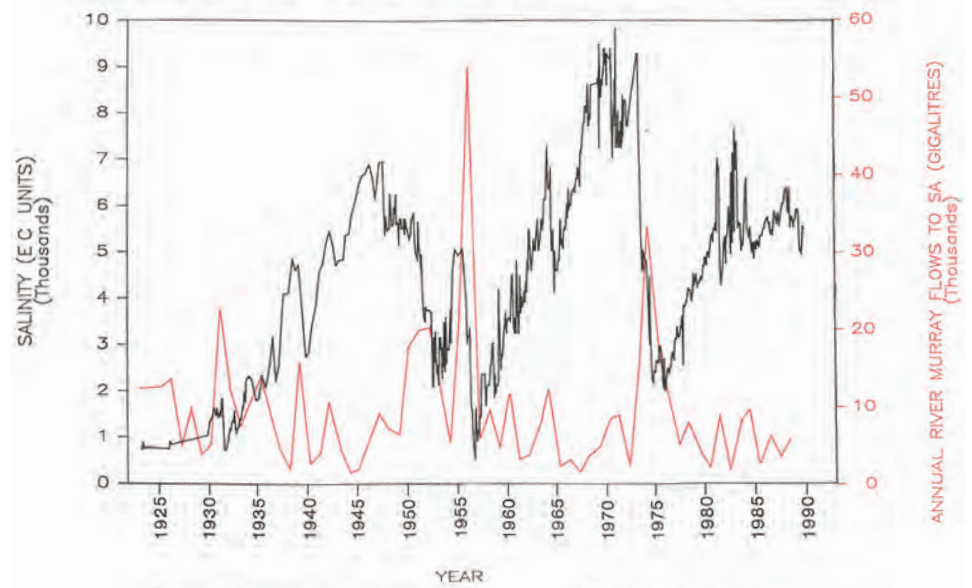
"If they extend that (Apex) building, yes we will go. But other than that, we will dig our heels in."

Meanwhile at Friday's meeting, council also agreed to consider a budget allocation in the 2022/23 Annual Business Plan for multi-use shedding in Waikerie.

This multi-use facility could be used by local service and volunteer groups who have expressed required storage needs.

Mr Waters said the additional shedding "would assist with their (Lions club) storage needs".

## LAKE BONNEY E C VS RIVER MURRAY FLOW



●Barmera man Joe Gropler has produced this graph from 1990 showing Lake Bonney's historic salinity levels. He says the lake's salinity level is currently high and requires action.

## Lake's soaring salinity 'needs attention'

LAKE Bonney is facing a serious salinity problem and needs solutions sooner, rather than later, a local environmentalist has claimed.

Barmera man Joe Gropler says the lake's current salinity level is roughly double its historical average and no plans exist to address the problem.

In a letter to the editor in today's Murray Pioneer, Mr Gropler has proposed a series of measures to address the situation, including the installation of a solar-powered pump at the lake's southern-most tip to

pump saline water to evaporation basins at Cobdogla and Loveday.

"This would extract the water through Chambers Creek, Lock Luna and the full length of Lake Bonney, thus ensuring good mixing of fresh water," Mr Gropler says.

"At the same time it would ensure the lake water does not discharge back to the river, causing salinity issues."

Mr Gropler believes the lake's current salinity level is around 10,000EC units, well up on its long-term average of around 4500CE units.

He said heading towards a state election was the perfect time to call for measures to address the lake's salinity.

"Our timing is good as we have an election coming up and Lake Bonney has won and lost political careers," he said.

"We have an opportunity to fix Lake Bonney once and for all. With the Commonwealth Environment Water Holder now owning water for the environment we have the ability to freshen Lake Bonney."

**PAGE 6 LETTERS**

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# OPINION



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EDITORIAL

THE YEARS GO BY

BY PETER AND CARLA MAGAREY

## Under our councils’ Christmas trees?

HEADING into 2022, what might the three Riverland councils wish for under their respective Christmas trees?

Local government elections are less than a year away, and the Loxton Waikerie council’s looming battles might be the most interesting of the trio.

Among local councils, the divide between titular towns is most pronounced at Loxton Waikerie, partly due to simple geography, but also due to some sections of the community harbouring concerns about perceived funding imbalances.

At the 2018 election, Waikerie produced a mayoral candidate to run against incumbent – and ultimate victor – Leon Stasinowsky. Frances Asher’s candidacy generated a cracking electoral contest, though some would argue it further entrenched intra-district division.

However, that occasionally rowdy division seems to have subsided in the subsequent three years, with council acutely aware of the imbalance claims and how they play out across the community, particularly in Riverland West.

So, Loxton Waikerie council’s Christmas list might be headed by ‘more harmony across the district, both pre-election and post-election’, although a percentage of ratepayers might prefer another robust, healthy and information-packed campaign, for both the mayoral position and all elected members.

Berri Barmera Council has already received a wonderful gift in 2021: seeing the back of the controversial Berri river-front redevelopment.

But it could be forgiven for sitting on Santa’s knee – or just talking to him from 1.5 metres away – and asking about its CEO position, and shoring up its leadership.

Karyn Burton resigned recently and the council is set to appoint an interim CEO while the search continues for a permanent replacement.

While not exactly a merry-go-round, the CEO’s chair has been occupied by three different people since 2018, not ideal for continuity given the various challenges council has faced.

It would love to lock in a long-term CEO to guide it through the coming years and the hurdles it is certain to encounter.

Meanwhile Renmark Paringa Council might ask for its own Christmas miracle this year.

Because if it is seeking a solution/outcome for the Westpac building scenario that pleases everyone, it has roughly the same chance as locating a real-life unicorn.

Council has stated its preferred option is to retain ownership of the site and find a long-term lessee, but all sorts of possibilities remain. What if the site was developed, and even expanded?

Perhaps the much-talked-about Riverland wine centre or another major development could find a home there?

Few topics get a certain cross-section of Renmark residents as riled as river views, as the Murray River Queen’s arrival in town highlighted.

The Westpac building is in a prime river-front spot, so expect plenty of debate about it in 2022. Renmark Paringa Council has a major decision looming, and knows whatever it decides will be unpopular with some local residents, but backed by others.



**Loxton Railway Station, January 14, 1965:** This picture, looking east, was taken atop the then two-year-old bulk wheat silos that replaced the huge sheds of bagged wheat that were, in earlier days, ever-present at most Mallee rail sidings. In the railyard below is the then-longest train ever to leave Loxton. The carriages included the tarpaulin-covered wagons carrying bulk wheat. Centre foreground is the goods shed part covering one of the three railyard lines. This shed is now awaiting re-erection at the Museum of Ag Technology in Loxton. Lower left is the Loxton Station Office. Tall on the far horizon is the town and district water tower, built in 1913. Top right is the Loxton Flour Mill and in front is the railway’s water tower. Loxton was the terminus of the branch line, built in 1914. It linked at Alawoona with the Taillem Bend mainline to Paringa, built in 1913. In 1927, with construction of the Paringa bridge, the mainline extended to Renmark, then in 1928 to Barmera. A commemorative display is being prepared in the former Loxton railyards to acknowledge the significant role the railways played in opening the northern Mallee to farming and rural settlement. PHOTO: Loxton News

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Vandalism: when will council learn?

AGAIN I am dismayed when reading the Murray Pioneer’s December 8 edition, when the Berri Barmera Council is claiming victim status.

Some person or persons have been damaging, vandalising, or causing costly mischief with council property or assets, and it requires the community’s help.

I call total BS on the Berri Barmera Council claiming victim status.

Neglect is more like it. The council has had these same problems for years, of people damaging and defacing public property and assets, costing a huge amount to repair or replace.

This includes burning two public toilets.

But all council did was fix it and play catch-up, rather than take a proactive step of protecting the public and the assets and property.

I know, I was on council when that happened. It was the same requests for public help, then the insurance company paid for the replacements, so the problem went away.

At the time there was the usual talkfest about what could be done, and how could council cut down on these costs to the ratepayers.

As usual it petered out and nothing was done, until one councillor wanted a certain public area and asset – which they had an interest in – monitored.

Then it was a matter of buying expensive monitored security cameras and working in conjunction with SAPOL, which I thought was a good idea. But the exorbitant cost for monitoring one building was ridiculous.

In my tiny mind there were many problems of public property being damaged, and I felt that money being spent prudently to deal with all of them long term, including the building in question, was a better solution.

Among other things, we had at that time four-wheel-drive idiots damaging sacred sites and making dangerous ‘racetracks’

at Apex Park in Barmera and all through North Lake. Others were vandalising toilets, including the one at the jetty, defacing property and public signage.

There were parking problems and public drunkenness. The latter was sometimes violent, requiring SAPOL intervention.

None of this is a good look for a town relying on tourism, so the safety issues alone screamed for council to act.

I spent roughly three weeks carefully gathering information from any business local and intrastate that dealt with security, trying to find a value-for-money and suitable system that would meet the needs of the council and the community.

The final proposal I took to the mayor and CEO for inclusion on the agenda was the best I could get at that time.

The system was two part.

The first was high-definition cameras, with 360-degree view, night vision and accessible by a manager or a police officer on their phone. Sixteen cameras would cover the entire main street area, from Rocky’s Hall of Fame to the new centenary cross of remembrance on the lakefront, with the recording pod in the council office section of the library.

The second part was six cameras mounted on an eight-metre long, 100mm square pole. They would be fully self-contained solar and battery powered cameras, providing clear night vision and accessible by a council manager by phone.

All council had to do was identify the problem areas and put a 100mm mount for the pole, making it a movable security system.

Unfortunately my efforts fell on deaf ears. After pleading my case and presenting the figures to the mayor and then CEO, I was politely thanked, and strongly advised that the system I had proposed was not for our towns because – to paraphrase, “tourists might think we were a police state and it would affect tourism”.

That ended any more discus-

sion on the matter, but council introduced a policy on CCTV “just in case we need it”.

The system or one similar, at that time would have cost the council \$24,000. In the past three years how much would have been saved by this deterrent?

Victim status? No, I don’t believe that is warranted.

Let’s call it what I believe it was: short sighted and neglectful, and not for the first time.

STEPHEN LYNCH  
Loveday

### Students shine

WOW. St Albert’s Loxton, you may be small but look at how many of your former students won special awards at Loxton High School in 2021.

Congratulations to each and every one of you.

LOU HUNT  
Loxton

### Remember Santa’s Christian history

THE history behind Santa, or so-called Father Christmas, dates back several hundred years to a certain Saint Nicholas, who every Christmas would arrange for the delivery of presents to very poor families in nearby villages where he lived.

Keeping this in mind, since he was declared a Saint, doesn’t that mean that the early history that so-called Father Christmas started from would have a Christian origin?

So, perhaps the next time someone wearing a Santa suit goes about saying “Merry Christmas” or “Ho ho ho”, perhaps he might sometimes consider adding something along the lines of “And may God bless you all”.

ROY VERNON MORRIS  
Waikerie

### To Pioneer readers

AS this year draws to a close and we gear up for Christmas, I’d like to take the opportunity to wish all your readers a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2022.

Needless to say, 2021 has been another challenging year and notwithstanding the frustrations that have accompanied constant rule changes, I am proud of the continued perseverance all Australians have shown.

Christmas is a time when we celebrate the birth of Christ and his message of peace and goodwill and while many of us celebrate with gifts under the tree, the most special gift of all is time spent with family and friends over the holiday period. This is the true magic of Christmas, a time to stop and reflect on the things and people we hold dear.

Enjoy this time with loved ones and remember to reach out to those who may need a little extra care this Christmas.

The Christmas period is a busy time of year on our roads, but if we all do our bit by planning ahead, sharing the drive, stopping to rest, we can contribute to a safer journey for all.

Finally, please spare a thought for our Australian Defence Force personnel deployed overseas and members of our nation’s health network working during the festive season to ensure our nation remains safe and secure this Christmas.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas.

TONY PASIN  
Member for Barker

### What’s happened at Lake Bonney?

WHAT has happened at Lake Bonney since it was reconnected to the River Murray 10-plus years ago?

Here are four things:

1. The overall salinity has dramatically increased to just under 10,000EC units from a historical level of 4500EC units. Unfortunately, regular testing of water quality is no longer carried out at Lake Bonney.
2. Lock 3 is micro managed to ensure no Lake Bonney water salinizes the River Murray. That is, the only fresh water the lake receives is the evaporation losses from the lake.





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murraypioneer.com.au

3. Irrigators in the adjacent irrigation districts have, at their own cost, changed to efficient drip irrigation. This has lowered the ground water contours surrounding the lake, thus reducing the saline ground water from entering the lake.

4. The Berri Barmera Council, after testing of water at the national water testing facility at Bolivar, moved all effluent drains away from Lake Bonney.

So, what must be done? Lock 3 is structurally compromised, and the overpaid and underperforming have known about this for a considerable time.

This is of grave concern and is the reason there is no weir pool manipulation between Lock 3 and Lock 4.

They simply can't take the risk. If Lock 3 was to collapse it would simply roll over backwards. A wall of water three metres high would race downstream, probably destroying Lock 2, and this in turn would increase the wall of water to six metres.

If you think that this will be the end of it, think again. Our locks were built in the 1920s, so they are 100-year-old structures, built with concrete minus any reinforcing mesh or rods, and held in place by pylons belted into the riverbed.

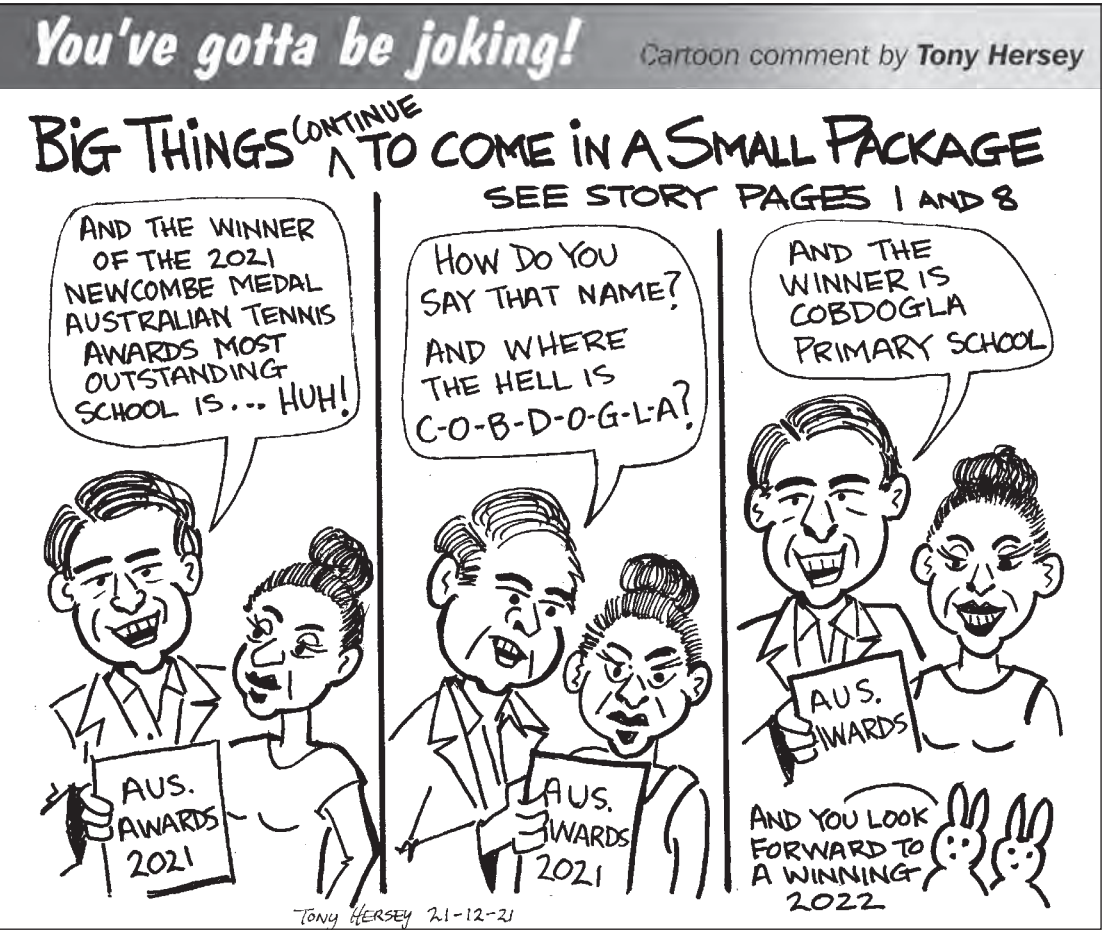
They were designed to have water as back pressure on the downstream side. This means locks upstream could then be compromised as well.

Our whole state depends on the integrity of our lock system. No water for even a few weeks during summer and we all know what would happen.

As a matter of urgency we need an immediate independent engineer to evaluate the situation. Our timing is good as we have an election coming up and Lake Bonney has won and lost political careers.

We have an opportunity to fix Lake Bonney once and for all. With the Commonwealth Environment Water Holder now owning water for the environment we have the ability to freshen Lake Bonney.

How? There is a comprehensive large drain adjacent to the Sturt Highway that runs from Barmera to Cobdogla and Loveday evapo-



ration basins. Remember that these basins need water coverage to stop acid sulphate soils stinking the towns out.

If we placed a solar-powered pump on the southern tip of Lake Bonney we could pump saline Lake Bonney water to the evaporation basins at Cobdogla and Loveday.

This is only a low lift, as the drain to Cobdogla and Loveday is gravity, thus making this a relatively cheap fix. According to the report from salinity and drainage consultant Ken Smith, we would only need a pump of about 80lt/sec, the size of a large fruit block pump.

This would extract the water through Chambers Creek, Lock Luna and the full length of Lake Bonney, thus ensuring good mixing of fresh water. At the same time it would ensure the lake water does not discharge back to the river, causing salinity issues.

If Lake Bonney is maintained in a healthy, lower-saline condition, it would be able to be included in SA's active storage.

This may seem a low priority at this time, but we know the next drought is only just around the corner. Even without the

drought, SA will struggle to get its entitlement because of all the extra plantings of both cotton and almonds.

If we have doubled the salinity in just 10 years, what will the salinity be in another 50 years? **JOE GROPLER Loveday**

### Science for those with open minds

I NOTE in letters to the editor in The Advertiser on December 15 a reader asks “show the science”.

I highly recommend for anybody with an open mind who wants to hear the science to please watch some YouTube seminars presented by founding member of Greenpeace Dr Patrick Moore.

You will be surprised by his analysis of the evidence and reminded of how absolutely vital it is to have CO2 in the atmosphere. Furthermore you will be shown how human activity has inadvertently prevented a disaster for all plant life.

Dr Moore also presents a very good case to show that atmospheric CO2 is not the control

dial for climate.

**JEFF KNISPEL Moorook**

### My town needs a paramedic

THE Premier has an opportunity for regional towns to get a paramedic via a new training pathway.

I emailed the Premier's office putting up my hand for getting a paramedic for Morgan and I think you should too.

We have all tried for doctors, but success has been lacking.

That's partly because doctors have so many choices to pick from, partly because SA Health is a nightmare to deal with, and partly because nobody has actually contacted the hundreds of doctors you would need to, in order to get the odds in your favour.

Anyhow, wish me luck. Here is the contact of the Premier's office if you want to order a paramedic: <https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/contact>

**JAKOB GAMERTSFELDER Morgan**

0448 629 186

Did anyone see the Channel 7 news on Saturday, showing the sunburn to our younger generation even though they had been wearing sunscreen? So, here we are with Loxton Waikerie council chopping down trees on our river front with the promise to replace them, but not doing so. We now have boring hot bitumen on our river front. Gone are the caravans, motorhomes etc. that used to stop for a break. There ain't no shade.

**GARY Waikerie**

The Murtho Road-Sturt Highway intersection had nothing to do with the accident last week in Paringa resulting in a death. There is no restricted vision at this intersection. All you have

to do is look both ways. If the government wants to spend money on intersections, the Twentyfirst Street-Sturt Highway intersection in Renmark would be a better option. They spent heaps on a slip lane that didn't eliminate an accident waiting to happen. You have three ways to look, two being dual lanes. Also, stop truck drivers from parking in the left lane while they are getting their tucker from the fast food outlets nearby.

**RED T Renmark**

The Murray Pioneer story 12/21) story regarding 'no jab, no bowls' (15/12/21) was incorrect in that the mandate does not include the Wednesday afternoon triples competition, as that is not a

pennant competition. Bowls SA has mandated the jab for pennants and state events. That is what I understand from the correspondence sent out from Bowls SA recently.

**JUDY Waikerie**

**Ed:** Thanks for the text. The initial communication from Bowls SA specified pennant and state events would be the only competitions affected by the vaccine mandate. However, the Riverland Bowls Association then held discussions with Bowls SA and came to an agreement to include the Wednesday triples competition in the mandate.

Seriously, journos need to get their facts correct before reporting a

story. The fatal accident in Paringa did not happen at the Murtho Road-Sturt Highway intersection. It sadly occurred about 100 metres east, in front of the Paringa Caravan Park and Paringa Resort. Mind you, an upgrade to the said intersection is certainly required.

**BERYL Paringa**

Good to see Nicola Centofanti sticking to her guns about vaccine mandates, abortion and other things she believes in (Murray Pioneer, 15/12/21). I'll be voting for the Libs in the upper house, hoping that she'll get back in. She's good for the Riverland.

**CHRIS Renmark**

## Looking back... 10 years ago December 23, 2011



### Scarlet fever threat over

AN outbreak of scarlet fever in Barmera poses minimal threat to locals, despite being highly contagious and potentially fatal for children. Dr Yun Li, Barmera Medical Clinic GP registrar, said there had been four confirmed cases of scarlet fever – plus three suspected – among five to 10-year-olds this month. “There has been a small outbreak (of scarlet fever)...” she said.

### 20 years ago December 18, 2001



**NINE ARRESTED IN BRAWL:** Police made nine arrests after being called to a drunken dispute involving about 40 people at the Barmera Hotel on Friday night. Just over an hour after a spectacular fireworks display culminated one of the town's best Christmas pageants, violence erupted outside the hotel. The situation arose after what police described yesterday as an “unruly crowd” was evicted from the hotel's front bar. The group of men then entered the hotel's bottle shop, where a staff member was allegedly assaulted.

All letters must carry the full name of the writer. We do not accept nom de plumes. An address and phone number must be included for checking purposes. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters.

The Murray Pioneer Pty Ltd (ACN 007 871 007)  
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**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday to Friday 8.30am-4pm



“All students are given a raquet in reception and we have made it part of the curriculum...”  
- David Ness  
Cobdogla Primary School principal

# Game, set, match Cobby

BEN LENNON

COBDOGLA Primary School has ended 2021 in style, taking home the award for Most Outstanding School at the 2021 Australian Tennis Awards.

The school has a strong tennis history and has gone from strength to strength in recent years, taking home multiple state awards along the way.

“With a focus on accessibility and inclusion, the school has seen the benefits of year-round play with healthier and more active kids,” a Tennis SA spokesperson said.

The latest achievement is a reward for years of effort and school principal David Ness said the school community is “extremely happy and proud”.

“It’s a great award to win, such an honour,” he said.

“Winning this award has been so exciting for our school.

“Not just the Cobby community but the whole of the Riverland has got behind us.

“What stood out for us was our connection with the Cobdogla Tennis Club and the number of kids that play tennis from our school.

“The other thing was our success that we’ve had in tennis, so things like having multiple students over the years representing the Riverland in SAPSASA and winning the State Hotshots Cup four years in a row.

“Our school defeating those big private schools and big city schools four years in a row is still hard to believe.”

For kids in Cobdogla, school and tennis go hand-in-hand, with the school allowing for its students to be a part of the Hot Shots program from an early age.

“We’ve made tennis inclusive for all ages and abilities,” said Mr Ness.

“All students are given a racquet in reception and we have made it part of the curriculum.

“Tennis plays a huge role in our health and physical education curriculum and the skills transfer across to all aspects of our student’s learning, developing relationships, confidence and resilience.

“We have teachers including Jo Nettle who are able to help and support the kids early on and get their skills up and we’ve got



Celebrating Cobdogla Primary School’s Australian Tennis award for Most Outstanding School were, back (from left) Will Swinstead, Shane Nettle, David Ness and John Pick. Middle: Tom Nettle, Noah Suchenko, Emily Carter, Ivan Ness, Judd Norman, Cooper Klingbiel and Logan Bowers. Front: Pippa Carter, Grace Suchenko, Amalia Bowers, Brooke Klingbiel and Tyler Klingbiel. PHOTOS: supplied

a strong relationship with the tennis club.

“John Pick is our qualified coach that comes into the school as part of the Sporting Schools Program and he plays an important role as well.

“John comes in every year and coaches all the students from reception to year 7.

“Tennis isn’t just during lesson time; most days you’ll find students with a racquet in their hands, playing at recess and lunchtimes on our court, in the gym or hitting against the wall.

“Often the older students are playing with the younger ones and teachers jump in and have a hit as well.

“It’s a wonderful thing to see.”

Mr Ness heralded the support of the Cobdogla Tennis Club and noted that the two organisations have worked together to create this environment.

“It’s a really good two-way relationship,” he said.

“Shane Nettle runs the junior program at the tennis club, coaching the kids and enhancing their skills.

“On training nights they walk from school to the club.

“We can have the courts any time during the day so the kids can do some practice.

“It’s not just Shane, there’s a number of volunteers in tennis that coach and support our kids as well.

“We get lots of benefits and they get lots of benefits by hav-



Cobdogla Primary School staff Terry Ness, Ali Suchenko, Monique Gillespie, David Ness, Nicole Coats, Amy Benson and Jo Nettle.

ing 70 per cent of the school playing tennis on the weekend.”

Ordinarily the school would be rubbing shoulders with tennis royalty at the awards night in Melbourne, however the 2021 edition was held online.

That failed to stop Cobdogla Primary from celebrating its win in style, with a number of those involved in the program gathering at the school to watch in anticipation.

“It was a pretty exciting night,” Mr Ness said.

“Tennis Australia conducted a live stream so we held a small event at the school with staff and members from the tennis club there.

“The three finalists were named and then we were announced as the winner, the Most Outstanding School in Australia, which was so exciting.

“Everyone cheered and it was a great night to celebrate all the

wonderful work that everyone has contributed to at the school and the club.

“Usually the night is held at Crown Casino in Melbourne where you get to see all the tennis stars.

“We would’ve seen Ash Barty and Dylan Alcott because they won the Newcombe Medal for the best tennis players of the year.

“But, it was really exciting to hold it at the school because as it enabled the kids to be there that were part of the awards.

“The kids are over the moon, they were so excited about it.

“They all cheered and were really ecstatic to have won the award and just really proud of the school and really proud of their achievements.

“We are just so excited and proud that our small country school has been able to win such a prestigious award”

## Fruit Fly Update

Thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation during the fruit fly eradication program.

We ask that residents continue to remain vigilant as the fruit fly threat continues to be ever-present.

Without community support, the government is unable to successfully undertake eradication programs like this one.

If you live in a red outbreak area and restrictions are lifted, you will receive a confirmation flyer in your letterbox.

With summer fruit now in season, it’s important to remain on guard to keep fruit fly away.

To prevent fruit fly outbreaks, follow our gardening tips:

- **Pick** - Promptly pick your ripe fruit and vegetables.
- **Collect** - Collect fallen fruit.
- **Check** - Check your fruit for blemishes and maggots.
- **Call** - If you suspect fruit fly, seal the fruit in a plastic bag and call the Fruit Fly Hotline on 1300 666 010.

Find out what you need to do – visit [fruitfly.sa.gov.au](http://fruitfly.sa.gov.au)



Government of South Australia  
Department of Primary Industries and Regions

G.J. Gardner. **HOMES**

## Happy Holidays

From the G.J. Gardner Team

Looking forward to seeing you in 2022.

Our office will be closed from Thursday 23rd December, 12 noon and reopen Wednesday 5th January 2022.

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# Council pulls pump track payment

**JOSH BRINE**

A RIVERLAND council is withholding payment from an interstate contractor after being left dissatisfied with upgrades completed on a local park.

At Berri Barmera Council's most recent monthly meeting, Cr Trevor Scott described the quality of work on a new pump track installed at Berri's Colin Jennings Apex Park as "embarrassing", and asked staff if the issues would be rectified.

Infrastructure services manager Dave Otto de Grancy said council had complained to the interstate-based contractor about the problems and was currently withholding funds.

He said a local contractor would be engaged to complete remedial works.

"It doesn't look very nice at the moment, but we've got a winning solution," Mr Otto de Grancy told elected members.

The park is currently in the final stages of a \$299,755 renovation, fully funded by the federal government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Council CEO Karyn Burton said the pump track contractors had "let council down".

"We have withheld payment to the contractor on that so that we can engage some other contractors to finish it off with a result that is far better than what has been left

there," she said.

"The bitumen was fine. I believe it is the compaction and the structural work that has not been done to satisfaction, and I believe it wasn't done to the plan that we paid for as well.

"We will get a local contractor to rectify that."

Ms Burton said the pump track, once completed, would be a unique feature for the town.

"Cr Scott said there are already

kids using it, and (Barker MP) Tony Pasin said a similar pump track in Mount Gambier is used all the time," she said. "We expect once it's done and finished it will be an asset for the community."

Works on the pump track – to be used by bike riders – had been delayed due to the contractor being unable to cross the border into South Australia while border restrictions were in place.

**PAGE 12** CIT's landmark partnership



Peter Bond (front), has been put forward to temporarily take over the Berri Barmera Council CEO role from Karyn Burton.

## LGA chief steps in as Berri Barmera CEO

A FORMER Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association CEO has been approached to take on acting CEO duties at the Berri Barmera Council early next year.

Peter Bond, who also previously held the role of Rural City of Murray Bridge CEO, has been put forward to take over the role from when current CEO Karyn Burton leaves council on January 28, 2022, until a new CEO is appointed.

In a report to last night's ordinary council meeting, executive assistant to the mayor and CEO Jesse Lang said recruitment timelines from Adelaide-based recruitment agency McArthur "may not allow a commencement date" for the new CEO that "aligns with the current CEO finish date".

"Mayor Peter Hunt has sought external interest for an interim acting CEO, as council does not have a deputy CEO to act in the position until the CEO position recruitment is finalised and the successful applicant commences," she said.

Ms Lang said Mr Bond had indicated his "availability and willingness to act in the position for the necessary time".

At a special meeting with council in November, McArthur's South Australian managing director Steve Nolis said he expected council would be able to appoint a new CEO by the end of January, with the chosen candidate to start at the beginning of March.



Jeanette Horrocks has decked her house in Winkie with Christmas lights and decorations for the past five years. PHOTO: supplied

## Santa's toyshop a Christmas hit in Winkie

**ELYSE ARMANINI**

A LIGHTS display at a house in Winkie has again delighted children and adults alike in the lead-up to Christmas this month.

For the past five years, Jeanette Horrocks has lit up her house and front yard with Christmas lights and decorations.

"As I child I just decided that when I got older I was going to have a house with lights," she said.

"It just went from there really, just a childhood dream to have a house covered in Christmas lights.

"In the '50s we didn't have a lot... just a couple of fairy lights around the place."

Ms Horrocks put a lot of effort into her decorations, with the roof of her house and the trees also donning lights.

This year, children who visit the display receive gifts from Ms Horrocks' Santa's Toyshop, thanks to Vinnies in Barmera.

"I bought a few, but they had so many things that they just couldn't deal with so they asked if I wanted them," Ms Horrocks said.

"So, it went from there really. I just thought as the children come out, they could come in and get a toy.

"Just seeing the look on their faces when they come in and I say they can have a toy. Some of them say 'can I really have one and

keep it?'.

"All the children that come along and look at the lights can choose a free toy."

The display has been up since the start of December, and will continue until New

Year's Day.

The lights come on automatically at 8pm and turn off at 11.30pm and Ms Horrocks welcomes people from all over the Riverland to visit the display.

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## Murray Pioneer

### PUBLICATION & OFFICE CLOSURE DATES FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

The Murray Pioneer Renmark office will close from **12noon, Wednesday, December 22** and will re-open on **Tuesday, January 4, 2022.**

\*Loxton and Waikerie offices will close at 2pm, Tuesday, December 21 and re-open on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.

Last issue of the Murray Pioneer for 2021 will be published on **Wednesday, December 22.**

First issue for 2022 will be **Wednesday, January 5.**

**There will be no publication on Wednesday, December 29, 2021.**

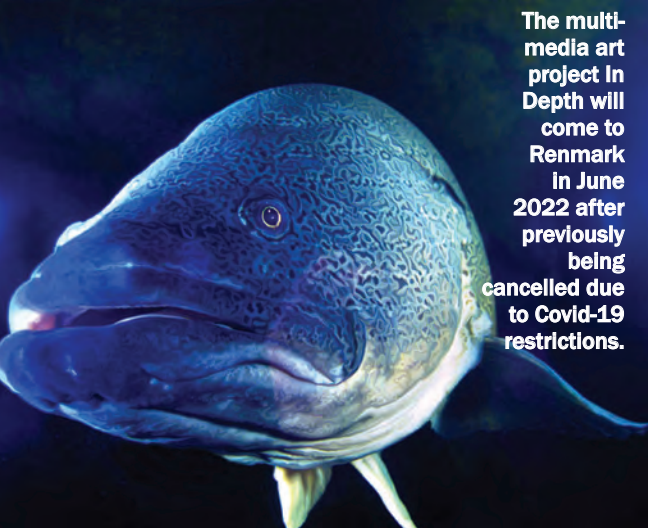
For bookings and enquires, **emails will be monitored.**

**ads@murraypioneer.com.au or editor@murraypioneer.com.au | 8586 8000**

Classified booking deadline 10am, Tuesday 4, January 2022.

F021064





The multi-media art project In Depth will come to Renmark in June 2022 after previously being cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

## Illuminate show rescheduled

A MULTIMEDIA art project initially scheduled to be held in Renmark earlier this year has been rescheduled for next June.

In Depth, a show by NSW-based artist Craig Walsh, was to be shown on the river front adjacent to the Renmark Club between September 17 and October 9, 2021, but was postponed due to border restrictions at the time.

However, the South

Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) has announced the show will now go ahead from June 3 to July 2, 2022, just before the start of the Illuminate Adelaide festival.

The show will feature large-scale projection, creative lighting and soundscape over the Murray River, created by Mr Walsh in collaboration with the local community.



Allan and Wanda Hucks were married at the Madge Memorial Methodist Church in Adelaide on November 30, 1946.

## Diamond duo's enduring bond



STEPHANIE THOMPSON

IN 1946, the world was recovering from the end of World War II, Tupperware had just made its first sale and bikinis were on debut in Paris.

It was also the year Loxton locals Allan and Wanda Hucks said their vows at Madge Memorial Methodist Church in Adelaide, making 2021 a rare diamond anniversary.

"There was an enormous thunderstorm and I thought, 'How the heck are we going to get to the church?'," Mr Hucks said of the occasion, 75 years ago.

"Three o'clock came and the sun came out and it was beautiful.

"It was really incredible."

Mr Hucks, 96, remembers the bridesmaids in a shade of pink and described the day as a "real get-together".

"Wanda had organised her two cousins to be bridesmaids," he said.

"Her brother was the best man and my brother was the groomsman."

The couple soon had five children, Anthony, Michael, Gayle, Karen and David.

After living their early married life at Forreston in the Adelaide Hills, the Hucks relocated to Loxton in 1970.

Mr Hucks, who is still well-known for fixing things and tinkering to help out the couple's children, plus neighbours and friends, worked for ETSA for 34 years.

"I've got to take my hat off to Wanda," he said.

"With ETSA, I worked anywhere over South Australia and I know of two occasions where I was away for three months.

"I really admire what she did. I was working damn hard, but the work she put into looking after the kids.... she saw that Tony never missed his cricket or his football."

The couple travelled extensively throughout Australia and have eight grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. Due to ill health, Mrs Hucks, 94, relocated to Riverview Lutheran Rest Home in early 2019.

"I used to try and miss (visiting) only one



ABOVE: Wanda and Allan Hucks today. BELOW: Visiting Wanda at Riverview Lutheran Rest Home recently were children Gayle Fuller and Tony Hucks, and husband Allan.

PHOTOS: Stephanie Thompson

day a week," Mr Hucks said.

"But since she's been in this condition, it's been too stressful for me, so I've tried to do every other day.

"You go home to an empty house and it becomes very stressful.

"But that's the way it is.

"I am really truly blessed. The only disappointment of course is the way Wanda has gone."

Mr Hucks continues to volunteer at the Loxton Historical Village for a few mornings each week, as he has done for almost 40 years.

Eldest son Anthony 'Tony' Hucks said he believes he knows the secret to his parents' 75 years of marriage.

"Even though Dad was working a lot, they still went out and made time for each other," he said.

"I think that was the secret."



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# OPENING HOURS

# CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

## Riverland Central Plaza COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

### 32 Kay Avenue, Berri

Friday 24 December	9am - 12pm
Saturday 25 - Tuesday 28 December	CLOSED
Wednesday 29 December	9am - 2pm
Thursday 30 December	9am - 2pm
Friday 31 December	9am - 12pm
Saturday 1 - Monday 3 January	CLOSED

## CHRISTMAS CLEAN UP?

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The Riverland General Hospital will accept acutely unwell Covid-19 patients before transferring them to Adelaide.

# SA Health reveals Riverland Covid plan

JOSH BRINE

THE Riverland General Hospital will assist with stabilising “acutely unwell” Covid-19 patients before their transfer to Adelaide and may be called on to provide inpatient care as case numbers rise, a new report says.

The hospital is one of 11 across regional South Australia designated as “Covid-19 accepting hospitals” that will assist with transferring patients to the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Women’s and Children’s Hospital or Flinders Medical Centre.

As patient numbers increase, regional hospitals may be called on to treat Covid-positive patients who are “not acutely unwell, such as those presenting for other reasons who happen to coincidentally be Covid-19 positive”.

Details of how Covid-19 cases would be managed were made public for the first time, with a series of documents including the Covid-19 Regional Response Strategy released by SA Health earlier this month.

Chair of the Covid-19 Regional Response Governance Group and Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (LHN), Wayne Champion, said each region would have its own strategy for dealing with Covid-19.

“Individual operational plans are being developed by the six regional LHNs unique to their own geography to address local service delivery needs, resource capacity and clinical capability, while community response plans have been developed in partnership with each of the 21 designated Aboriginal communities across South Australia,” he said.

The strategy also provides further information regarding supervised regional care facilities, which recently went out to tender, including a proposed site in the Renmark area.

The facilities, which can be activated on-demand to manage regional outbreaks, will “provide a safe environment for people who are close contacts and require quarantine or Covid-19-positive cases who are required to isolate under supervision”.

Deputy chief public health officer Dr Emily Kirkpatrick said about 95 per cent of cases would be managed through home-based care or Covid-care facilities.

“While South Australia has been caring for Covid-19 patients since the beginning of the pandemic, our hospitals and health services have been planning to ensure we can safely and effectively respond to the acute care needs of the expected increase of positive patients, whilst continuing to deliver high-level non-Covid acute care,” she said.

“As part of these new strategies, clear escalation pathways have been developed for Covid-19-positive patients who may deteriorate and need to go to hospital, including for adults, children and adolescents, pregnant women and neonates, as well as addressing how Aboriginal communities will care for and manage positive cases whilst also working to protect other members of their community.”



Emergency services attended this crash at the Murtho Road and Ral Ral Avenue intersection, in Renmark, where one car rolled over, on November 23. INSET: The traffic hot-spot. PHOTOS: Hugh Schuitemaker

# Renmark’s car crash hot spot

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

INATTENTIVE driving and the misjudgement of other traffic have been flagged as possible causes for a number of car crashes occurring at the same intersection in a Riverland town.

Renmark’s Ral Ral Avenue, Murtho Road, and James Avenue intersection has seen numerous car accidents recently, with three – including a car rollover – occurring in the period between November 23 and December 10.

MFS regional commander Garrick Lehmann said the intersection was known for frequent vehicle collisions.

“I go through there often,” Mr Lehmann said.

“I guess people are being a bit inattentive, because they have only been slow-speed accidents.

“There must be some potential misjudgement about what the other traffic is doing, because it is dual lane and dual turning.

“We get a lot of calls there and accidents



Two other accidents, resulting in no serious injury, then occurred on the other side of the intersection on December 9, and December 10, respectively.



have happened over previous years as well, so that comes down to inattentive driving and misjudging other vehicles.”

Mr Lehmann said heavy traffic at the intersection – including school pick-up times – created extra hazards for drivers.

“Even in the slower areas, make sure to have that situational awareness and think about the potential of what other cars might be doing as well,” he said.

“People just need to be a bit more mind-

ful and be a bit more aware of other drivers.

“Drivers might not have their full attention to the traffic volume, and are making some errors which are resulting in an accident.”

Mr Lehmann advised Riverland motorists extra care would be needed on local roads during the holiday period.

“There’s traffic increases, and people coming in from other areas might not be aware of all situations,” he said.

# Christmas crackdown targets real-time petrol pricing

RIVERLAND service station operators failing to provide real-time price data could face fines of up to \$10,000 these holidays.

The state government last week began a blitz on rural petrol retailers, to ensure compliance with South Australia’s real time petrol price monitoring trial.

Minister for Local Government Josh Teague encouraged Riverland motorists to consult real-time fuel price apps in order to find the lowest price.

“This blitz comes as South

Australian consumers face high prices at the pump, just as families get set to pack up the car and head away for Christmas holidays,” Mr Teague said.

“Officers will be conducting unannounced inspections at petrol stations across the state.

“Every dollar counts at this time of the year. Using an app that uses real-time data can help you hunt down a bargain at the bowser.

“These apps use our real-time fuel price data, so you can rest assured knowing you’re getting

the most up to date price information.”

Retailers who fail to comply with real-time pricing requirements could face penalties of up to \$10,000.

Consumer and Business Services (CBS) commissioner Dini Soulio said regional areas would be a focus for compliance and enforcement officers.

“CBS has issued three expiation notices, and more than 80 complaints have resulted in CBS issuing warnings to retailers following the detection of a sus-

pected breach,” Mr Soulio said.

“Of these warnings, 25 complaints related to retailers in rural areas – so this issue isn’t just restricted to metropolitan service stations.

“CBS has received more than 440 complaints since the scheme kicked off – and 108 of those relate to rural retailers.”

Further information regarding the SA Fuel Pricing Information Scheme can be found by visiting the website ([www.sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport/fuel-pricing](http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport/fuel-pricing)).

# Holiday makers urged to lock vehicles

LOCAL police are reminding people visiting the Riverland this holiday period to lock and secure their vehicles and valuables.

Police received two reports of theft from a holiday park in Berri last week, where unlocked vehicles were entered and personal items stolen.

These items included a backpack, watch, Bose headphones and keys.

The thefts occurred sometime between 8pm on Thursday, December 16 and 10.40am on Friday,

December 17.

Anyone with any information about the thefts is asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at [www.crimestopperssa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperssa.com.au).

Police also provided safety tips for holiday makers:

❑ Valuables should not be left unattended at a campsite or under a beach towel when swimming. Leave them secured at home.

❑ Secure and lock the doors and windows of vehicles, caravans and holiday homes. Do not leave any val-

uables in view.

❑ All valuables such as purses, mobile phones, GPS devices, cameras and portable DVD players should be removed from vehicles.

❑ Ensure fishing rods, eskies, GPS devices and tackle boxes are removed from boats and trailers when not in use.

❑ Family and trusted friends should be given an itinerary of any travel plans.

❑ Take care on the road and remember the “fatal 5” of speed, drink and drug driving, seatbelts, inattention and fatigue, and pedestrians.

# Barmera break-in

RIVERLANDERS have been asked to provide any information that may assist ongoing investigations into a break-in at a local business last week.

Entry was gained to a business on Hawdon Street, in Barmera, sometime between 8pm on Tuesday, December 14, and 8am on Wednesday, December 16.

Riverlanders with any information relating to the break-in are asked to contact Crime Stoppers by phone on 1800 333 000, or by visiting the website ([www.crimestopperssa.com.au/](http://www.crimestopperssa.com.au/)).

Further security tips for local business owners are available by visiting the SAPOL website ([www.police.sa.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/2653/Business-Security.pdf](http://www.police.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0016/2653/Business-Security.pdf)).





## Christmas thanks to our volunteers

AT last Friday’s monthly meeting the elected members of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie voted unanimously to consider a budget allocation in the next financial year to build multi-use shedding at Waikerie for volunteer community groups.

It is proposed that the shedding will be built on the site that already accommodates sheds and a common area for the Waikerie Rotary Club, Waikerie Men’s Shed and the Waikerie Apex Club.

The latter club is no longer active, but its shed is a possible new home for the Waikerie Lions Club.

Council purchased the land and has built the existing shedding over the past decade with some grant assistance. The proposed new shed will provide storage for the Christmas Tree Trail group, Santa’s Cave and others.

Supporting volunteers in our communities by providing infrastructure and seed funding has long been seen by councils as not only good practice but also necessary – in some cases – to encourage this effort to continue.

It has not always been the case but trends now demand that people freely offering their time are more likely to do so if basic facilities are provided to assist in making tasks less onerous.

Storing equipment, food vans and the like mean organisations like service clubs and other community event groups are able to swing into action without having to spend inordinate amounts of time on logistics. Put simply, their time is more directly applied and outcome-focused.

Volunteers in our community are enormously valuable and contribute much in worth and substance.

Man hours (or, more appropriately, person hours) can be calculated and would run into tens of thousands of dollars, as do the cash donations made by service clubs and others. So too are the events that contribute much to our local economies.

The recently announced Citizens of the Year (senior and junior) and Events of the Year are prime examples of those who contribute to our community. They are to be acknowledged and celebrated like those awarded these accolades previously.

All are often unsung contributors, deliberately not seeking gratitude, as is the very nature of volunteerism.

I for one can’t thank them enough because like all others who contribute and those before them, it is their example that becomes the fabric and foundation of a caring community such as the one in which we live.

This goodwill is acknowledged at a time of the year when Conduct Becoming wishes peace, joy and goodwill to all for Christmas and the New Year.

And please stay safe.

○ Trevor Norton is deputy mayor of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie and co-host of 5RM Sports Saturday, but has provided the above comment as his own opinion.

## Council’s plan to extend Loxton’s 80km/h zone

THE 80km/h speed limit exiting Loxton, heading to Berri, could be extended by almost half a kilometre

Loxton Waikerie council has requested the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) approve a plan to extend the existing speed restriction by 400m to include the Proud Avenue intersection.

The council says “practical safety aspects” are behind the request. The DIT had previously rejected council’s proposal to extend the 80km/h zone by 2km.

# CIT’s ‘landmark’ deal with energy giant

A PARTNERSHIP between a global company focused on energy sustainability and a local irrigation trust is set to deliver Australia’s largest battery storage network in the Riverland.

Energy company Enel X earlier this month announced an agreement with Central Irrigation Trust (CIT), which will see more than 8 megawatts of battery energy storage systems (BESS) established at the trust’s Riverland sites.

CIT CEO Greg McCarron said using the battery system would allow for a reduction in energy costs.

“This project marks significant progress towards achieving CIT’s sustainability goals, allowing us to lead by example,” Mr McCarron said.

“The BESS will allow us to significantly lower our carbon footprint while supporting the grid, the community and our customers, at no cost to us.

“This will contribute to the

reliability of the energy system, enable more renewables, help avoid power outages, and reduce our energy expense.”

Under the agreement, the BESS will be financed, managed, and optimised by Enel X, in order to minimise risk for CIT.

It is understood the project’s first stage will see 4.4 megawatts of BESS installed across four CIT sites during the first half of 2022.

Head of Enel X Asia and Oceania, Jeff Renaud, said the company’s Distributed Energy Resources Optimisation Software (DER.OS) would maximise the project’s economic value by analysing site energy demand, weather forecast inputs, and electricity grid conditions.

“We are thrilled to work with CIT to deliver this BESS, which will intelligently manage the Trust’s energy use,” Mr Renaud said.

“Our customised, turn-key solution will help CIT opti-



A new partnership between energy company Enel X and CIT is set to see 8 megawatts of battery storage systems established in the Riverland. PHOTO: supplied

mise its energy usage and costs, allowing the sites to run more efficiently while increasing resiliency.

“Our proven DER.OS platform will allow the batteries to ‘value stack’ across our

demand response programs including energy market arbitrage, frequency control ancillary services (FCAS), and access the upcoming wholesale demand response mechanism (DRM).”

## Not quite one born every minute, but almost two a week

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

A LOCAL hospital is on the verge of cracking a milestone, with 100 new arrivals expected by year’s end.

The Loxton Hospital Complex averages about 70 to 80 babies per year, but is currently at 94 with more due in the coming days.

Loxton Hospital Complex director of nursing and midwifery services Merridee Seiboth said 100 babies birthed at the hospital in 2021 was a testament to staff and the community.

“There are many things here that I think support good outcomes for women in terms of their care, but also that family time and culture,” she said.

“I think it’s appealing to people.

“I think our Health Advisory Council do a very good job of supporting the hospital and the nursing home.

“Our community stretches across many postcodes... it will always be a needed resource.”

The Loxton Hospital Complex currently has six midwives and two obstetric doctors.

Dr Peter Hamilton, who works alongside fellow obstetric doctor Peter Tait, said the increase was due to a number of factors, including the cessation of birthing services at the Waikerie Health Service.

“A few from Waikerie have driven this way because their service has been somewhat impaled... and we are getting a few drift over from Renmark and Berri,” he said.

“I think it’s good to have choices about the style of care and options involved. People will drift either way.



“It’s good to have multiple sites that can provide (obstetric) services.

“So I think it’s great that the Riverland still has two at least, but it would be nice to have Waikerie going again.”

While staffing levels were “adequate”, Dr Hamilton said recruitment was ongoing.

“We are hoping to recruit another couple of doctors if we can, both for general work and for obstetrics,” he said.

“We are really still a bit overstretched, as everyone is.

“We have enough, but we’d love another one or two bums on seats, for sure.

“(Obstetric doctor) Kerriane Harvey is back in the middle of January and Dr Mark Herrmann will be around for some weekends, but he is still based primarily in Murray Bridge.”

Dr Hamilton said doctors work with the team of midwives to ensure the best outcome for families.

“It’s good for women to have choice about their doctors and style of service,” he added.

“I think it’s good in general for people to be able to deliver as close to home as possible.”

## Ex-councillor’s vandalism lament

A FORMER councillor says vandalism in Barmera could have been prevented if his security and monitoring plan – proposed several years ago – was adopted, rather than rejected.

Responding to recent reports about thousands of dollars of damage to public toilets in Barmera, Stephen Lynch said his idea of installing high-definition cameras, including night vision, was an affordable and effective way of dealing with vandals.

His two-part plan also included solar and battery-powered surveillance cam-

eras situated at “problem areas” around the town.

“The system or one similar, at that time would have cost the council \$24,000,” he says in a letter to the editor in today’s Murray Pioneer.

“In the past three years how much would have been saved by this deterrent?”

Mr Lynch, who served one term as an elected member of Berri Barmera Council, from 2014 to 2018, claimed his proposal was rejected because council believed it could negatively impact tourism.

## Fruit fly quarantines set to end

OUTBREAKS of fruit fly in the Riverland are set to be declared over this week after a year of combating the pest

Fruit fly quarantine rules will begin to ease across the region – without any further detections of larvae – beginning tomorrow with Monash, and Berri on Friday, followed by the remaining zones on Monday.

A total of five quarantine zones had been implemented in the region, following the initial outbreak of Queensland fruit fly in a Renmark West on December 22, 2020.

Further information regarding fruit fly outbreaks in the Riverland

### Riverland quarantine dates ending:

- ❑ Monash – December 23
- ❑ Berri – December 24
- ❑ Renmark West – December 27
- ❑ Cooltong –27 December 27
- ❑ Pike River – December 27

can be found by visiting the website (<https://fruitfly.sa.gov.au/>).



# Aquatic club back in the water

By  
**STEPHANIE THOMPSON**

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A RIVERLAND aquatic club has returned to the water following a strong show of support.

After a hiatus spanning more than eight years, the Loxton Aquatic Club has sprung back to life, and is now looking forward, with a number of events in the works.

Committee member Mick Christofis said interest was initially gauged last year to see if re-starting the club was worthwhile.

"We got a massive amount of support from the community, local businesses and sponsors," he said.

"Last year was a bit of a tester and we were overwhelmed with the amount of members and people.

"There was enough interest to then kick it off officially this year."

Mr Christofis said the club's aim was inclusion and enjoying the River Murray.

"It is a social, boating club for all ages," he said.

"It's for singles, families and to promote water sports, promote boating and to do it socially in a big group.

"You don't need a ski boat, as some members have dinghies and some have fishing boats.

"We welcome anyone."

Mr Christofis said the club was looking to hold a variety of events including overnight boat trips, long day trips and learn-to-ski days.

"It's to do things you normally wouldn't do on your own," he said.



The Loxton Aquatic Club is back up and running following a hiatus, with locals encouraged to join. PHOTO: Studio Evergreen

In June, the club travelled through Chambers Creek.

"We do tinny trips in the winter months to keep events happening all throughout the year," Mr Christofis said.

The Loxton Aquatic Club began in 1962, with many former members re-joining for the 2021/22 season.

"The original aquatic club (members) were the ones who built the boat ramps, the shelter, barbecue and the structure of the toilets," Mr Christofis said.

Committee and club members have already carried out works to the area, along with new signage and sponsorship signs.

"Council has also been fantastic for us to work with," Mr Christofis said.

"They have been really supportive."

The Loxton Community Men's Shed also refurbished seating for the area recently.

## Adopt a tree in Berri Barmera

BERRI Barmera Council will soon trial an 'adopt a tree' program to assist with increasing the district's tree canopy for the district.

Local residents will be able register interest in adopting a street tree which they will be required to water and pull weeds from as it grows.

Council will provide participants with a bucket and tree-care guide, and assist with pruning, spraying for pests and fertilising the tree.

The program, which was first suggested by the Barmera Improvement Committee, will now be trialled on a single street in Barmera for one year before being offered to other towns, after it was endorsed

By  
**JOSH BRINE**

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by council at its November meeting.

In a report to council, infrastructure services administration officer Michelle Fourie said the program would allow council to increase its rate of tree replanting.

"New plantings require large amounts of attention within the first five years of being planted, with regular pruning, weekly watering, and additional tree care to ensure long-term health," she said.

"Increasing the current rate of replanting is expect-

ed to place an unsustainable amount of pressure on council's parks and gardens team and may result in both newer and older plantings not receiving the appropriate level of care.

"Acknowledging this, the Barmera Improvement Committee discussed the possibility of council acquiring assistance from community members to provide additional care for street trees.

"This would then relieve the parks and gardens team of the pressure of trying to care for an already abundant number of plantings in each town and, in turn, enabling additional trees to be planted throughout the council region."



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# New look for local tourism

RIVERLAND tourism will enter 2022 with a new brand, destination website and visitor guide, as the industry attempts to bounce back from consecutive years impacted by Covid-19 border closures.

The region's peak industry body, Destination Riverland (DR), recently unveiled the new Riverland Regional Brand, including a new logo, after completing the Destination Brand Project which was put out for public con-

sultation in August.

The destination website, available at [visitrivierland.com.au](http://visitrivierland.com.au), includes "significant upgrades" and incorporates the new "Riverland brand".

A DR spokesperson said the website was "critical to growing the visitor economy in 2022" by "providing better reporting to industry and stakeholders".

"The destination website is a key point for prospective visitors to



get excited, gather information and make bookings with local operators," they said.

Along with the new website, DR unveiled the 2022 Riverland Visitor Guide, produced in collaboration with Taylor Group Media.

"It communicates the new Riverland brand in an emotive way to encourage visitors to experience the Riverland," the spokesperson said.

"With a print run of 40,000 this guide will be in South Australia's Visitor Information Centres (VICs) for the Christmas holidays and distributed to strategic locations further afield."

The guide is also available online at [visitrivierland.com.au](http://visitrivierland.com.au).

DR also welcomed two new members to its board, bringing the total number of members back to nine.

Ricca Terra Farms owner and manager Ashley Ratcliff and West Adelaide Football Club CEO and former Berri Barmera Council environmental, economic and major projects manager, Conny Wilson, were selected to join the board, after DR called for nominations in early November.



Renmark Paringa Mayor Neil Martinson (left), and Barker MP Tony Pasin, at the opening of the Taylor Riverfront Precinct earlier this year. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

## Lifeline throughout the holiday season

RIVERLANDERS are being reminded that Lifeline's mental health services will remain available to provide support 24 hours, seven days a week throughout the Christmas period.

With Lifeline preparing to head into its busiest time of the year, the organisation is encouraging people to plan how they will cope with challenges over the coming weeks.

Lifeline CEO Colin Seery said the high volume of people reaching out for help at this time of year can reflect increased personal stressors in the community, such as financial pressures, family conflict, loneliness, isolation or grief.

"We are preparing for daily peaks of 4000 contacts across our 24/7 telephone crisis line, webchat and text services," Mr Seery said.

If you or someone you know needs help, contact Lifeline on 13 11 14.

### HUGH SCHUITMAKER

ACHIEVING a "high-quality" transformation for the community has seen a local town's remodelled river front area recently earn a third award inside the past six months.

Adelaide-based architecture firm Jensen PLUS last month received the Best Regional Mainstreet Award at the 2021 Mainstreet SA Awards for its work on Renmark's remodelled Taylor Riverfront Precinct.

Renmark Paringa Mayor Neil Martinson said success of the new river-front design – which formed stage 1 of council's Urban Design Framework (UDF) – was illustrated by numerous awards.

"Renmark Paringa Council is thrilled that our new Taylor Riverfront Precinct has collected a third award," Mr Martinson said.

"In July, the Taylor Riverfront Precinct won the Regional Achievement in Landscape Architecture Award from the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects SA.

"Then in November, (it) won the Great Place Award from the Planning Institute of Australia SA and the Best Regional Mainstreet Award from Mainstreet SA.

"The fact that our project is receiving so many accolades is satisfying for both council and council's contractors, including Jensen PLUS."

Mr Martinson said upcoming stages of the UDF would continue to focus on economic and social benefits for the town.

"The Taylor Riverfront Precinct was the first project to be delivered as part of our community's UDF," he said.

"The planning is under way for the next few stages of the UDF and these awards set the tone for the high-quality transformation that is still yet to come."

Development of the Taylor Riverfront Precinct was supported by a \$1.39 million grant through the federal government's Building Better Regions fund, and \$550,000 from the state government's Places for People Program.

*Riverfun wishes our lovely guests and locals a great summer, Chrissy & new year.*

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# All in the name of education

ALL five Riverland public secondary schools have formed a unique partnership, to create collaborative and educational opportunities for local students.

The Riverland Secondary Schools Alliance (RSSA) combines Glossop High School (Berri Regional Secondary College from 2022), Loxton High School, Renmark High School, Waikerie High School and Swan Reach Area School.

The RSSA – first established more than 15 years ago – aims to strengthen the characteristics of all five schools, and the learning opportunities available at each of them.

“The alliance amplifies educational opportunities by harnessing the collective energy and wisdom from the communities we represent,” said Glossop High School principal Emily Griggs.

“We aim to have our students immersed in innovative and engaging learning and be able to contribute in ways that interest them.”

The RSSA identified four key areas to create



“positive change” for students and staff members, including:

- Fostering active community citizens with an outward-looking perspective, while retaining a proud Riverland identity.

- Providing sustainable learning experiences that are relevant and engaging.

- Working collaboratively with a cross-section of organisations as relevant (business, not for profit, philanthropic and community).

- Educating the next generation of leaders and change makers who see teamwork as the optimal way to solve problems.

Together the schools have developed and implemented a range of unique opportunities for local stu-

dents, including:

- RSSA school sport, which has provided sport platforms for many students over 60 years.

- RSSA flexible industry pathways, which has successfully engaged students in vocational education for more than 20 years.

- RSSA South Australian Aboriginal Secondary Training Academy, a regional program providing Aboriginal students with a unique sporting and educational program.

- RSSA interschool academic competitions, with students participating in debating, maths quiz nights, the Science and Engineering Challenge, and the PIRSA Drone Challenge.

“We aim to have our students immersed in innovative and engaging learning and be able to contribute in ways that interest them...”

- Emily Griggs  
- Glossop High School principal



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Zane Sheffield (left) accepting the Rising Star Award for his Agtech By Design business at the Australian eChallenge awards recently. He is pictured with eChallenge and ThincLab academic director Dr Manjula Dissanayake from the University of Adelaide. PHOTOS: supplied

## Zane’s an agtech rising star

ELYSE ARMANINI

A 17-year-old from Loxton received an award for his up-and-coming agricultural business venture recently.

For his business venture Agtech By Design, Zane Sheffield was given the Rising Star Award at the Australian eChallenge 2021 awards on Wednesday, December 8.

The awards, hosted by the University of Adelaide, support entrepreneurs across the nation to create business solutions and help bring the ideas to market.

Agtech By Design, currently in the production phase, is an artificial intelligence (AI) weed seeker and sprayer.

“Farmers can select which weed they want to spray, and then the robot will be able

to identify each individual weed and spray the weed that the farmer selects,” Zane said.

“We’re halfway through prototyping at the moment. We’re just working on the AI part of it but we’ve got most of the equipment working which is really good for us.”

The idea originally came in 2020, when Zane asked his dad how the work on his fruit block could be improved.

“He needed something to go along and spray the weeds more efficiently, so that led to an autonomous weed seeker for my year 10 business studies,” Zane said.

“Now, it’s progressed into a tractor-mounted sprayer that uses AI.”

For the eChallenge Awards, Zane completed an eight-week course and a ven-

ture showcase before making two seven-minute pitches in the semi-finals and finals to become a finalist.

Zane, who will enter year 12 at Loxton High School next year, plans to see how the business progresses and will apply for university regardless of Agtech By Design’s outcome.

“The Australian eChallenge supports the best young entrepreneurs in the nation to conceive innovative business solutions and supports them to bring them to market,” said University of Adelaide’s Professor Noel Lindsay.

“It is a springboard for the leaders of the future to devise business opportunities that deliver practical solutions to real-world challenges.”



Zane’s sister Kiana (left), dad Peter, mum Leonie (right) and Loxton Waikerie council’s economic development advisor Ella Winnall were in attendance to see him receive the Rising Star award in Adelaide.



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# Artists plinths get tick of approval

Berri Barmera COUNCIL

A PROPOSAL to build a pair of plinths honouring two prominent Aboriginal artists with links to the Riverland on the Lake Bonney foreshore has been given the go ahead by the Berri Barmera Council.

At the November ordinary council meeting, elected members endorsed a Barmera Improvement Committee recommendation to proceed with a project to install plinths dedicated to the late Ruby Hunter and her partner Archie Roach.

Ms Hunter and Mr Roach's plinths, which are expected to cost a total of \$5000 to purchase and install, will feature their totem

animals, the pelican and wedge-tailed eagle respectively. The Ruby Hunter Memorial Committee will also create a fundraising account to "help pay for the memorials and their continued upkeep".

Ms Hunter and Mr Roach were known for their musical careers, plus their advocacy and volunteer work, with the pair caring for over 30 young at-risk Aboriginal children.

Ms Hunter was born in Renmark and years later returned to the region, living in Barmera and Monash before moving to Victoria. She died of a heart attack in 2010.

- JOSH BRINE



Designs for memorial plinths for Ruby Hunter and Archie Roach.



Berri Church of Christ's oldest member, Alan DeLaine (middle), cut the ribbon to officially open the shed, with the help of Berri Barmera Mayor Peter Hunt (left) and pastor Clinton Wardle.  
PHOTO: supplied

## It's official: Berri Men's Shed new home

AFTER three years of planning, fundraising and building, the new home of the Berri Community Men's Shed was officially opened recently.

The shed was opened with a special celebration service, hosted by the Berri Church of Christ, and a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by an afternoon tea on Sunday, November 28.

Pastor Clinton Wardle spoke about how the Shed's new home came to fruition while showing photos of the project's development, including the first sod being turned by Barker MP Tony

Pasin and Berri Barmera Mayor Peter Hunt.

"It's a real credit to the builders, tradesmen and volunteers who have spent many hours and hard work to get the shed built, despite the setbacks and extra costs that Covid restrictions created," Mr Wardle said.

Following the celebration inside the church, the shed was officially opened by the church's oldest male member, Alan DeLaine, who cut the ribbon.

The church's oldest member, 99-year-old Phyl Thomas handed over a key to the shed before 97-year-old

June Chapple, the church's longest-serving member of 75 years, blessed the shed with prayer.

"This was truly a wonderful achievement that the Berri Church of Christ has been able to do for the Berri community, and yet another way in which the people from the Berri Church of Christ are a blessing to the community," Mr Wardle said.

The Berri Community Men's Shed, located at 1025 Old Sturt Hwy, Berri, is open Monday and Thursday, 9am to 12 noon.

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# Riverland West's first business awards

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

THE Riverland West Chamber of Commerce has established annual business awards to recognise the achievements of its members.

The 2021 winners of its inaugural awards were announced at the organisation's AGM on November 23.

The member businesses that entered were judged on their customer service, innovation, growth, marketing, and advertising.

Cadell's Caudo Vineyard won best tourism busi-

ness and Cordola Camping and Recreation in Morgan received an honourable mention.

Waikerie's Soul Essence Therapy and Life Coaching took out the Best Service Business category and an honourable mention was awarded to Irrigear Waikerie.

The Best Community Organisation award was presented to the Waikerie Bowling Club and Waikerie Rotary Club received an honourable mention.

Waikerie's Rollbusch Quality Meats took out the Best Retail Business

Category and Nay's Place also of Waikerie earned an honourable mention.

Riverland West Chamber of Commerce, chair, Angela Lukacs, said the awards were introduced to acknowledge the fact the area had some "fantastic businesses", which were "doing great things".

The executive committee selected this year's finalists and winners.

Ms Lukacs said next year the chamber's member base would be involved in nominating businesses for the award.

"Hopefully we will then have a few more finalists involved," she said.

Ms Lukacs said the Riverland West Chamber of Commerce aimed to support businesses in Waikerie, Morgan, Cadell and Blanchetown.

"We are looking to grow how we support the businesses as well," she said.

"This includes identifying ways to support upcoming businesses and the interactions with the community and with each other."

Ms Lukacs said the Chamber wanted to help boost the economy to generate business development and advocate for its business members.



Caudo Vineyard's Cellar Door team leader, Honor Walklin, accepting the Riverland West Chamber of Commerce award for best tourism business.



Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone (left) with Waikerie Bowling Club president Roger Davies receiving the club's Best Community Organisation award. PHOTOS: Paul McCormick



LEFT: Waikerie's Rollbusch Quality Meats owner and butcher, Nigel Rollbusch, (left), and Nay's Place proprietor, Naomi Campbell at the inaugural Riverland West Chamber of Commerce Business awards last month. PHOTO: supplied

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To register, or for more information, contact Riverland Bridge Club President John Angove, ph: 0438 391 232 or e: [john.angove@angove.com.au](mailto:john.angove@angove.com.au)



## About the Riverland Bridge Club



Kate Yates and Jan Sunstrom were presented with the Riverland Bridge Club championship trophy by president John Angove after emerging victorious recently. PHOTOS: supplied

THE Riverland Bridge Club, based in Loxton, has just completed its annual club championships.

The champions, for the second-year running, were Renmark pair Kate Yates and Jan Sunstrom.

They edged out Frances Mallor and Graham MacInnes for the title in a closely fought battle held over the last three weeks.

Handicap winners were another

Renmark pair, Marg Howie and Judy Sykes. Marg and Judy were recent starters to the game and their performance was highly commendable.

Members of the local community with an existing interest in card games, or those just looking for a new hobby, are encouraged to take bridge as the opportunity to socialise and make new friends.

The Riverland Bridge Club always welcomes new members and is planning to hold further teaching sessions early next year for anyone wanting to learn or improve their bridge skills.

Expressions of interest should be made by Friday, January 7. The dates, times and venues will be set at a later date.

To register, or for more information, contact Riverland Bridge Club president John Angove on 0438 391 232 or via email ([john.angove@angove.com.au](mailto:john.angove@angove.com.au)).



Handicap winners Marg Howie (left) and Judy Sykes, both of Renmark, were presented their trophy by club president John Angove.

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**FULL SPEED AHEAD?** Sturt Highway motorists could be excused for being a little confused when driving near Barmera last Wednesday. Just past the Germein Road turn-off, a few hundred metres down from roadworks crews installing safety barriers, they were presented with two different speed-limit signs. For the record, the 90km/h sign was valid and the temporary 110km/h was invalid. PHOTO: Paul Mitchell

## Facebook users: newspapers 'essential' to communities

MORE than half of people who do not read local newspapers believe they are essential to their communities, a national survey has found.

Findings from the survey show that 64.5 per cent of respondents consider a printed copy of a local newspaper an essential service to their communities. Further, 48 per cent, or just under half, state that if they ever did read a local newspaper, they prefer to do so in print, compared with online (33 per cent) or via social media (13 per cent).

The survey, conducted in July and August this year, sought the views of 400 Facebook users, who do not read a local newspaper, about the role of local news within their communities.

The research targeted participants in areas that were being served by independent local newspapers within the Country Press Australia (CPA) network, including The Murray Pioneer.

The findings come as many local newspapers have struggled to survive during the pandemic. Deakin University Associate Professor Kristy Hess, who is leading the research, said the Facebook survey supported findings from a previous national study of local newspaper readers, her team conducted last year, highlighting a passion for the printed product.

"The fact that social media users examined here (in the latest survey) also indicate a preference for print is perhaps especially profound," she said. Cost and accessibility were the key reasons these Facebook users did not engage with a local newspaper in print or digital format, said Dr Hess.

"Many participants highlighted that the absence of a home-delivery service or easy way to access the paper created an impediment to accessing the physical copy," she said.

"They also indicated that they resisted paying for local news and would engage if it were free. "This resonates with findings from our first survey of newspaper readers – that is, the existence of a culture of 'free' where people believe local news content should be readily available without cost to audiences."

Bruce Morgan, executive director, for CPA, said the survey results were unsurprising and reinforced the mood of many regional communities.

"It is not just about the survival of local independent (newspaper) businesses, but that it is fundamental to community well-being, and to basic democratic notions of accountability within those communities," he said.

"Issues around accessibility and cost are also not surprising and reflect swings in community expectation in recent generations. Most independent publishers are adapting to that, having learned from the mistakes of the big corporate players who are now deserting the regions."

Both surveys are part of a national three-year Australian Research Council-funded project involving researchers from Deakin and RMIT universities, with support from Country Press Australia, the peak media body for independent news organisations. The project is about to enter its third year.

Associate Professor Hess said the voices and perspectives of everyday people were often missing in policy discussion about the future of local media.

Almost 30 per cent of Australia's population, close to 8 million people, live outside major cities in rural and regional areas, and are less-well serviced than their urban counterparts.

A copy of the survey report can be found here ([www.localnewsinnovation.org](http://www.localnewsinnovation.org)).



Deakin University Associate Professor Kristy Hess

## New sign at silo shelter

A RENMARK community group has provided a donation to fund a side project at the Paringa silos.

The Lions Club of Renmark, together with the Australian Lions Foundation, donated \$10,000 to fund the production of a large sign on the side of the silo interpretive viewing shelter.

The sign was placed by local business Rivergraphics recently. Lions president Allan Maddocks said the club was pleased to be acknowledged "in a significant way with this sign".

"We are proud that we have contributed to a structure which will protect visitors to this site from the extreme weather this region experiences from time to



Lions Club of Renmark president Allan Maddocks (left) and Paringa Silo Art Committee chairman Les Webb in front of the new sign. PHOTO: supplied

time, and provide them with relevant information regarding the images painted on the silos," he said.

Paringa Silo Art Committee chairman Les Webb said the committee was "very appreciative" for the support from the Renmark Lions Club.

"It is important to the Silo Committee that the project receives community endorsement," Mr Webb said. "The donated funds

enabled the building of a suitable viewing shelter/platform that now houses the interpretive boards that explain the silo murals, and also acknowledges the sponsors of this project.

"Thank you indeed Renmark Lions for your outstanding support."

The silos are now part of the Australian Silo Art Trail and are expected to draw many visitors to the region as a result.

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Megan Nitschke of the Barossa Valley (from left) and her daughters Rubee,2, and Hailee,9, were among those visiting Santa at the Rotary Waikerie Riverfront Christmas Night Market on Saturday. INSET: The hot weather failed to stop people from enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and cuisine at the Waikerie night market on Saturday. PHOTOS: Christine Webster

# Waikerie night market’s weekend Christmas cheer

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

VISITORS from Adelaide, the Barossa and across the Riverland joined the Waikerie community in celebrating Christmas at the town’s night market on Saturday. Santa’s arrival on a Rotarian’s motorbike delighted the children, with two of them eagerly chasing him, as he did a lap around the river front. Rotary Waikerie Riverfront Christmas Night Market co-ordinator and Rotarian, Sonia Fowler said the hot weather during

the day failed to deter people from spending the evening at the market. “When the sun went down it was a beautiful, perfectly balmy evening,” she said. Ms Fowler said the market was the ideal place for dinner, while Waikerie musicians also entertained the crowd with several impromptu performances. These included guitarists and singers Darrin Trandafil and Peter Santella, singer, Sam Penna, 13, Steve Dibben (on drums), Alan Hillier (on bass) and violinist Rachel Lawson.



Jack Higgins (left) won the prestigious Ampol Best All-Rounder award.



Marcel Waanders (right) was awarded the Holder Medal.



Aaliyah Loffler was the recipient of the Pratt/Visy Industries Scholarship.

# Students honoured at Waikerie High School presentation night

JACK Higgins won the Ampol Best All-Rounder at Waikerie High School’s presentation night, held last week. Marcel Waanders was awarded the Holder Medal, and Aaliyah Loffler received the Pratt/Visy Industries Scholarship.

## 2021 MAJOR AWARDS

- WHS House Shield - Randell
- Contribution to Sport Award - Ethan Johnson
- School Volunteer Award - Mitchell Werner
- School Volunteer Award - Zakary Ziegler
- Moorundie Ruwe Award - Stella Thomas
- Allison Nitschke Humanities Award - Sarah Campbell
- Animal Husbandry Award - Alana Matulick
- Central Irrigation Trust Scholarship - Will Kroehn
- Greg Cottle Memorial Award - Naish Andrew
- Year 11 Vet Student of the Year Award - Naish Andrew
- Year 12 Vet Student of the Year Award - Chantelle Miller
- Year 12 Vet Student of the Year Award - Parker Steinert
- WHS - Australian School Based Trainee of the Year - Gypsy Searle
- Tim Whetstone Award - Emily Taylor
- Tim Whetstone Award - Jack Higgins
- Rain Moth Gallery Award - Rhys Barrington
- Performing Arts Junior - Grace Borgas
- Performing Arts Junior - Jackson Kuchel
- Performing Arts Senior - Chloe Edwards
- Mayoral Scholarship - LWDC - Taylah Gore
- Rotary Technology Scholarship - Ulani Guy
- Local Area Award Mid Murray - Jack McWaters
- Australian Defence Force Awards Long Tan Youth Leadership - Mitchell Werner
- Australian Defence Force Awards Long Tan Youth Leadership - Emily Taylor
- Australian Defence Force Awards Future Innovators - Jaskan Singh
- Australian Defence Force Awards Future Innovators - Tyson Schutz
- Zonta International Award - Harveen Singh
- Zonta International Award - Maria Uchida
- Zonta Young Woman Award - Vaine Guy
- Pratt/Visy Industries Scholarship - Aaliyah Loffler
- Holder Medal - Marcel Waanders
- Ampol Best All-Rounder - Jack Higgins

## 2021 SRC

- Year 8 Harry Guy, Jackson Kuchel, Isabella Paschke, Poppy Steinert
- Year 9 Flynn Andrew, Malachi Lloyd, Latia Loffler, Zali Schiller
- Year 10 Ulani Guy, Stella Thomas, Mitchell Werner, Zak Ziegler
- Year 11 Chloe Edwards, Aaliyah Loffler, Alana Matulick, Jed Thiel
- Year 12 Vaine Guy, Jack Higgins (School Captain), Emily Taylor (School Captain)

## 2021 ACADEMIC AWARDS ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT - BRONZE MEDAL

- Year 8 Ellie Bald, Rhys Barrington, Reily Brock, Teliesha Brooke, Shakira Daley, Xanthe Hocking, Madeline Parker

## Year 9

Flynn Andrew, Hayden Barty, Nikita Danton, Natalia Hocking, Aaron Schmidt, Gemma Simpfordorfer, Klancie West

## Year 10

Samantha Cabot, Keelan Johnson, Blake Loffler, Stella Thomas

## HIGH ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT - SILVER MEDAL

## Year 8

Hamish Kroehn, Isaac Leske, Angelos Myer, Amali Nitschke, Zaii Pittas, Darcie Shaw, Navdeep Singh Uppal, Poppy Steinert

## Year 9

Brodie Fechner, Kieran Hahn, Arian Hashemi, Sienna Hyde, Georgia Kelly, Malachi Lloyd, Shan Mansergh, Zali Schiller

## Year 10

Sarah Campbell, Trista Carter, Taya Jolley, Owen Kroehn, Charlotte McLean, Ebony Prevedel

## OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT - GOLD MEDAL

## Year 8

Sascha Berlin, Grace Borgas, Marco Camerlengo, Olivia Ebert, Sienna Lehmann, Jonathan Leske, Natalie Mackintosh, Isabella Paschke

## Year 9

Amity Burns, Chloe Higgins, Ellen Kroehn, Immy Lochert, Latia Loffler, Claire McWaters, Martha Plantado, Ryan Schutz, Emma Thiel, Thomas Waanders, Charlotte Werner

## Year 10

Felicity Arnold, Taylah Gore, Haylee Gore, Ulani Guy, Isabella Neville, Jaskan Singh

## STAGE 1 SUBJECT AWARDS

- Agriculture - Alana Matulick
- Modern History - Chloe Nitschke
- Essential English - Isabella Scott
- Essential Mathematics - William Shugg
- Scientific Studies - Jaskan Singh
- Food and Hospitality & General Mathematics - Tiana Burns
- Biology & Creative Arts - Chloe Edwards
- English & General Mathematics - Makayla Frost
- Personal Learning Plan & Scientific Studies - Taylah Gore
- Physical Education, Viticulture & Woodwork - Jed Thiel
- English, Japanese (Open Access) & Visual Arts - Maria Uchida
- Chemistry, Mathematical Methods, Physical Education & Physics - Aaliyah Loffler

## STAGE 2 SUBJECT AWARDS

- Community Studies B - Thomas Baker
- Agricultural Production - Ethan Johnson
- Research Project B - Luan Kafexholli
- Essential English - Taylah Kuchel
- Biology - Harrison McLean
- Scientific Studies - Jackson Pillion
- Food and Hospitality - Bailee Pretty-Forrester
- Research Project B - Elisa Schiller
- English & Physics - Jack Higgins
- Essential Mathematics & Research Project A - Will Kroehn
- Food and Hospitality & General Mathematics - Matthew Schmidt
- Biology & Physical Education - Marcel Waanders
- Chemistry, Mathematical Methods & Specialist Mathematics - Tyson Schutz

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# Riverland businesses warned of Christmas theft

RIVERLAND business operators have been urged to consider implementing extra security measures following a rise in retail theft before Christmas.

A SAPOL spokesperson

said “simple business security tips and measures can dramatically reduce the chances of becoming a victim of theft”.

SAPOL recommended Riverland business owners

followed the following precautions:

❑ Clearly displaying warning signs regarding the consequences of theft and the security measures in place at your business.

❑ Limiting the number of entry and exit points

❑ Protecting cash registers to prevent the easy removal of money by offenders

❑ Using price tags that

cannot be easily removed or altered

❑ Making sure customers have no direct access behind counters and any other areas that are only authorised for staff.

Further advice regarding theft prevention can be found by visiting the website ([www.police.sa.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/2694/Retail-Theft-Prevention.pdf](http://www.police.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/2694/Retail-Theft-Prevention.pdf)).

## Waikerie's Christmas Tree Trail beckons

**CHRISTINE WEBSTER**

VISITORS to Waikerie and local families are being encouraged to visit Waikerie's Christmas Tree Trail in Federation Park during the festive season.

About 130 3D wooden trees, which are either 2.4m or 1.8m tall, have been decorated by local businesses, community groups and schools.

Waikerie Christmas Decoration Committee spokeswoman, Donna Matthews, said each tree is decorated in a theme and colour of the organisation's choice and features solar fairy lights.

She said those involved in the Christmas Tree Trail were delivered their trees in October and given six weeks to decorate them.

The display of Christmas trees began on November 22 and will end January 16.

“I think it is a really simple process and can be a lot of fun,” Ms Matthews said.

“For businesses, in my opinion it is free advertising, as there are lots of businesses showing their artistic skills.”

The Waikerie Christmas Tree Trail is in its third year.

Ms Matthews said the Christmas decoration committee members spent the weekend immediately before November 22 preparing Federation Park for the installation of the Christmas trees. Rotary Club of Waikerie members and Cadell Training Centre inmates and staff also helped place the decorated trees into the ground.

“We have to mark off the trees as they come in, we stake them in the ground and make sure we have the corresponding sign with each tree,” Ms Matthews said.

“The trees are then lit up with their solar lights, so it is quite an event and it did take us most of the day.”

Ms Matthews is encouraging visitors to Waikerie to look out for big green signs directing them to the tree trail at Federation Park behind the Rain Moth Gallery.

She said other Christmas decorations have also been placed in Waikerie's CBD including big red bows on street trees, wreaths on poles and six large Christmas trees.

Ms Matthews said the first three Christmas trees in White Street were funded by Loxton Waikerie council last year, while more money was allocated this year for three trees in Peake Terrace.

For more information about Waikerie's Christmas activities and decorations visit the Christmas in Waikerie Facebook page.



The Waikerie Christmas Tree Trail in Federation Park is an ideal way for local businesses and community organisations to promote their services. PHOTO: supplied



The Waikerie Christmas Tree Trail is on display 24/7 until January 16. PHOTO: supplied

Loxton Waikerie Council staff members, Kurt Dahlitz, (left), and Shane Pengilly and Loxton Waikerie councillor and local volunteer, Clive Matthews erected three new Christmas trees in Waikerie's Peake Terrace last week.

PHOTO: Christine Webster



## MFS issues Christmas home decorating warning

WITH many of us embarking on Christmas shopping and preparations, an urgent safety warning has been issued from the Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS).

MFS community safety and resilience Officer, Phil Evans, said it was important for people to follow certain

simple electrical fire safety tips to have a bright festive season.

“When decorating a home with festive lights, if more than one item requires power it is important to use a power-board with an overload cut-out feature rather than using double adaptors,” Mr

Evans said. “If you decorate the exterior of your home only use Christmas lights designed for outdoor use.”

The MFS further warned consumers to make sure that adequate ventilation was provided to transformers which are commonly used for Christmas tree lights.

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# My Christmas message

IT'S been another unusual year, however, as we rapidly approach Christmas and with 2022 just around the corner, the festive spirit in the region is one thing that never ceases to amaze me.

We are blessed to live in such a beautiful part of the world, filled with selfless people and I feel extremely thankful to be able to call this region home.

I would like to thank the thousands of volunteers across the Riverland and Mallee who display the Christmas spirit every day of the year and of course, a heartfelt thank you to everyone working in our front-line services. Our community would be poorer without your hard work and dedication.

Over the past 12 months, we have seen a number of positives for the region, as well as many obvious challenges, but we have seen strength from our communities and in the face of a tough season our farmers have found ways to be even more resilient and stronger.

It is a pleasure to represent the greatest region in Australia in parliament. Looking ahead to 2022, I hope to continue my commitment to issues that matter to my constituents, such as the impact of Covid-19 on our communities, regional health services, supporting our agriculture sector, protecting the Murray River, improving our roads, giving our children the best education and the list goes on.

To the people working in

By  
**TIM WHETSTONE**  
Member for Chaffey



our hospitals and aged care facilities, emergency services workers, and those of you in hospitality and tourism businesses throughout Christmas, your efforts are recognised and appreciated. Let's ensure that we are especially grateful to those who are working over the Christmas period.

As always, I encourage you to shop locally and support local jobs. I also ask that we all try to do our own bit to spread some Christmas cheer – either by volunteering, or simply visiting a neighbour or friend. Christmas time can bring loneliness for some.

It has been a pleasure to be involved with many presentations and award ceremonies throughout the year. The ongoing success in the region is a sure sign that our communities can adapt and are resilient to ever-changing conditions.

Again, please remind friends and family travelling to the Riverland to leave fruit and vegetables at home.

I'm thankful for the support and encouragement I receive from many people as I have undertaken my responsibilities throughout the year. Thank you again for your support.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to you and your loved ones in 2022.



Jarrod May (second from left) of Kingston on Murray Primary School was awarded the Tim Whetstone MP School Award at a graduation ceremony held last week. Mr Whetstone (left) is pictured with Jarrod and his father Shane, sister Brooke and mother Alison.

PAGE 25 MORE PHOTOS

# Anzac awards for Riverland young people

NINE young people from local schools and youth organisations were recognised for their leadership recently.

The Renmark RSL sub-branch presented winners of the annual Anzac Youth Leadership Awards to young community members as an encouragement to persist with leadership

behaviours in the future. Each award winner received a cash prize and a letter of commendation. This year's cash prizes totalled \$1100.

Renmark RSL sub-branch president, Peter Higgs, was pleased to announce that RSL representatives presented each winner with their awards

at individual school or group ceremonies.

This year's Anzac Youth Leadership Award winners were:

Michael Harper and Lennix Ivanovic – Renmark North Primary School

Sarah Edwards and Lindy Lees – Renmark Primary School

Brodie Hunt and Lily Schloithe – St Joseph's School Renmark

Amy Logos – Renmark Girl Guides

CUO Bradley Pfennig – 410 Army Cadet Unit Berri

CFSgt (AAFC) Liam Harris – 603 Squadron AAF Cadets

## NEXT EDITION: The next edition of The Murray Pioneer is out on Wednesday, January 5

### Loxton Primary School's night of nights

LOXTON Primary School held two graduation nights recently for year 6 and 7 students, recognising those who embody the school's values.

School principal Sally Wright said the Tim Whetstone Award is given to a graduating student who applies themselves to study, takes part in extra-curricular and community activities and has sporting involvement.

Emily Abbott won the year 6 Tim Whetstone Award, while Saskia Gibbs was awarded the year 7 accolade.

"This award is a great honour for the recipient," Mrs Wright said.

"A panel, including teachers and the school leadership team, have carefully considered our students' involvement in these areas from



Loxton Primary School's Emily Abbott won the year 6 Tim Whetstone Award at the graduation night recently. PHOTOS: supplied

their written applications and general conduct throughout their time at primary school.

"While there were a number of outstanding nominees that were con-



Saskia Gibbs won the year 7 Tim Whetstone Award at the Loxton Primary School graduation recently.

sidered this year, and indeed excelled in one or two areas, the award winner must fulfil the criteria requirements to a high overall standard in all four areas."

Meanwhile, students who exemplify the school's five values were also awarded on the night.



Winners of the year 6 Loxton Primary School value awards were Natalia Burgemeister (belonging), Amelia Semmler (caring), Tilly Groth (learning), Brok Duthie (persisting), and Ava Thomas (respecting).



Winners of the year 7 Loxton Primary School value awards were Juliet Haenen (belonging), Charlie Thomas (caring), Darcy Lawson (learning), Seth Raggett (persisting), and Gabriel Thornton (respecting).



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## Silver anniversary celebrations for Chaffey Rose Club

A LOCAL community group recently celebrated a milestone birthday by visiting gardens around the region.

The Chaffey Rose Club – a branch of the Rose Society of South Australia Inc. – celebrated its 25th birthday in September.

Members of the club visited seven gardens in Paringa, Renmark and Lyrup between Friday, September 10 to Sunday, September 12.

Club president Shann Hausler said members experiences a “whirlwind” of silver anniversary celebrations.

“Such great friendships were renewed and made, with much reminiscing and fun,” she said.

“We’re all drawn together by our love of roses.”

Unfortunately, some members were unable to join in the celebrations due to closed borders and restrictions.

“We missed our interstate club members from the Riverina region in New South Wales and Sunraysia in Victoria,” Ms Hausler said.

“We’re the only rose branch in Australia that has members from three states.”

The weekend excitement started early when police were called to investigate the gathering at a garden in Paringa.



Enjoying the club's birthday celebrations were Fleur Carthew (left), Allan Carthew and Elly Johnson. PHOTOS: supplied

“Imagine our surprise when two SAPOL officers interrupted our meal... a concerned neighbour had contacted them,” Ms Hausler explained.

“(Our Covid marshals) produced our Covid-safe plan for the weekend and guided them through it.”

“It was good to know that SAPOL were following up on Covid compliance. I think the unexpected visit added to the enjoyment of the weekend.”

The club visited three gardens each on the Saturday and Sunday before wild weather forced the cancellation of their final celebra-

tory lunch at Lock 5 in Paringa.

“I rang staff at Lock 5 to cancel our lunch booking and was informed by the lock master that it was ‘blowing a gale’ down by the river,” Ms Hausler said.

Earlier this year, Elaine Schier, 90, was honoured by the club as a life member and was presented with a 25-year continuous membership badge and framed certificate during the club's birthday celebrations.

On behalf of the club, Ms Hausler thanked the “wonderful team of helpers” and the garden owners for their time.

## New Optus mobile towers switched on

NEW mobile towers near the region are set to improve telecommunication coverage, reliability and speed in the Riverland.

Optus announced last week two mobile towers would be switched on at Ettrick and Marama, near Karoonda.

Optus territory general manager for regional South Australia, Rob Seymour, said the new towers would provide full coverage for locals travelling between Loxton and Murray Bridge.

“We know how important reliable access is for those living and working across regional Australia, and right now it is more critical than ever,”

“Both Marama and Ettrick will provide our customers with greater connectivity for those living, working, and driving through the area by unlocking access to communication, and helps facilitate contact with family and friends.”

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham said access to high-quality telecommunications and digital services was vital for Riverland communities.



Elaine Schier (right) was presented with a 25-year continuous membership badge and a framed certificate to commemorate her life membership with the Chaffey Rose Club.

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IN THE RIVERLAND



## HAVE SOME SOCIAL PICTURES TO SHARE?

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LEGACY LADIES LUNCH: Members of the Legacy Widows Club of Renmark joined together at Nanya at the Renmark Hotel for their Christmas lunch on Monday, December 13. PHOTOS: Elyse Armanini



Both Legacy Ladies and legatees attended the special Christmas lunch at Renmark Hotel.

## A well-earned country music accolade for Jim Hermel

VETERAN performer **Jim Hermel** was acknowledged by the Adelaide Music Collective (AMC) on December 16, when he was presented with his medallion by **Garry Burrows**.

The AMC is a collective that celebrates our state’s rich music history of professionals with national and international experience and a profile in the music industry.

It feels like Jim – a multi-instrumentalist/singer/songwriter – seems to have been around forever, and I can’t recall when I first ran into him.

Now a part of the three-piece group **Runaway Dixie**, along with his wife **Virginia Coad** and sister-in-law, **Lynette Coad**, he also plays drums with **Peter Coad & The Coad Sisters**.

He was a guest at the inaugural festival at Berri back in 1977 and was finally inducted into Rocky’s Hall of Fame at Barmera in 1999.

Jim has played in the Riverland many times throughout his career, and I know lots of people here will be as rapt as I was at hearing this news.

It is 20 years since **Troy Cassar-Daley** accepted the roll of Tamworth’s Country Music Festival Sustainability Ambassador.

Over the 10 days of the annual festival around eight tonnes of recycling is generated, including cans. There will be general waste disposal facilities, plus recycling stations, located right across the festival precinct, and it doesn’t take much of your time to dispose of your waste correctly.

One thing I have noted is that the council staff go around the streets and empty bins

By **ROBYN MCINTOSH**



MY KIND OF COUNTRY

into the night. I’ve met them in Peel Street after going to a show and always say “good on you for doing this”.

With a decent, well-respected bloke like Troy as the ambassador, the Tamworth Regional Council has noted the reduction of items put in the rubbish throughout the area.

Also, if you are going to the festival you may have noticed that the Tamworth region has had a lot of rain recently, so the water supplies are at a maximum. However, that doesn’t mean you should waste water, as it doesn’t take long to drift back into those horrible drought conditions again.

The finalists have been announced for the 2022 **Stan Coster** Memorial Bush Ballad Awards, with winners to be announced on YouTube on Feb 27.

Male Vocal: **John Smith** – *For those Who Understand*, **Terry Bennetts** – *Not Without You Old Mate*, **Graham Rodger** – *Born To The Saddle*.

Female Vocal: **Dianne Lindsay** – *Just Let Him Be*, **Tracy Coster** – *The Man in the Colourful Suit*, **Sharon Heaslip** – *It’s Always the Son That Gets the Farm*.

New Talent: **Ian Wilkinson** – *Women Of The Outback*, **Lachie Cossor** – *Southern Cross*, **McKay Brothers** – *Good Times Will Come Again*.

Instrumental: **Lindsay Hammond** – *Lawson’s Ghost*, **Anthony Baxter** – *Wattle In Springtime*, **Lindsay Butler** – *Where The*

*Roper Flows Tonight*.  
Duo or Group: **McKay Brothers** – *You’re Still Just 22*, **Coad Sisters** – *Land of Acacia*, **Dianne Lindsay and Peter Simpson** – *Sounds Like Country To Me*.  
Album: **Tracey Coster** – *Southerly Change*, **John Smith** – *For Those Who Understand*, **Ken “Chainsaw” Lindsay** – *My Favourite Place*.  
Songwriter: **Terry Bennetts/ Keith Lethbridge** – *Not Without You Old Mate*, **Lloyd Back** – *Old Boots*, **Coad Sisters** – *Land of Acacia*.  
Comedy: **Tracy Coster** – *Beer I Bought for Dave*, **Ken “Chainsaw” Lindsay** – *The Day I Rode Chainsaw*, **Terry Bennetts** – *Welcome to Australia*.

The Star Maker Grand Final is one of the biggest events of the annual Toyota Country Music Festival and is on Sunday, January 16, 2022, at Toyota Park Tamworth.

Although most finalists are from NSW, there is one from Victoria and one from Queensland, with the following being the full list:

**Billie-Jo Porter** (age 38) Coffs Harbour, NSW; **Brittany Elise** (27) Boyne Island, Qld; **Charlie Fittler** – (18) Armidale, NSW; **Clancy Pye** – (29) Orange, NSW; **Heath Lancaster** (20) Kempsey, NSW; **Jade Gibson** (23) Wangaratta, VIC; **Jake Davey** (25) Taree NSW; **Katie Jayne** (33) Scone, NSW; **Loren Ryan** (27) Tamworth, NSW; and **Max Jackson** (29) Carrington, NSW.

Judges on the panel for the 2022 Star Maker Grand Final include CMAA Chairman **Dan Biddle**, KIX Country National Content Director, **Justin Thomson**,



Regular Riverland visitor Jim Hermel. PHOTO: Virginia Coad-Hermel

the long-time manager of Troy Cassar-Daley, **Roxanne Brown**, Major Events Gold Coast Director **Mark Duckworth**, and the Pub Group’s **Craig Power**.

**Paul Kelly** has recorded his first Christmas album and has called on quite a few of his friends to guest with him, including **Kasey Chambers**.

Though not a country album, the snips I have heard of *Paul Kelly’s Christmas Train* will appeal to country music fans as well. It is available to pre-order now through JB Hi-Fi, and other reputable outlets, on CD or vinyl.

Christmas album, *Driving Home For Christmas*, is **Lee Kernaghan’s** contribution this year. ABC is also releasing *Very Best Of Lee Kernaghan – Three Decades Of Hits* on January 14, but you can pre order this one now through a reputable music outlet.

## MEET THE TEAM

Meet Glenda, Gail, Ashlea and Georgie at The Murray Pioneer, who can help your business grow through our print and online mediums.

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Just a little gift from us to you - simply because you are awesome and we love it when we come across awesome people! Thanks for all your help advertising our business. We appreciate it very much!  
- Cheers, Stromy and Vik (RTCSA)



Renmark | Glenda



Berri | Gail



Waikerie | Ashlea



Loxton | Georgie



# OUT & ABOUT

IN THE RIVERLAND



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Members of the Riverland Bridge Club celebrated their final day of play last week. Joining in on the fun were Marg Howie (left), of Renmark, Chris Kimber and Mary Hann, both of Loxton. PHOTOS: supplied



Riverland Bridge Club members enjoying the last play of the year were Helen Smith (left), of Loxton, Jennine Williams, of Renmark, Jean De Caux, of Loxton, Kaye Quast, of Sunlands and Jo McConaghy, of Barmera.



Member for Chaffey Tim Whetstone attended the recent St Joseph's Barmera graduation to present Layla Moore and Meg Kassulke with their Tim Whetstone MP School Awards. PHOTO: supplied



Tim Whetstone attended the graduation ceremony of 21 high school students and Indigenous rangers from a program run out of Calperum Station, Calperum Connect. PHOTO: supplied

## COMMUNITY DIARY

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

**WEEKLY**  
Every Sunday at 2pm – Guided tours of the Pines Historic House, 18 Henry Street, Loxton. Gardens open seven days. Extra tour inquiries to Helen 0421 601 903.

**WEEKLY**  
The Berri Community Men's Shed is open Mondays and Thursdays 9am to 12 noon. Men welcome.

**WEEKLY**  
Every Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm, and Saturday from 9.30am to 11.30am, the Barmera Theatre Art & Craft Gallery, on Barwell Ave, is open for sales. Inquiries: Ruth 0428 899 506.

**WEEKLY**

Every Monday, even long weekends, 1pm to 4pm. Card and board games at Renmark Lutheran Church, 62 Seventeenth Street, Renmark. Phone Roz Frazer 8595 1560.

**WEEKLY**  
Social badminton is played at the Barmera Recreation Centre every Thursday evening from 6.30pm to 8pm. Racquets are available and all welcome. We also play Tuesday mornings from 9am to 10.30am. For more information contact Judy 8588 8000.

**WEEKLY**  
The 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 from the bar.

**WEEKLY**  
Riverland Brass Monday nights 6.30pm to 8.30pm. 1 Verran Terrace, Berri. All welcome.

**WEEKLY**  
Meet, Greet & Eat at Loxcare Community Hub, 13 Drabsch St, Loxton, every Friday in December, at 10am. Come and enjoy cake/scones/ biscuits, coffee/tea and a chat. Inquiries phone 8584 6954. Good food, good people, good times.

**DECEMBER**  
Loxton Historical Village Christmas Treasure Hunt. Come along and be

transported to a former era, with an added treat for children. Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm. Closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24**  
SHINE – Christmas Lights Spectacular at St Peter's Lutheran Church, Loxton. Free event, gates opening 8pm, lights and animated projection from 9pm. Food and market stalls, musical entertainment, artistic displays. [www.little-town.com.au/shine/](http://www.little-town.com.au/shine/).

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 6**  
The Riverland Bridge Club recommences play for 2022 and welcomes new members.



St Francis  
of Assisi College

### Welcoming Years 7 and 8 students in 2022

**ENROL NOW!**

[assisi.catholic.edu.au](http://assisi.catholic.edu.au)

Growing in *harmony*



TV GUIDE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

WEDNESDAY



6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Christmas At St Paul's; 11:05 The Heights; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 The Cook And The Chef; 1:25 Anthony; 3:00 ABC News Afternoons; 4:00 Think Tank; 5:00 Worzel Gummidge  
6:00 Sammy J  
7:00 ABC News  
7:30 Outback Ringer  
8:00 Hard Quiz Battle of The Has Beens  
8:30 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering 2021  
9:30 QI  
10:05 Would I Lie To You At Christmas  
10:35 A Berry Royal Christmas  
11:35 Father Brown  
12:20 Silent Witness



5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Peter Rabbit  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:30 Rusty Saves Christmas  
7:00 Dino Dana  
7:15 Odd Squad  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:00 Would I Lie To You?  
8:30 Brian Johnson's A Life On The Road  
9:15 David Stratton's Stories Of Australian Cinema  
10:15 Doctor Who  
11:20 A Low Budget Nightmare  
12:20 Pilgrimage  
1:20 Louis Theroux  
2:15 Community  
2:35 Parks and Recreation



6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 A Holiday Wish Come True; 2:00 World's Deadliest Weather: Caught On Camera; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Big Bash League  
10:30 'Gordon, Gino & Fred: American Road Trip'  
11:30 American Crime  
1:30 Air Crash Investigations  
2:30 Home Shopping  
4:00 NBC Today  
5:00 Seven Early News  
5:30 Sunrise



6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra Summer; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Christmas On The Menu; 1:50 Talking Honey - Relationship Specials; 3:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News  
6:00 Nine News  
7:00 A Current Affair  
7:30 Michael Buble's Christmas In The City  
8:30 Love Actually  
11:15 Christmas In New York - Inside The Plaza  
12:10 Tipping Point  
1:05 A Current Affair  
1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
2:30 Global Shop  
3:00 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
5:00 Nine News Early Edition



6:00 Entertainment Tonight; 6:30 Farm To Fork; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 8:30 Studio 10; 11:00 My Market Kitchen; 11:30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 Jamie's Quick & Easy Christmas; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Inside Bold; 5:00 10 News First  
6:30 The Project  
7:30 Bondi Rescue  
8:00 All Aussie Adventures  
8:30 Bull  
10:30 The Royals Revealed  
11:30 The Project Encore  
12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert  
1:30 Home Shopping



5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 The Italians; 2:15 The Chefs' Line; 2:45 Child Genius Australia; 3:45 The Cook Up with Adam Liaw; 4:15 The Wonderful World Of Chocolate; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers  
6:00 Mastermind  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:35 Sesame Street  
9:00 Grand Tours Of Scotland's Lochs  
9:30 Departure

THURSDAY

6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat Christmas Special; 11:05 The Heights; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Maggie Beer's Christmas Feast; 1:30 QI; 2:00 Would I Lie To You At Christmas; 2:30 Christmas With Poh; 3:00 ABC News Afternoons; 4:00 Think Tank; 4:55 Worzel Gummidge; 5:55 Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery  
6:30 Movin' To The Country  
7:00 ABC News  
7:30 Outback Ringer  
8:00 Barrie Cassidy's One Plus One  
8:30 Joanna Lumley's Unseen Adventures  
9:20 That Christmas  
10:20 Lucy Worsley's Christmas Carol Odyssey  
11:20 Call The Midwife

5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Becca's Bunch  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:30 Octonauts Special  
7:00 Dino Dana  
7:15 Odd Squad  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:30 TBA  
9:00 Hard Quiz Battle of The Has Beens  
9:30 Insert Name Here  
10:00 Doctor Who  
10:50 Gavin and Stacey Christmas Special  
11:55 You Can't Ask That  
12:25 David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef  
1:25 The Misadventures of Romesh Ranganathan

6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 The Last Christmas Home; 2:00 World's Deadliest Weather: Caught On Camera; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Better Homes And Gardens Summer  
7:30 Woolworths Carols In The Domain 2021  
10:00 Vacation  
12:05 American Crime  
1:05 The Zoo  
2:00 Home Shopping  
4:00 NBC Today  
5:00 Seven Early News  
5:30 Sunrise

6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra Summer; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 The Christmas Ball; 1:45 Explore; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News  
6:00 Nine News  
7:00 A Current Affair  
7:30 Great Getaways  
8:30 Miss Congeniality 2  
10:50 New Amsterdam  
11:40 Chicago Med  
12:35 Tipping Point  
1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
2:30 Global Shop  
3:00 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
5:00 Nine News Early Edition  
5:30 Today

6:00 Entertainment Tonight; 6:30 Farm To Fork; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 8:00 Inside Bold Encore; 8:30 Studio 10; 11:00 My Market Kitchen; 11:30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 Jamie's Easy Christmas Countdown; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Inside Bold; 5:00 10 News First  
6:30 The Project  
7:30 Jamie - Together At Christmas  
8:30 Law & Order  
10:30 The Royals Revealed  
11:30 The Project Encore  
12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert  
1:30 Home Shopping

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 The Italians; 2:15 The Chefs' Line; 2:45 Child Genius Australia; 3:45 The Cook Up with Adam Liaw; 4:15 The Wonderful World Of Chocolate; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers  
6:00 Mastermind  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:35 Wonderful World Of Chocolate  
8:30 Red Election  
9:25 Bowled Over

FRIDAY

6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Gardening Australia; 11:05 The Heights; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Barrie Cassidy's One Plus One; 1:30 Call The Midwife; 3:00 ABC News Afternoons; 4:00 Think Tank; 4:55 Worzel Gummidge; 5:55 Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery  
6:30 Shaun The Sheep  
7:00 ABC News  
7:30 Outback Ringer  
8:00 Would I Lie To You?  
8:30 Midsomer Murders  
10:00 Talking Heads  
10:30 QI  
11:00 Sammy J  
12:00 rage

5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Hey Duggee  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:25 Shaun The Sheep  
6:35 The Adventures Of Paddington  
7:00 Dino Dana  
7:15 Odd Squad  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:00 Hard Quiz  
8:30 Roxanne  
10:15 Doctor Who  
11:05 Live At The Apollo  
11:50 QI  
12:25 Would I Lie To You?  
12:55 Insert Name Here  
1:25 Sick of It  
1:45 Community  
2:10 Parks and Recreation

6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 Santa's Boots; 2:00 House Of Wellness; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Elf  
9:00 Fred Claus  
11:20 Isle Of Dogs  
1:20 Travel Oz  
2:00 Home Shopping  
4:00 Million Dollar Minute  
5:00 NBC Today

6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra Summer; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 A Christmas Movie Christmas; 1:45 Garden Gurus Moments; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News  
6:00 Nine News  
7:00 A Current Affair  
7:30 Christmas With Delta Goodrem  
8:00 Carols By Candlelight  
11:00 Christmas At Highclere Castle  
12:00 The Weakest Link  
1:00 A Current Affair  
1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
4:00 Global Shop  
4:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
5:30 Wesley Impact With Stu Cameron

6:00 Entertainment Tonight; 6:30 Farm To Fork; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 8:00 Inside Bold Encore; 8:30 Studio 10; 11:00 My Market Kitchen; 11:30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 Jamie - Together At Christmas; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Inside Bold; 5:00 10 News First  
6:30 The Project  
7:30 The Living Room  
8:40 Have You Been Paying Attention To2021?  
9:40 Rhys Darby - Big In Japan  
10:40 The Graham Norton Show Encore  
11:40 The Project Encore

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 Dr Russell's Imaginarium; 2:30 All Is Bright; 3:45 The Cook Up with Adam Liaw; 4:15 The Wonderful World Of Chocolate; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers  
6:00 Mastermind  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:30 Silent Night  
9:10 Freddie Mercury - The Great Pretender

SATURDAY

6:00 rage; 9:00 ABC News Summer; 9:30 The Pope's Christmas Mass 2021; 11:30 Maggie Beer's Christmas Feast; 12:00 ABC News Summer; 12:30 A Berry Royal Christmas; 1:30 Lucy Worsley's Christmas Carol Odyssey; 2:30 Would I Lie To You?; 3:00 Hard Quiz Battle of The Has Beens; 3:30 Christmas In Australia With Christine Anu; 4:30 Midsomer Murders  
6:00 The Penguin King With David Attenborough  
7:00 ABC News on Christmas Day  
7:30 TBA  
7:40 TBA  
9:40 Call The Midwife  
10:40 Father Brown  
11:25 rage Guest Programmer  
5:00 rage

5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:55 Peppa's Christmas  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:25 Peter Rabbit's Christmas Tale  
6:55 Shaun The Sheep  
7:30 A Very Specky Christmas  
8:30 TBA  
9:10 QI  
9:40 Live At The Apollo  
10:30 TBA  
11:00 Schitt's Creek  
11:45 Catastrophe  
12:10 Upstart Crow  
12:40 Review With Myles Barlow  
1:10 GameFace  
1:35 Red Dwarf  
2:05 Escape From The City  
3:00 ABC News Update

6:00 NBC Today; 7:00 Woolworths Carols In The Domain 2021; 9:30 Alinta Energy Christmas Pageant 2021; 10:30 2021 Mayor's Christmas Carols; 11:30 SeaLink Carols By Candlelight 2021; 1:00 House Of Wellness; 2:00 Jabba's School Holiday Movie Special; 2:30 Salvation Army Christmas Special; 3:00 Fred Claus; 5:30 Border Security - Australia's Front Line  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly  
8:00 National Lampoon's Vacation  
10:10 National Lampoon's Christmas Vacatio  
12:10 Harum Scarum  
2:00 Home Shopping  
4:00 Get Clever  
5:00 My Greek Odyssey

6:00 National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant; 8:00 2021 Lord Mayor's Christmas Carols; 10:00 Good Food Christmas; 10:30 Cma Country Christmas; 11:30 Christmas With Delta Goodrem; 1:00 Carols By Candlelight; 4:00 Blizzard  
6:00 Nine News Saturday  
7:00 Deck The Halls  
8:50 Four Holidays  
10:35 Queen's Christmas Message  
10:45 Dame Edna Rules The Waves  
11:50 The Santa Con  
1:30 Destination Wa  
2:00 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
4:30 Global Shop  
5:00 Tv Shop - Home Shopping  
5:30 Wesley Impact With Stu Cameron

6:00 Mass For You At Home; 6:30 Leading The Way With Dr. Michael Youssef; 7:00 Healthy Homes Australia; 7:30 Escape Fishing With ET; 8:00 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohy; 8:30 Jamie - Together At Christmas; 9:30 Studio 10: Saturday; 12:00 Pat Callinan 4x4 Adventures; 1:00 All 4 Adventure; 2:00 Christmas With Australian Women's Weekly; 3:00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 3:30 Taste Of Australia With Hayden Quinn; 4:00 Waltzing Jimeoin; 4:30 Roads Less Travelled; 5:00 10 News First  
6:00 Terry Pratchett's The Abominable Snow Baby  
6:30 A Baby Reindeer's First Christmas  
7:30 The Dog House  
8:30 The Cheap Seats  
9:30 The Graham Norton Show

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 A World Of Calm; 2:25 Patrizio Buanne; 3:25 NSW Seniors' Christmas Concert 2021; 4:45 Wonderful World Of Chocolate Christmas; 5:35 Secrets of the Toy Shop  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:30 Deck The Halls  
8:30 On Broadway  
10:00 Lion  
12:05 Dolly Parton

SUNDAY

6:00 rage; 7:00 ABC News Summer; 7:30 The Best Of Back Roads; 8:30 Rugged Paradise; 9:00 ABC News Summer; 9:30 Gardening Australia; 10:30 The World In 2021; 11:00 Compass; 11:30 Songs of Praise; 12:00 ABC News Summer; 12:30 Landline; 1:30 Doc Martin; 2:15 TBA; 4:25 Everyone's A Critic; 4:55 Dream Gardens; 5:30 Nigella's Cook, Eat, Repeat  
6:00 Antiques Roadshow  
7:00 ABC News Sunday  
7:30 Death In Paradise  
8:30 TBA  
10:00 Doc Martin  
10:50 Harrow  
11:40 Silent Witness  
12:40 Talking Heads  
1:10 Mrs Wilson  
4:00 Death In Paradise

5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Fireman Sam  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:25 Shaun The Sheep  
6:40 Andy's Prehistoric Adventures  
7:05 The Deep  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:00 Compass  
8:30 Louis Theroux  
9:30 The Yearly With Charlie Pickering 2021  
10:30 Brian Johnson's A Life On The Road  
11:15 Christmas In Australia With Christine Anu  
12:15 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
1:00 A Low Budget Nightmare

6:00 NBC Today; 7:00 Weekend Sunrise; 9:00 The ASHES; 5:30 Big Bash League  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Big Bash League  
12:00 Why Can't We Sleep?  
1:00 Dr Harry's Animal Encounters  
2:00 Home Shopping  
3:30 Million Dollar Minute  
4:00 NBC Today  
5:00 Seven Early News  
5:30 Sunrise

6:00 Easy Eats; 7:00 Weekend Today; 10:00 The Xtreme Colllxion; 10:30 Ultimate Rush; 11:00 Destination Wa; 11:30 Making Of Ghostbusters - Afterlife; 11:40 Mr Mom 1983; 1:30 Rocky li 1979; 4:00 Bondi Vet; 5:00 Nine News; 5:30 South Aussie With Così  
6:00 Nine News Sunday  
7:00 60 Minutes  
8:00 David Attenborough's A Perfect Planet  
9:10 The Matrix  
11:50 Chicago Med  
12:40 The Bad Seed  
1:30 Tv Shop -Home Shopping  
4:00 Take Two  
5:00 Nine News Early Edition  
5:30 Today

6:00 Mass For You At Home; 6:30 Hillsong; 7:00 Joseph Prince; 7:30 Joel Osteen; 8:00 Good Chef Bad Chef; 8:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 9:00 Australia By Design; 9:30 The Savoy At Christmas; 10:30 Terry Pratchett's The Abominable Snow Baby; 11:00 A Baby Reindeer's First Christmas; 12:00 Luca's Key Ingredient; 12:30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 1:00 Farm To Fork; 1:30 My Market Kitchen; 2:00 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 2:30 Roads Less Travelled; 3:00 Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures; 4:00 All 4 Adventure; 5:00 10 News First  
6:00 Bondi Rescue  
6:30 Isuzu UTE A-League Men  
9:30 FBI  
12:30 Home Shopping

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 France 24 English News Second Edition; 1:00 Speedweek; 3:00 ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix Final; 4:30 Cycling NRS 2021 Sunshine Coast; 5:00 Welcome To Country; 5:10 Going Places With Ernie Dingo; 5:40 By Royal Appointment  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:30 Zoo Mum  
8:30 Walt Disney  
10:35 Michael Palin

MONDAY

6:00 Escape From The City; 7:00 News Breakfast; 9:30 The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo; 11:00 The Heights; 12:00 ABC News Summer; 12:30 TBA; 2:00 Mrs Wilson; 3:00 ABC News Summer; 3:30 Ask The Doctor; 4:00 Think Tank; 5:00 Restoration Australia  
6:00 Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery  
6:30 Movin' To The Country  
7:00 ABC News  
7:30 Outback Ringer  
8:00 Australian Story Summer Series  
8:35 The Queen's Green Planet  
9:25 London Zoo  
10:10 Judi Dench's Wild Borneo Adventure  
11:05 The Day Will And Kate Got Married  
11:50 EXPOSED  
12:55 Midsomer Murders

5:05 Five; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Fireman Sam  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:25 Shaun The Sheep  
6:40 Andy's Prehistoric Adventures  
7:00 Dino Dana  
7:15 Odd Squad  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:00 QI  
8:30 David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef  
9:30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
10:20 Doctor Who  
11:05 Gavin and Stacey Christmas Special  
12:10 Escape From The City  
1:10 Red Dwarf

6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The ASHES; 5:30 Big Bash League  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Big Bash League  
12:00 Spinout  
2:00 Home Shopping  
4:00 NBC Today  
5:00 Seven Early News  
5:30 Sunrise

6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra Summer; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 The Black Stallion Returns 1983; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News  
6:00 Nine News  
7:00 A Current Affair  
7:30 Rbt  
8:30 Australian Crime Stories  
9:40 Reported Missing  
11:00 Chicago Med  
11:45 The Village  
12:35 Tipping Point  
1:30 Tv Shop -Home Shopping  
2:30 Global Shop  
3:00 Tv Shop -Home Shopping  
4:00 Take Two  
5:00 Nine News Early Edition  
5:30 Today

6:00 Entertainment Tonight; 6:30 Farm To Fork; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 8:00 Inside Bold Encore; 8:30 Studio 10; 11:00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 11:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 The Royals Revealed; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 My Market Kitchen; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 5:00 10 News First  
6:30 The Project  
7:30 Bondi Rescue  
8:00 Territory Cops  
8:30 FBI  
11:30 The Project Encore  
12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert  
1:30 Home Shopping

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 Al Jazeera News; 2:00 The Chefs' Line; 2:30 Child Genius Australia; 3:30 The Cook Up with Adam Liaw; 4:00 Queen Victoria's Children; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers  
6:00 Mastermind  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:35 Charles And Diana: 1983  
8:30 Tony Robinson's World By Rail  
9:30 24 Hours In Emergency  
10:30 SBS World News Late

TUESDAY

6:00 Escape From The City; 7:00 News Breakfast; 9:30 How Deadly World; 10:00 Antiques Roadshow; 11:05 The Heights; 12:00 ABC News Summer; 12:30 Gardening Australia Presents; 1:00 Worzel Gummidge; 2:00 Mrs Wilson; 3:00 ABC News Summer; 3:30 Ask The Doctor; 4:00 Think Tank; 5:05 Restoration Australia  
6:00 Julia Zemiro's Home Delivery  
6:30 Movin' To The Country  
7:00 ABC News  
7:30 Outback Ringer  
8:00 Anh's Brush With Fame  
8:30 Old People's Home For 4 Year Olds  
9:30 Griff's Great Australian Rail Trip  
10:20 QI  
10:55 Hannah Gadsby's Nakedy Nudes  
11:55 Joanna Lumley's Unseen Adventures

5:05 Five Minutes More; 5:10 Sarah And Duck; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Fireman Sam  
6:05 Ben And Holly's Little Kingdom  
6:20 Bluey  
6:25 Shaun The Sheep  
6:40 Andy's Prehistoric Adventures  
7:00 Dino Dana  
7:15 Odd Squad  
7:30 Spicks And Specks  
8:30 TBA  
9:40 Schitt's Creek  
10:05 The Trip To Greece  
10:35 Doctor Who  
11:20 QI  
11:50 Catastrophe  
12:15 In The Long Run  
1:00 Sick of It  
1:25 GameFace  
1:50 Community

6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The ASHES; 5:30 The Chase Australia  
6:00 Seven News  
7:00 Big Bash League  
10:00 Big Bash League  
10:30 Ambulance: Code Red  
11:30 Autopsy USA  
12:30 American Crime  
1:30 Travel Oz  
2:00 Home Shopping  
4:00 NBC Today  
5:00 Seven Early News  
5:30 Sunrise

6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra Summer; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Wedding Daze 2007; 1:50 Talking Honey -Relationship Specials; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News  
6:00 Nine News  
7:00 A Current Affair  
7:30 Travel Guides  
8:30 The Weakest Link  
9:30 Kath & Kim  
11:40 Manifest  
12:35 Tipping Point  
1:30 Tv Shop -Home Shopping  
4:00 Take Two  
5:00 Nine News Early Edition  
5:30 Today

6:00 Entertainment Tonight; 6:30 Farm To Fork; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 8:30 Studio 10; 11:00 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 11:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 The Royals Revealed; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 My Market Kitchen; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Jamie's Easy Meals For Every Day; 5:00 10 News First  
6:30 The Project  
7:30 The Dog House Australia  
8:30 NCIS  
11:30 The Project Encore  
12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert  
1:30 Home Shopping  
4:30 CBS Mornings

5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 9:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 A World Of Calm; 2:25 Child Genius Australia; 3:25 The Cook Up with Adam Liaw; 3:55 Queen Victoria's Children; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers  
6:00 Mastermind  
6:30 SBS World News  
7:30 Titanic: Into The Heart Of The Wreck  
9:00 Kenny Rogers  
10:50 SBS World News Late



# Lions' donations to bring Christmas cheer

AS a gesture of Christmas goodwill, a local community group has donated funds to assist local organisations to help provide festive cheer to families doing it tough at this time of year.

The Lions Club of Renmark donated \$500 to the 2021 Riverland Christmas Appeal to assist with its efforts to provide food, toys and Christmas cheer to disadvantaged families leading up to Christmas.

A \$500 donation was also made to Foodbank SA Riverland to assist in providing food for disadvantaged people in the

region, especially with the expected increase in demand at this time of year.

"Our club members have appreciated the support of our local community with our fundraising efforts," said Lions Club president Allan Maddocks.

"We felt it appropriate that we give something back to our community by assisting those local charities (and) organisations who do so much good in our region at this time of year, in assisting those families who may be struggling to enjoy their Christmas, especially



**Peter Smith (right), from Foodbank SA Riverland, was presented with the \$500 donation by Lions president Allan Maddocks.**

ly those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"As a service club, our members felt that we would like to do something to assist those families through these local

organisations."

Mr Maddocks, together with club treasurer Graham Edwards, presented the donations to both organisations last week.



**Lions president Allan Maddocks (right) presented the \$500 donation to 2021 Riverland Christmas Appeal volunteer Carolyn Trifonoff (left) and co-ordinator Cheryl Taylor. PHOTOS: supplied**

## Christmas cheer for Waikerie Ladies Probus Club

FORTY ladies gathered at the Waikerie Bowling Club on November 23 for Waikerie and District Ladies Probus Club's final meeting for the year.

Coincidentally, it was the last speaking engagement for guest speaker Penny MacKenzie, from the RAA.

Penny last visited the club in 2019 to talk about mobility and safety and was warmly welcomed back. Christmas decorations, a pooled lunch (served in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines) and a complimentary drink helped with the festive spirit.

Penny's presentation, "Then and now", a timeline of events since the RAA's foundation in 1903, was warmly received.

"Some of the information was rather surprising, including there being a total of 120 cars on the road in SA in 1905 and now 1.7 million, driving licences being introduced in 1906 and the RAA having a monopoly on car parking in Adelaide for a while – though some members thought that service would still be handy today," a club spokesperson said.

"White line markings on roads, especially useful for corners with bad turns were started in 1925, strip maps were introduced in 1936, then went out of fashion and back again, traffic lights were introduced in 1937, no new cars were registered in 1944 due to World War II, seat belts were introduced in 1971 and much more happened that we just take for granted today.

"The RAA even predicted in 1991 that hybrid cars would exist by 2010. Their vehicle inspection services, network of registered mechanics and road safety



**Waikerie Ladies Probus Club member Pam Collins, president Maxine Morley, RAA guest speaker Penny MacKenzie and treasurer Pauline Kalms at the club's meeting last month. PHOTO: supplied**

programs are all kept busy. One surprising advantage of being a Premium RAA member travelling interstate – when Covid-19 permits – is being able to ring the RAA number to organise assistance if needed."

The Probus group will next meet at the Waikerie Bowling Club on Tuesday, January 25, at 10am when Belinda Maloney will speak about the Red Cross Medical Bus service. Guests are welcome.

At the November meeting members were asked to give the committee ideas for meetings, including guest speakers and trips so a program can be drawn up for 2022. Ideas can still be passed on to president Maxine (0402 008752), secretary Chris (0428 412 495) or other committee members.

"Best wishes to all for the festive season and especially to other Probus club members through the Riverland."

## Exercise sessions with Berri Senior Citizens group

A BERRI Senior Citizens exercise group had its final exercise session for 2021 last week.

Sessions for Dorothy's Blue Group are held each Thursday from 9am to 10am, and in addition to exercising to music the sessions include socialising, tea/coffee, and even meals together.

"People are invited to come and join us to find out what it is all about," a spokesperson said. "No pressure or long-term commitment."

The group reconvenes on Thursday, January 6, at 9am.

The exercise group has been going for over 13 years, starting with approximately 15 people in the hospital, then with a local physiotherapist.

"Then we were on our own, then at the bowling clubrooms and now at Berri Senior Citizens clubrooms, where there is more space to comply with regulations as



**The Berri Senior Citizens' Thursday morning exercise group.**

we now have over 30 on a regular basis," the spokesperson said. "This (number) even allows for people being away, looking after grandchildren etc."

The Berri Senior Citizens Group meets regularly on Tuesday afternoons. Activities include, eightball, bridge, scrabble, Hand and Foot, Euch, Rummikub and computer assistance.

"Socialising you will meet people who are members of other organisations, such as garden clubs, U3A and social cards groups who meet on other days," the spokesperson said.

"We also have information about ASCCA, Australian Seniors

Computer Club Association, online training sessions, some of which are free to our members and some a small charge.

"Come along and find out more, including how to access these sessions and even attend their next conference. The last two have been held online."

Club activities will resume on Tuesday, January 11, from 1pm.

### Member's award

A BERRI Senior Citizens Club member has won a section of a photograph competition.

Peter Cumic (pictured) took out the 'seasons and weather' section of the Australian Seniors Computer Club

Association's (ASCCA) annual photography competition.

The Berri club is a member of ASCCA, which entitles its members to participate in ASCCA's annual competitions, among other things.

"This is special for Peter because this competition is open to people across the country and it is a big help to our club as we don't have to organise rules, judges and all the behind-the-scenes work that goes with organizing an event of this type," a local club spokesperson said.

"This also benefits our wider community as we advertise the Riverland..."



WELCOME to Christmas week 2021 in the Riverland and Mallee region. This is when final plans for the festive season come together, last-minute cooking of those favourite desserts is carried out, or the extra box of bonbons is fetched. You may have to get to the supermarkets, along with the rest of the community and the many visitors already at holiday parks. This is when we, as shoppers, should relax a little. Supermarket checkout staff are under pressure day in, day out, so they would appreciate us being grateful for their courteous and friendly service. This is also evident at counter service shopping in our region. We are grateful to have service with a smile, so thank you to businesses who offer that.

The Christmas events in our region have been very special, bringing joy to all who have been able to attend or participate. There is a last chance to visit Santa in residence at Waikerie Santa's Cave until 4pm this Friday. The Christmas Tree Trail will be on display at Federation Park, behind the Waikerie Rain Moth Gallery until Monday, January 17, 2022. This year solar lights on almost all the Christmas Trees are an added attraction. Several more community groups have decorated trees, and they look spectacular after the sun goes down.

Residents at Warrawee enjoyed a Christmas lunch last week. It was arranged by board members and staff, who proved their expertise with the barbecue while residents relaxed under the shady trees. Residents were surprised but thankful when Santa called in to see them, taking a break from



**KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH GWEN WEBBER**

**gwenwebber21@gmail.com**

his busy schedule this month.

The Riverfront Christmas Night Markets in Waikerie were a great success on Saturday, in perfect summer evening weather. Locals and visitors enjoyed the event, which included great music to entertain us, and sing along to. To the stall holders, we thank you for your commitment and interest in giving the community and visitors the opportunity to see and purchase from the many different products available, including those especially hand crafted. The community is appreciative of the Waikerie Rotary Club and its members for the success of the markets.

Congratulations to our Citizens of the Year in Waikerie. We acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the years of service that Shaun Arnold has given to the CFS and our community. We also congratulate William Campbell as our Young Citizen of the Year, and we are assured William has a great future ahead of him. The Event

of the Year honour went to The West Tour, featuring Golden Guitar Winner Tom Curtain and his wife Annabel. Thanks to those who attended this great event.

We congratulate, thank and honour those in our region who have been recognised in the Australia Day Awards and give thanks for their commitment to their communities.

As this is the final copy for 2021 I want to reflect on some of the past year but also we can look forward to the coming year and what it will bring to us. As each year comes and goes there are times that we may have to say farewell to loved ones who passed. Words sometimes seem inadequate, but being there for those who need our support is all we can do, and we do live in a caring community.

Our Waikerie community has seen streetscape changes, and positive comments on these plans have given our town a new image. Together with street artwork, planters and more trees, it will be embraced in the years to come. Having the iconic Garford fire engine on display will also be a feature attraction. We thank Rotary Club members for the continued improvements to the beautiful Rotary Cliff Top Walk. Our Memorial Gardens is a popular place for picnics and rest times for travellers, and we look forward to the completion of the river-bank precinct. It is exciting to see the work progressing each week.

We congratulate and give thanks to John

Gladigau of Little Town Production and his team for the production this year of Shine, being displayed on St Peter's Lutheran Church at Loxton nightly until Christmas Eve. This event is amazing. Endeavouring to explain to someone who has not had the privilege of seeing it is almost impossible, because you have to be there, to absorb and feel it. The beautiful voice of Desiree Frahn leads you on this journey.

Thanks and congratulations to Desiree for having the honour of singing the Australian National Anthem at the opening of the Test match at Adelaide Oval.

Special Christmas greetings to members of Riverland Crows Supporters Group. We will be ready for season 2022.

Covid-19 has changed the world and it will probably continue to do so for some time. But we must not live in fear or anxiety. We can live in our regional communities safe and content as we have shown for almost the past two years.

We welcome Christmas 2021, as we remember the Christmas story and the true meaning of Christmas. May I send to you blessings for Christmas with peace and happiness for the coming year.

Thought for the week:  
"It is in the shelter of each other that the people live."

- Irish proverb





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# Local’s tips for living on a tight budget

ELYSE ARMANINI

FOR many people, living on a tight budget and facing financial hardship makes life stressful, which is why one Riverlander created a book full of tips and tricks.

Living On A Shoe String by Denise Garside is a guide to living economically, and covers topics such as adjusting to becoming financially compromised, budgeting, shopping wisely, home hints, and growing fruit and vegetables at home.

Mrs Garside and her husband Bill entered a period of financial hardship in their younger years and needed to drastically change the way they lived to save money wherever possible.

“We thought we’d better be self-sufficient because we



Denise (left) and Bill Garside created the Living On A Shoe String guide to living on a budget. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

were actually on the dole,” Mrs Garside said.

“We grew lots of vegetables (and) did everything we possibly could to live cheaply.”

Mr Garside said entering financial hardship can “knock you off your feet”.

“You’ve got to pull your

head in, pull yourself together, not panic and think about how you’re going to deal with it logically and rationally,” he said.

“For a lot of people, they can’t do it. They become overwhelmed.”

The book was first published in 2007, but the

Gardsides still live by the guide they created together, despite now having the money to live differently.

While the book is not available in stores, copies are available through Amazon and Kindle.

Some of the Garsides useful tips and tricks include:

- ❑ Always take a list (and stick to it) when grocery shopping.
- ❑ Think about starting a fruit and vegetable garden and use excess produce to make jams, soups, sauces or preserves.
- ❑ Make a budget planner for the month, or year, to have some idea of where money will need to go.
- ❑ Buy cheaper, home-branded products.
- ❑ Gift giving, especially around Christmas, can be stressful. Gifts, decorations, and even the Christmas tree, can be made from things around the home.
- ❑ Simple meals can still be tasty, and leftovers can be frozen for a rainy day.

## Carers reflect over Xmas lunch

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

THE significant role carers play in the Riverland community was recognised at a Christmas lunch at the Berri Hotel on Thursday.

Carers SA’s Riverland carer connector, Hannah Birch, said the gathering was organised to celebrate the work unpaid carers do and thank members of the organisation’s peer support groups.

About 40 carers took part in the festivities, which enabled them to reflect on the often-demanding nature of their caring roles.

“Carers are unpaid in the roles that they do, and it is important to celebrate the work they do for the people they



Riverland carers: Kimberlee Murdoch, of Loxton, Megan Reese and Sue Graham, both of Renmark, Kylie Pfennig, of Berri, and Carers SA’s Lucy Loder at the Carers SA Christmas gathering on Thursday. PHOTO: Christine Webster

love,” Ms Birch said.

She said Carers SA was set up to provide support for those involved in caring for others.

“A carer may feel they want to join a support group, but once they speak to the Carer Support team, they might find

they might actually be better suited for a counselling service or for coaching services,” Ms Birch said.

Carers wanting to find out more about the activities and services available through the organisation should phone the Carer Gateway on 1800 422 737.



HEY, SANTA: Santa Claus was out and about in Berri on Saturday morning. PHOTO: Glenda Malinovski

## Public sector workers’ Christmas gift

ALL South Australian public sector workers, including nurses, doctors, police and corrections officers, who are rostered on and work on Christmas Day will be paid higher penalty rates of at least 200 per cent this year.

SA Treasurer Rob

Lucas said the state government recognised the “hard work and additional sacrifice” of public sector workers required to work and rostered on Saturday, December 25 while many other South Aussies were spending the day at home with family and friends.



A thank you to our advertisers and readers.  
Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year



Production staff Emily Pongrac, Shenaid Kenyon and Kirsty Frahn.



Administrator Brianna John, managing director Ben Taylor, group administration manager Sally Giles and advertising sales manager Glenda Malinovski.



Journalist Hugh Schuitemaker, editor Paul Mitchell, sports editor Ben Lennon, and journalists Elyse Armanini, Josh Brine and Deirdre Graham.





# the quarantine quiz



## mega holiday edition

1. Finding a silver charm in your Christmas pudding meant what?

2. Which country was the Lord Of The Rings trilogy filmed in?

3. What did the other reindeer not let Rudolph do because of his shiny red nose?

4. How many ghosts show up in A Christmas Carol?

5. Which famous Michelangelo statue is in the Italian city of Florence?

6. How do you say "Merry Christmas" in Spanish?

7. What is Italy's most popular frozen dessert?

8. Which city's police force drive Ferrari FF, Lamborghinis, Mercedes, Aston Martins and other exotic sport cars?

9. SeaWorld, Universal Studios and Walt Disney World are all theme parks in which Florida city?

10. In Oaxaca, Mexico, Christmas Eve is also called "Night of" what vegetable?

11. On which Caribbean island can you swim with pigs?

12. In which country did cheesecake originate?

13. What is the most photographed landmark in Australia?

14. Which Christmas song contains the lyric "Everyone dancing merrily in the new old-fashioned way?"

15. In which country is the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa?

16. Which famous cocktail originated in the Raffles Hotel, Singapore?

17. Which museum is located at 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City, 10028?
18. What gift did the Little Drummer Boy give to the newborn Christ?

19. Which continent is the only one to not have ants?

20. Where did the practice of decorating jack-o-lanterns originate?

21. In which country is the humble 'thumbs up' gesture considered a great insult?

22. What is Europe's most mountainous country?

23. What is the informal shopping name for the Friday following Thanksgiving Day?

24. Which Italian landmark dates back to 70AD?

25. In which country were Tim Tam chocolate biscuits first produced?

26. In the early 1800s, the first gingerbread houses were reportedly inspired by what famous fairy tale?

27. The French word "Noel" is often used around Christmas, but what was its original meaning in Latin?

28. As the clock chimes midnight to ring in the New Year, a Spanish tradition involves eating twelve of what – one for each chime?

29. On which island is the holiday resort of Montego Bay?

30. What popular holiday song was written during the Cuban missile crisis and was a plea for peace?

31. Which London landmark's postcode is SW1A 1AA?

32. What percentage of the earth is water?

33. How many countries are members of the United Nations?

34. "Twas the Night Before Christmas" was originally published under what name?
35. What finishes the line: "All I want for Christmas is my..."?

36. Which two cities did the original Orient Express travel between?

37. Which tropical Indonesian island, east of Java is a popular holiday destination with over 1 million tourists annually?

38. Which two of Santa's reindeers are named after weather phenomena?

39. How many lion statues are there at Trafalgar Square?

40. Which London hotel was the first in the world to have en-suite bathrooms?

41. What words follow "Silent Night" in the song?

42. The movie Miracle on 34th Street is based on a real-life department store. What is it?

43. What was the original purpose of the leaning tower of Pisa?

44. Traitor's Gate is the name of an entrance into which London landmark?

45. Acapulco is a holiday resort in which country?

46. Which US state's flag is represented by a brown grizzly bear?

47. In the movie Elf, what was the first rule of The Code of Elves?

48. What do spiders use to create spider webs and capture prey?

49. What immigrants brought Santa Claus to America?

50. What is the name of the last ghost that visits Scrooge in A Christmas Carol?

Answers on page 32

**BONUS QUESTION:** What popular Christmas song was actually written for Thanksgiving?  
Answer in the January 5th edition of the Quiz.

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RZ10932

**the  
quarantine  
quiz  
Mega holiday editon  
answers**

1.Good luck 2.New Zealand 3.Join in any reindeer games 4.Four ghosts 5.David 6.Feliz Navidad 7.Gelato 8.Dubai 9.Orlando 10.Radish 11.Bahamas 12.Ancient Greece 13.Sydney Opera House 14."Rocking Around The Christmas Tree" 15.Iceland 16.Singapore Sling 17.The Metropolitan Museum Of Art 18.He played a song for him on his drums 19.Antarctica 20.Ireland 21.Iran-it means 'sit on this' 22.Switzerland 23.Black Friday 24.The Colosseum in Rome 25.Australia 26.Hansel & Gretel 27.Birth 28.Grapes 29.Jamaica 30.Do You Hear What I Hear? 31.Buckingham Palace 32.71% is water 33.193 countries 34.A Visit from St Nicholas 35.Two front teeth 36.Paris and Istanbul 37.Bali 38.Donner (thunder in German) and Blitzzen (lightning in German) 39.Four 40.The Savoy Hotel 41.Holy night 42.Macy's 43.Bell tower 44.Tower of London 45.Mexico 46.California 47.Treat every day like Christmas 48.Silk 49.Dutch 50.The Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come.

**BONUS QUESTION ANSWER (from last week): The only world language that has a word for association football that is not derived from the word 'football' is Italian- the word for football is 'calcio'.**

RZ10934

**DC**  
MOOROOK & DISTRICT CLUB INC.

**Expression of Interest**  
**Looking for a new opportunity in regional South Australia?**

The Moorook & District Club Inc is seeking expressions of interest for a catering and bar lease.

The Moorook & District Club Inc is the central meeting place within Moorook and its surrounding districts, which is a socially active community.

Situated 50 metres from the banks of the Murray River and Moorook's popular riverfront camping ground with great water sports and recreational activities. The club has a front bar with river views, large dining room, outside dining area with playground, kitchen and cool room/storage facilities.

**Applicants are required:**

- To have the ability to manage the bar and catering facilities of the Club
- To apply for an "on premises" liquor license.
- Be knowledgeable and ensure compliance with relevant legislation regarding licensing, food service, hygiene, and employment conditions including WHS compliance and insurance.
- Provide meals and beverages at competitive prices that appeal to all patrons.
- Provide a great level of customer service.

The Moorook and District Club Inc Board of Management is inviting interested parties to submit expressions of interest by the 21st of January 2022 to the Secretary moorookclub624@gmail.com

**For further information email:**  
moorookclub624@gmail.com

WZ10077

**St Francis  
of Assisi College**

**CLEANING TENDER 2022**

St Francis of Assisi College invites suitably qualified Cleaning Contractors to tender a fixed price tender for the cleaning within the College.

The contract will be for a period up to 2 years with a further 2 year option upon agreement between the parties on completion of the initial contract period.


**Tenders Close:**  
COB Friday 14th January 2022.

**Inspections are strongly encouraged and can be arranged anytime from 4th January up to the close of the tender period.**

**For a copy of the full tender document please contact the Finance Manager.**

Contact:  
Anthony Pickering  
anthony.pickering@assisi.catholic.edu.au

RZ10914

**District Council of  
Loxton Waikerie**

**Request for Quote**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie invites submissions for Request for Quote **LW15/2122-Pest Management Contract.**

A copy of the RFQ documents can be found on Council's website: [www.lwdc.sa.gov.au](http://www.lwdc.sa.gov.au).

Submissions must be lodged electronically via email to [council@lwdc.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@lwdc.sa.gov.au) by **5pm Friday 21 January 2022.**

Neither the lowest nor any quote necessarily accepted.

For further information, please contact:  
Ms Claire Victor  
Works Project Officer  
8584 8000  
[council@lwdc.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@lwdc.sa.gov.au)

LZ13805

**Mid  
Murray  
Council**

**Proposed Lease  
Morgan Sports Complex**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 202 of the Local Government Act 1999 and in accordance with Council's Public Consultation Policy, that Mid Murray Council is considering granting a 21 year + 21 year lease for community land located at Lot 7 North West Terrace, Morgan and known as the Morgan Sports Complex.

The draft lease is available for inspection on Council's website, [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au) or Council Offices at Mannum, Cambrai, Morgan or Blanchetown.

Written submissions may be sent to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 5:00pm 17 January 2022. Council will consider all submissions received by the due date.

For more information contact Strategy, Innovation & Governance Officer Vicki Bell-Booth on 8569 0100 or email [postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au).

Ben Scales  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

WZ10074

**District Council of  
Loxton Waikerie**

**Christmas and New Year  
2021/2022**

**Council Work Site Closures**

**Administration Offices**  
Council's administration offices at Loxton and Waikerie will be **closed** to the public from 5:00pm on Thursday 23 December 2021 and will reopen to the public at 9:00am on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

**Libraries and Visitor Information Centres**  
Council's Libraries and Visitor Information Centres at Loxton and Waikerie will be **closed** to the public on:

- Saturday 25 until Tuesday 28 December 2021
- Public holiday, Monday 3 January 2022

The Libraries and VICs will be **open** over the Christmas and New Year period as follows:

- Friday 24 December 2021, 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Wednesday 29 December until Sunday 2 January 2022 10:00am until 2:00pm

With Normal hours resuming from Tuesday 4 January 2022

**Work Depot Sites**  
Council's Work Depot sites at Loxton and Waikerie are **closed** from 4:00pm Thursday 23 December 2021 and reopening on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

**Waste Transfer Stations**  
Council's Waste Transfer Stations in Loxton, Waikerie, and Moorook operating hours remain unchanged during the Christmas/New Year period. **Closed** on Public Holidays. For any days forecast 40 degrees and above, the Waste Transfer Stations will operate from 9am – 12pm.

**Kerbside Waste Collection**  
As per normal collection schedule.

**Council Swimming Pools & Recreation Centres**  
Loxton and Waikerie swimming pools will be **closed** on Christmas Day and Public Holidays. All other operating times remain unchanged.


The Waikerie gym will be open 24/7, though the centre will be **closed** from 24 December 2021 at 12pm and will reopen on 4 January 2021.

**All sites closed on public holidays.**  
**For an emergency in relation to a Council service, please call 8584 8000.**

**We wish all our community a happy and safe festive season!**

David Beaton  
**Chief Executive Officer**

LZ13741

**RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST**

**PAYMENT OF  
WATER SUPPLY CHARGES**

Payment of second quarter charges (October to December 2021) are due by: **31 December 2021.**

The Trust office is closed from **5.00pm, Thursday 23 December 2021** and will open **8.30am, Tuesday 4 January 2022.**

Payments will be accepted without penalty until **Friday 7 January 2022.**

R Auricht, General Manager

RZ10894

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WZ10074

**CHRISTMAS  
EXPRESSX TAXI SERVICE TIMES**

**BERRI, BARMERA, LOXTON, RENMARK**

24.12.2021 CHRISTMAS EVE - 06:00 AM - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

25.12.2021 CHRISTMAS DAY - 10:00 AM - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

26.12.2021 BOXING DAY - 10:00 AM - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

31.12.2021 NEW YEARS EVE - 06:00 AM - SUNDAY 02.01.2022 10:00 PM

EXPRESSX BUS & MINI BUS - 24/7 - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

ALL OTHER DAYS & DATES WILL RUN  
STANDARD SERVICE TIMES

**8213 6699**

BZ10864

**CHRISTMAS  
EXPRESSX TAXI SERVICE TIMES**

**WAIKERIE**

24.12.2021 CHRISTMAS EVE - 09:00 AM - 09:00 PM

25.12.2021 CHRISTMAS DAY - 12:00 MIDDAY - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

26.12.2021 BOXING DAY - SUNDAY - NO SERVICE

31.12.2021 NEW YEARS EVE - 09:00 AM - 01.01.2022 05:00 AM

01.01.2022 - NEW YEARS DAY - 12:00 MIDDAY - 12:00 MIDNIGHT

02.01.2022 - SUNDAY - NO SERVICE

ALL OTHER DAYS & DATES WILL RUN  
STANDARD SERVICE TIMES

**8213 6699**

BZ10863



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## BIRTH

### VOWLES.

Andrew and Emma are proud to announce the arrival of Hamish Walter.

Born at the Loxton Hospital Complex on December 9, 2021, weighing 3850g and measuring 54cm long.

A little brother for Chloe to love and spoil.

Special thanks to Sarah, Doctor Hamilton, Doctor Tait and the amazing staff at the Loxton hospital.

## 80th BIRTHDAY

### WEBB, Daryl.

Happy 80th Birthday on 27/12/2021.

With love and best wishes from Janet, Wendy and Ricky, Karen and Phill, your grandchildren Jarrad, Nathan, Chelsea, Zac, Brayden, Kayla, Luke, Hayley and partners, and your great-grandchildren Hamish and Hugo.



### Urgent care in the Riverland when it's needed most >

On a daily basis the Royal Flying Doctor Service conducts more than 100 aeromedical evacuations across Australia – an average of two flights to the Riverland every day.

Please donate today and help keep the Flying Doctor flying.

1300 669 569  
[www.flyingdoctor.org.au](http://www.flyingdoctor.org.au)



## DEATHS

### CANT, Rodney Revett 'Rev'.

Passed away at Riverview Lutheran Rest Home, Loxton on December 10, 2021.

Born at Barmera on April 11, 1927.

Only son of the late Hope and Bernard Cant.

Brother of Barbara 'Muff' Lee.

Brother-in-law of Bob Lee (deceased).

Uncle of Jenny and Andrew Coombe, Peter and Lynette Lee, and their families.

Loved and loving husband of Judy for 67 years.

Father and father-in-law of Jim and Bronwyn Cant, Rachel and John Gronke.

Grandfather of Ben and Melanie Cant, Sam Cant (deceased), Olivia and Stefan Kerec, Andrea Gronke and partner Adam.

Great-grandfather of Mitchell Cant and Isabella Cant, Estelle Kerec, and Sebastian Kerec.

Memories and love never die.

Our deepest gratitude and sincere thanks to the capable and caring staff of Riverview where Rev has been a resident for the past 3 years.

Privately cremated.

**Riverland FUNERALS**

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

### CORNELIUS, Verity 'Marcee'.

Passed away at Calvary St Catherine's on Thursday, December 16, 2021.

Aged 76 years.

Loved wife of Rodney.

Loving mother of Janine and Karl, and their families.

Now in God's Care.

## DEATHS



### DIMOU, Panagiota (nee Skourtis).

Born in Agionori Corinth, Greece on the November 14, 1933.

Passed away peacefully in Adelaide SA surrounded by her loving family on December 11, 2021.

Aged 88 years.

Devoted wife of Dimitrios (deceased). Finally reunited.

Loved and cherished mother and mother-in-law of Alex and Jim, Kathy and Steve, Louis and Phyllis, Maria and Dimitrios.

Adored yiayia of Christina and Michael, Spiro and Angelique, Stella and Simon, Nick and Gen, Dimitri, Panagiota and John, Jimmy and Zoe, Vageli, Daniel and Emily, Anna.

Much-loved pro-yiayia of Jack, Alexa, Alexandra, Harry, Aspasia, Katerina, Nicholas, Layla and LaDivinitie.

Lovingly remembered by all her relatives and friends in Australia and Greece.

Forever in our hearts.

**DISTINCTIVE FUNERALS**  
82415151



## DEATHS

### FLETCHER, Harvey Aaron.



13/12/2021 – 15/12/2021

Passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, December 15, 2021.

Much-loved son of Peter and Caitlyn.

Cherished baby brother to Harrison.

Deeply loved and missed by Barry and Lucia, Chris and Robyn, Von, Yiayia, Jan, Linda, Kay and Bobby, Steven, Rhiannon and Dale, Jarvis, Adelle, Grace, Stella, Aubrey and Ivy.

For every dark night, There is a brighter day.

Family would like to thank Ambulance staff, RGH emergency department nurses, doctors and midwives.



### MIGGA, Pamela Joy, (nee Linke).

5/4/1948 – 15/12/2021

Dearly loved mother and mother-in-law of Amanda and Travis, Katie and Matt.

Adored and cherished granny of Misha.

Dearly missed and forever in our hearts.

Resting in God's care.

In accordance with Pam's wishes, a private service will be held at a later date.

## DEATHS

### MIGGA, Pamela Joy (nee Linke).

5/4/1948 – 15/12/2021

A beautiful sister and sister-in-law of Christine and Barry Thompson.

Loved and loving auntie of Matthew, Darryn and Melanie (all of New Zealand).

"Always gentle, loving and kind, beautiful memories you leave behind."

### MILLER, John Milton.

9/7/1943 – 10/12/2021

Loved husband of Julie for 48 years.

Remembered with love by his children and grandchildren, Belinda and Lynton, Abigail, Dylan and Joshua, Kylie and Richard, Ashley, Brett, Mikayla and Monica, Peter, Taryn, Tiarna, Teegan and Tori.

Resting peacefully with no more pain.

Privately cremated.

The family of John Miller would like to extend our sincere and heart felt thanks to the Barmera Medical Clinic and Barmera Hospital, doctors, nurses and physiotherapist that provided care and support to John and us over the past 7 weeks. We will be eternally grateful for the kindness and compassion shown.

**Riverland FUNERALS**

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## DEATHS

### MILLER, John Milton.

Passed away December 10, 2021.

Loved brother of Helen, brother in-law of Ray (deceased), loved uncle of Donna (deceased) and family, Dianne and Deidre.

Will be sadly missed. Just gone sea fishing.

### MORRIS, Jenny.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by family at the Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.

Aged 61 years.

Loving wife of Wayne. Dearly loved mother of Phillip, Travis and Haylee.

Cherished grandma of Sarah, Chloe, and Charlie.

Loved great-grandma of Ava and Ryan.

Forever in our hearts.

### MORRIS, Jenny Kaye Morris (nee Baverstock).

24/10/1961 – 14/12/2021.

Passed away peacefully at Flinders Medical Centre.

Aged 61 years.

Loved daughter of Mary and Don (deceased).

Sister of Di and Lyn.

Sister-in-law of Allan and aunty of Jodie, Kylie, Meegan, Kyra, and families.

Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts.

Thank you to Wayne for your dedicated support and care of our daughter and sister over the years.

## DEATHS

### SEEKAMP, Leslie.

Passed away December 7, 2021.

Laid to rest December 14, 2021. Reunited with Judy.

Father to Mark, Dean, Dianne, and families.

Brother to Colin (deceased), Valerie, Laurie, Kevin (deceased), and Mervyn 'Jock'.

Loved and remembered by us all.

### WEGNER, Colin 'Kooka'.

Passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 16, 2021.

Aged 69 years.

Loved husband of Meredith.

Loving father of Belinda and Tim, Shaun and Kimberley.

Loved grandpa and pop of Grace, Liam, Aaron, Brodie, and Will.

"Gone Fishing".

Colin's family would like to thank Dr Paul Smith, the Palliative care team and the staff of the Renmark Paringa District Hospital for their care and support given to Colin.

### WEGNER, Colin 'Kooka'.

Passed away peacefully on December 16, 2021.

Aged 69 years.

Not a minute, Not an hour, Not a day will go by we won't think of you, And smile or sigh. You enriched our lives while you were here, Now we must learn to live without you so near. Time may soften the blow, But your memory won't fade. Not a day will go by, We won't wish you had stayed.

Loved father of Shaun and Kimberley.

Loving grandpa of Grace and Aaron.

Loved forever and sadly missed.

**CHURCH NOTICES**  
- PAGE 35 -



Classifieds

Call: 8586 8000

DEATHS



**WILSON,** Jack Ernest.  
Born April 2, 1952.  
Has packed a six-pack and gone fishing.

He passed away peacefully at home in Loxton with friends, on December 14, 2021.

Aged 69 years.  
  
He was beloved son of Della Pearce (nee Webb) and Ralph Wilson (both deceased).  
Father to Joshua, Alicia (deceased) and Corey.  
Loved granddad of Zac, Trinaty (deceased), Katie, Delillah, Croyden, Ashley, Lincoln, Kingston and Ryan.

He lived life to the end on his terms.  
He was very loved, his cheeky grin and fantastic sense of humour will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Is it time for a beer yet?  
Yes, yes it is Jack.

Jack has been privately cremated at the Riverland Crematorium as he planned.

Riverland FUNERALS

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

JOIN OUR BUDDY BUNYIP BIRTHDAY LIST

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office@murraypioneer.com.au

FUNERALS

**CORNELIUS,** Verity ‘Marcee’.  
The relatives and friends of the late Verity Cornelius are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service to be conducted at St. John’s Trinity Lutheran Church, 66 Seventeenth Street, Renmark on this day, Wednesday, December 22, at 11am.

In lieu of flowers if desired, a donation to Royal Flying Doctor Service in Verity’s memory would be appreciated. Donations may be made at the service.

At the conclusion of the service the cortege will proceed to the Renmark Lawn Cemetery for the committal.

Riverland FUNERALS

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

**FLETCHER,** Harvey Aaron.  
Funeral Liturgy for Harvey Aaron Fletcher will be offered at St. Joseph’s Catholic School, 8 Joyce street, Barmera on Thursday, December 23, 2021 at 11am.

Following the funeral liturgy the cortege will proceed to the Barmera Cemetery for the committal.

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

Riverland FUNERALS

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

**MORRIS.**  
The relatives and friends of the late Jenny Morris are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service to be conducted entirely at the Riverland Funeral Chapel, 231 Twentyfirst Street Renmark on Thursday, December 23, 2021 at 11am, followed by a private cremation at the Riverland Crematorium.

In lieu of flowers if desired, a donation to the Royal Flying Doctor Service in Jenny’s memory would be appreciated. Donations may be made at the service.

Riverland FUNERALS

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

FUNERALS

**WEGNER.**  
The relatives and friends of the late Colin Wegner are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted at the Moorook Riverfront, Moorook on Thursday, December 30, 2021 at 11am.

In lieu of flowers if desired, a donation to Cancer Council SA in Colin’s memory would be appreciated. Donations may be made at the service.

At the conclusion of the service the cortege will proceed to the Moorook Cemetery for the committal.

Riverland FUNERALS

Berri and Renmark  
8582 1333  
Member AFDA

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAM



**MILICH,** Ivan and Shirley.

Remembering our loved ones this Christmas time.

Ivan passed away Christmas Eve, 30 years ago 1991, aged 67.

Shirely died peacefully June 1, 2016, 5 years ago, aged 90.

Both always loved and sadly missed.

“Memories have wonderful ways of bringing back our yesteryears.”

Always remembered.

Paula and Colin, Glenda and Andrew, and our families.

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IN MEMORIAM

**KNIGHT,** Jason.  
1976 – 2004  
Goodbyes are not forever, Goodbyes are not the end.  
  
They simply mean we’ll miss you, Until we meet again.  
  
We remember.

Loving and missing you always.  
Dad, Mum, Matt, Ryan and Aimee.

**THOMAS,** Andrea Joy.  
25/8/1968 – 19/12/2014

To hear your voice, to see your smile.

To sit and talk to you a while.

To be together the same old way, Would be our greatest wish today.

Mum and D–ad, and your family.

**TAEGER,** Mark.

19/4/1963 – 31/12/1980

Tragically taken at 17 years old, New Year’s Eve 1980.

Always missed and never forgotten by your mates.

Greg, David and Gavin.

RETURN THANKS

**BRAUER,** Maureen.

Shaun, Steph and families would like to thank everyone for cards, flowers, phone calls, messages, love and support on the passing of our beautiful mum, Maureen.

Special thanks to Dr Paul Smith, the nurses and care workers at Country Village Renmark.

Please accept this as our personal thanks as we were overwhelmed by all the love and support shown to us at this sad time.



FOR SALE

**ALUMINIUM** bow ladders, 2 year guarantee, 3 leg picking ladders, Pinyon Engineering. Phone 85866057.

**BOAT** - 30ft traditional wooden river boat, Carvel hull, DL111S, moored at Berri. 3cyl Volvo Penta turbo diesel, solar, 5 batteries, 12v, tv/dvd, beds, stereo. A great way to go camping on the river or just enjoy a cruise. \$8900. Will consider any reasonable offer. Phone 0428840529.



**BOAT** - Savage 435 gannet boat and trailer with 30hp oil injection Mercury motor, 11 month registration. \$15,000. Phone Robert 0427807970 or Muriel 0432299310 after 6pm.

**CAMERO** ski boat, Mercury 150hp outboard, on good trailer, \$5000. Phone 0417805078. Paringa area.

**CAMPER** 2019 Cub Explorer, rearfold, new wheel bearings, 2 x gas, shelf, thermal blanket, awning. \$22,500. Registered until July 2022. 5612-THF. Phone 0429644632.

**CAMPER** trailer, \$7500, negotiable; chainsaw, \$1100; bow arrow, \$500; Phone 0498543982.

**CARAVAN** Royal Flair Promenade, 2008, 21ft 6” with twin axles and new tyres. QS bed, air-conditioning/heating, fridge/freezer and washing machine in ensuite. Separate shower, microwave, TV and good storage. Roll-out awning, slide-out BBQ outside with fold down table. \$35,000 ono. Phone 0428841368.

**MOBILITY** scooter, 4-wheel Delux Shoprider, red, carry 136kg, good tyres and batteries, high-back swivel seat, excellent condition, can deliver. Was \$2500. Phone 0438253986.

**PLANT** sale - hydrangeas, kangaroo paw (yellow and red), pink gaura, old man’s salt bush, dwarf sugar gum, oleander (various), French lavender, nandina (various), grevillea, blue and white agapanthus, all \$3.95 each. Also advanced grevillea and Geraldton wax, \$7.50 each. Open 9am - 5pm, Wednesday, December 22 - Sunday, December 26. 21 Jackson Street, Monash. Phone 0414453951.

FOR SALE

**PRIDE** Pathrider 140XL red mobility scooter, 2 x 75 amp batteries, 4 good tyres, top of the range, 4hp motor, hill climber, designed to carry 181kg, excellent condition, high-back swivel seat, full suspension. \$4250 ono. Can deliver. Phone 0412898901.

**ROSES** - Brad’s Roses. New arrivals of roses are now available. Phone 0417855014.

**STORAGE** free. Pay 5 months in advance and get one month free on all sites. Renmark Central Storage 0488050482.

**STORAGE** - we have expanded and now have vacant sites. This means we will give you a good price to fill them. From \$75 per month. Phone 0488050482 Renmark Central Storage.

MOTOR VEHICLES

**NISSAN** patrol wagon, 2008, grey, 4.8L auto, petrol/gas engine, bullbar, light bar, 2” lift kit, UHF radio, Anderson plug, G-Camp roof-top tent, only used for towing caravan, 90,300kms. Reg WWD670, \$26,000 ono. Phone 0428841368.

**TOYOTA** Landcruiser 2000, 100 series, 4.2 turbo, many extras, set for towing large van. \$31,500 ono. Good mechanical condition. 375,000 km. S334ATZ. Phone 0447827955.

GARAGE SALE

**LOXTON** North - 249 Edwards Road. Open Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th, 10am - 4pm, Sunday 26th - Tuesday 28th, 10am - 4pm. Closed December 29th. Open Thursday 30th - Sunday, January 2nd, 10am - 4pm. Plant sale. Give a living gift for Christmas. Gift vouchers available. Mini roses, \$10; gerberas, \$10; hydrangeas from \$10. Large range of philodendrons, ferns, monsteras and much more. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas. Phone 85841205.

OUR CLASSIFIEDS WORK WONDERS

FOR BEST VALUE CLASSIFIEDS CALL THE MURRAY PIONEER 8586 8000

WANTED TO BUY



**VARIOUS** - Always buying in the area. Vintage, antique, retro items. All old service station, old shop signs, tins, oil bottles, petrol bowsers or parts, wooden boxes, tin toys, pedal cars, comics, wartime memorabilia, old watches, badges, coins, medals, lamps, clocks, phones, dingo traps, old fishing gear, camp ovens, combine ends, plow seats, vintage cars, motorcycles, tractors, manuals, sales brochures, old mini bikes, vintage motorcycles or parts, tools, anvils, dip tins, old gates, vintage garden furniture, shed contents, old household items, single items, collections, estates. Cash paid. Phone Rob or Lisa 0418391084.

TRACTORS AND MACHINERY



**PUMP** motor, 185hp, \$700 ono. Phone Gary 0438845648.



**VARIOUS** irrigation/farm parts. Make an offer. Phone Gary 0438845648.



**VINE** pruner, needs work. Phone Gary 0438845648.

FOR HIRE

**CANOPY** spraying - Are you in need for someone to canopy spray your vineyard or orchard? Not only do we have the right equipment for the job but we have the experience to operate it efficiently too. With 30 plus years experience, feel confident in your choice to go with this fully licensed and insured family-owned business. Call Robert Wegener’s Horticultural Contracting 0418806138.



**RIVERLAND** Trailer Bins. You throw it - We tow it. For all your rubbish removal needs at competitive prices. Great alternative to skip bins, range of sizes available. Book a trailer bin today! Contact David 0400576230.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**LOXTON** Christmas Tree Festival raffle winners. Quilt - M. McDonald; hamper - C. Crambrook; rug - J. Bailly. Merry Christmas to all our supporters.

LOST

**GLASSES** lost in Woolworths Renmark or surrounding Renmark Square, Wednesday, December 15. Reward offered. Phone 0497030855.

TO LET

**PARINGA** - 5 bedroom house, fully furnished, \$440 per week. References required, prefer professionals. Phone 0427953250.

Please help people in need. We're all in this together.  
DONATE 13 SALVOS (13 72 58) BY CREDIT CARD salvationarmy.org.au

BE WISE ADVERTISE

Call us today to find out how to drive your advertising dollar further. 8586 8000



**Riverland Christmas**

# CHURCH NOTICES



**LOXTON**

**THURSDAY, DEC 23**  
Myrla 7pm  
da Costa Myrla

**Christmas Eve**

**FRIDAY, DEC 24**  
St Peter's 8pm  
Outdoor Carols  
Concordia 7.30pm  
Children's Nativity Kohrt  
Bookpurnong 6pm  
Kohrt

**Christmas Day**

**SATURDAY, DEC 25**  
St Peter's 9.30am HC  
Concordia 10am HC  
da Costa  
Myrla 8.30am HC  
da Costa  
New Residence  
Meribah 10.30am HC  
Georg  
Bookpurnong 8.30am HC  
Georg

**First Sunday after Christmas**

**SUNDAY, DEC 26**  
St Peter's 9.30am  
Concordia 10am HC  
da Costa  
Myrla No Service  
Bookpurnong 9am  
Lay reading  
Rest Home Wed, Dec 29  
10.30am HC

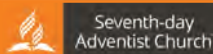
**New Years Eve**

**FRIDAY, DEC 31**  
Parish Service at St Peter's  
7pm  
Pastor Jason Sander

**Second Sunday after Christmas**

**SUNDAY, JAN 2**  
St Peter's 9.30am HC  
Concordia 10am HC  
Georg  
Myrla 10.30am HC  
da Costa  
Moorook  
Meribah 8.30am HC  
da Costa  
Bookpurnong 8.30am HC  
Georg  
Rest Home Wed, Jan 5  
10.30am HC

**Lutheran Ministry Centre**  
**Phone 8584 5522**  
Pastor Darrin Kohrt  
(Concordia and outlying)  
Pastor Jason Sander  
(St Peter's)



*Riverland*  
**Saturday, December 25**  
10.30am  
12noon Special Program  
**Saturday, January 1**  
19 Sunrise Court, Berri  
Bible Study 10-11am  
Worship every Saturday  
(Sabbath) Now 11.15am  
All Welcome  
**Pastor Andy Krause**  
**Ph: 0418 617 582**



**BERRI | BARMERA**

**Christmas Eve**

**FRIDAY, DEC 24**  
Berri 7pm  
Combined

**Christmas Day**

**SATURDAY, DEC 25**  
Barmera 9am  
Combined

**SUNDAY, DEC 26**  
Berri 9am  
Combined

**SUNDAY, JAN 2**  
Berri 11am  
Barmera 9am  
Pastor Dean Mills  
All Welcome  
Phone 8582 1853

**RENMARK | PARINGA**

**Christmas Eve**

**FRIDAY, DEC 24**  
Paringa 7pm

**Christmas Day**

**SATURDAY, DEC 25**  
Renmark 9am

**SUNDAY, DEC 26**  
Renmark 9am  
Paringa 10.30am

**SUNDAY, JAN 2**  
Renmark 9am  
Paringa 10.30am HC  
All Welcome  
Pastor Roland Adams  
Phone 0460 300 492

**WAIKERIE**

**Christmas Eve**

**FRIDAY, DEC 24**  
Waikerie 7pm  
Lowbank 7pm  
Outdoor Service  
Ramco 7.30pm NO HC

**Christmas Day**

**SATURDAY, DEC 25**  
Waikerie 10am NO HC

**SUNDAY, DEC 26**  
**First Sunday After Christmas**  
Waikerie 10am HC  
Lowbank 8.45am HC  
Ramco 8.45am

**SUNDAY, JAN 2**  
Waikerie 10am HC  
Lowbank 8.45am  
Ramco 8.45am HC  
All Welcome  
Phone 8541 2689



**UNITING CHURCH**

**BERRI / BARMERA**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Friday, December 24**  
7pm

**Christmas Day**  
**Saturday, December 25**  
9.30am

**Sunday, December 26**  
No Service

**Sunday, January 2**  
10am

Berri, Denny Street  
Barmera, Nookamka Tce  
berribarmerauca.org.au

**LOXTON**

**Christmas Day**  
**Saturday, December 25**  
9am Rev Linda Forsyth

**Sunday, December 26**  
10am Darryl Knowling

**Sunday, January 2**  
10am Aub Mattner

**Contact**  
**Rev Linda Forsyth**  
**0401 815 488**

**RENMARK**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Friday, December 24**  
Renmark West

7.30pm Carol Service

**Christmas Day**  
**Saturday, December 25**  
No Service

**Sunday, December 26**  
Rev Linda Forsyth

8.30am Renmark West

10am Renmark Ave

**Sunday, January 2**  
Rev Linda Forsyth

8.30am Renmark West

10am Renmark Ave

**David Badge**  
**Phone 0401 815 488**



**Saturday, December 25**  
**Christmas Day**  
9am - 10am

**Sunday, December 26**  
10am

**Sunday, January 2**  
10am

**Loxton Senior**  
**Citizen Hall**  
**25 Tobruk Terrace**

**Ps Red Elliott**  
**0439 507 098**

**Ps Sheryl Giles**  
**0423 884 002**



**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Friday, December 24**

5pm - Waikerie  
St James - Mass

7pm - Renmark  
St Augustine's  
Family Crib Service

7.30pm - Loxton  
The Resurrection  
Carols

8pm - Mass

11pm - Barmera  
St Edmund's  
Carols

11.30pm - Mass

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Saturday, December 25**

9am - Renmark  
St Augustine's - Mass

**Sunday, December 26**

Holy Family  
9am - Berri  
St Alban's - Mass

11.30am - Morgan  
St Peter's - Mass

**Sunday, January 2**

9am - Renmark  
St Augustine's

11am Loxton  
The Resurrection

9am - Barmera  
St Edmund's

11am Waikerie  
St James

**Contact:**  
**Fr. Paul Devenport**  
**8586 3288**

## Catholic Church Mass Times

**Our Lady of the River Catholic Parish**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Friday, Dec 24**

Renmark 6pm  
St Joseph's School, Renmark

Barmera 6pm  
St Joseph's School, Barmera

Loxton 8pm  
Waikerie 8pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Friday, Dec 25**

Morgan 9am  
Berri 9am

**WEEKS 1, 3 & 5**

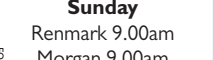
**Saturday**  
Renmark 6.30pm  
Morgan 6.00pm

**Sunday**  
Berri 9.00am  
Loxton 11.00am  
Waikerie 11.00am  
Barmera 6.00pm

**WEEKS 2 & 4**

**Saturday**  
Berri 6.30pm  
Waikerie 6.00pm

**Sunday**  
Renmark 9.00am  
Morgan 9.00am  
Barmera 11.00am  
Loxton 6.00pm



**Church of Christ**  
**BERRI**

1025 Old Sturt Highway

**GOD'S FAMILY - YOUR FAMILY -**

**Saturday, December 25**  
**Christmas Day**  
9.30am

**Sunday, December 26**  
10am

**All Welcome**

**Phone 0419 783 779**  
berrichurchofchrist.org.au



## Truck Driver

- HC & MC Drivers required
- 2022 Grape Harvest
- Previous tipper experience preferred
- Permanent/Casual position may result for the right applicant
- Must have good attitude and work ethic

Please send Applications to  
**info@aggtrans.com.au**  
or contact Chris on 0419 800 160



## Driver Wanted

Experienced truck driver required

- HC License essential (MC Preferred)
- Must have good attitude and work ethic
- Tipper work - grapes and grain

Please apply to:  
Phone Max: 8584 1248  
Email: trucks@wishartcontractors.com.au  
**Wishart Contractors Pty Ltd**  
118 Derrick Road, Loxton North

## PART TIME FARM HAND

### Experienced Farm Hand Required

Forward Resumes to;  
**info@venuscitrus.com.au**  
or call 85847984



## P Costi & Sons Pty Ltd

Requires

### Qualified Primary Products Inspectors Experience Essential

Please send written application and resume to: maria@venuscitrus.com.au  
or PO Box 1064 Loxton SA 5333  
Applications close 10th January 2022



# Journalist

The Bunyip newspaper is seeking a journalist to join its newsroom covering Gawler and its surrounding areas.

The position is full time and also includes sports coverage.

The successful applicant will have exceptional writing and interpersonal skills and will be self-motivated, community-focused and able to meet stringent deadlines.

Newspaper experience and local networks will be highly regarded.

A current driver's licence is required.

Written applications are invited, addressed to:

Editor, The Bunyip

PO Box 160, Gawler SA 5118

or email editor@bunyippress.com.au

For enquiries call the Editor on 8522 1233.

Applications should include a resume, cover letter (no more than one page), and examples of written work.

All enquiries will be treated confidentially.

# BE WISE ADVERTISE

Call us today  
to find out  
how to  
drive your  
advertising  
dollar  
further.  
8586 8000





## ADVERTISING SALES CONSULTANT

Permanent Full Time Position

The Murray Pioneer newspaper currently has a position open for an enthusiastic, results-oriented sales person to be part of our advertising sales team.

The successful applicant will be based at the Murray Pioneer office in Renmark servicing the Berri/Barmera areas. You will be a part of a motivated advertising sales team, selling into a number of newspaper titles and specialised publications as well as digital sales.

You will be responsible for the sale of advertising space to casual and contract clients. Excellent organisational and communication skills are vital to developing and maintaining good client relationships.

A current driver's licence is essential.

If you pride yourself on exceptional customer service and enjoy working in a fast-paced and supportive environment, then I would like to hear from you.

Written applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and should be addressed to:

Advertising Manager  
PO Box 832, Renmark SA 5341

Or email: glenda.malinovski@murraypioneer.com.au

Murray Pioneer

F021066



## EXPORT DOCUMENTS ADMINISTRATOR

Costa is Australia's leading grower, packer and marketer of premium quality fresh fruit and vegetables. We nurture our people, cultivate our growing sites and invest in ongoing research and development. All of the products we grow, and sell are fresh, nutritious, unprocessed and grown on our very own farms or those of our partner growers. On the land, in distribution centers, and out on the roads – Costa people work hard to bring the freshest produce to tables across Australia. But joining our team is about more than just hard work. It's about picking a meaningful, sustainable job that's good for you, and for Australia. Due to continued export growth in the business, Costa is looking for two (2) Export Documents Administrator's to join our team, commencing in January 2022. This role is responsible for the coordination of the end-to-end export documentation processes for the category. A key component of this role is maintaining strong relationships and delivering exceptional customer service to our partners and key stakeholders.

Key Responsibilities include:

- Support Costa's culture of care for People, Product and our Community
- Daily creation of export documents for export shipments
- Maintain compliance with destination country export document requirements
- Liaise with sheds and freight forwarders in relation to container loading and distribution
- Liaise with customs and other relevant parties
- Liaise with customers directly as required to provide assistance with customer enquiries and take appropriate action to provide solutions
- Customer invoicing and debtor recording
- Coding and checking invoices from accounts payable
- Working with management to continually develop and improve current reporting processes to meet the needs of the business
- General assistance and administration support for Renmark office

Key Attributes and Experience:

- Minimum of 3+ years' experience in a similar role
- FMCG and/or fresh produce industry background advantageous
- Exposure to customs, DOA and export documentation preparation
- Strong understanding of the workings of an international supply chain
- Intermediate-advanced level in Microsoft Excel and Word
- BSM (or equivalent export documents program) exposure
- SAP experience desirable (but not essential)
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Strong attention to detail and ability to prioritise effectively

People are the heart of Costa. Our employees enjoy some of the best benefits and conditions in the industry. From competitive pay to health, wellbeing, and further learning and development opportunities. No matter the role, you'll always benefit from a caring environment that encourages and supports you to thrive, grow and connect.

If this sounds like you, Apply Now.

Submit your application by going to <https://costagroup.currentjobs.co/Job> by the **31st December 2021**, then keep an eye on your emails (including your junk/spam folder).

DETERMINATION • PASSION • ACCOUNTABILITY • SINCERITY • RESPECT

RZ10801



## Multiple Positions Available for Electricians

Location: Renmark, South Australia

Employment type: Full time

Start date: Immediate start is preferred

Remuneration: Negotiable based on experience, skill, and ability

Are you looking for a change?

Tired of doing the same work "day in day out"?

Want a job where no 2 days are the same?

We at Laser Electrical Renmark have a great customer base with a healthy mix of work types.

If this sounds like you, then please give us a call.

### About the Company

Laser Electrical Renmark is expanding, we have a very strong client base with a reputation for excellence in all that we do. We have been servicing the needs of rural, commercial, and industrial clients in the Riverland for over 20 years and require licenced A-Grade Electrician's for work on our expanding commercial/Industrial & Domestic project and maintenance programs.

We are a proud local family run business made up of quality-focused trade service professionals in the Electrical industry. In addition to the wealth of experience and knowledge within our teams, we are members of NECA

This is a fantastic opportunity for highly motivated, dynamic, qualified Electrician's to join our team. You will bring a positive attitude, be warm and friendly with excellent technical skills, great communication and an autonomous nature with the desire to own the role.

You will be joining a fast-paced team environment that includes a variety of work type opportunities and responsibilities. With the added benefit of working in a Riverland community

To be successful in this role you must have the following skills and attributes:

- Outstanding Electrical skills and job / product knowledge
- Broad Electrical industry experience
- Current A Grade Electrician's licence
- Driver's licence - C class or above
- Current OHS White Card
- Proven ability to be organised and complete tasks on time
- Enjoy providing excellent customer service
- Competent using all mainstream IT operating systems, including cloud based software systems such as SimPRO (training will be provided for our specific operating systems)
- Willing to join and participate in our family based culture
- Have a warm and friendly personality
- Knowledge of programming VSD/PLC would be an advantage

As an employee of **Laser Electrical Renmark** you will enjoy the many benefits that working for an industry leading and reputable organisation offers. We believe in developing our employees and enabling them to reach their full potential with future advancement opportunities available. Vehicle, Uniform and industry leading remuneration and benefits package available to the right applicant.

If you are a self-starter, highly motivated and energetic individual with strong work ethics, looking for a challenge and to make their mark on the growth of a successful award-winning company, then we would like to hear from you.

Apply Now!

Email your application to  
[renmark@laserelectrical.com.au](mailto:renmark@laserelectrical.com.au) or  
Post 177 Fourteenth St, Renmark, SA 5341

RZ10893

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Check it out now!

[murraypioneer.com.au](http://murraypioneer.com.au)

office@murraypioneer.com.au | 8586 8000

Murray Pioneer

## EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

CONTINUED ON PAGES 35 & 37

## TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

February 2021 Start  
in Riverland towns.

Approximately 10 weeks work transporting grapes to local wineries. HC licence and limited experience necessary. Good equipment and good pay rates. Travelling people welcome. Please call 0407 609 400.

RZ10853



## Diesel Mechanic Full Time Permanent Position For The Right Candidate

An excellent opportunity has become available for a motivated and energetic Diesel Mechanic.

We require a person with experience with American prime movers, as you would be involved in ongoing maintenance of our fleet.

You need to be mechanically minded and it is essential you have the ability to problem solve and problem shoot.

You need to be able to communicate on all levels, be reliable and have good organisational skills, with the ability to work in a team environment.

A trade qualification would be an advantage, experience in welding and fabrication would also be well regarded.

Must have own transport.

Enquires to Steve 0417103991

Email resume to: [operations@sizetrans.com.au](mailto:operations@sizetrans.com.au)

Or deliver to 104 Trenerry Avenue, Loxton

LZ13800



## FIELD OFFICER

A fantastic opportunity is available for a Field Officer to join our team on a full-time basis with mteSA based in the Riverland Region.

mteSA is a not-for-profit Group Training Organisation looking to expand our services in the Riverland region and now require a Field Officer to service the area. Appointment will be for 12 months full time with the possibility of further contracts.

Hours will be 38 hours per week with some outside hours expected dependent on work requirements. This position will manage a pilot program as well as work closely with internal staff, external stake holders, schools, industry groups, Businesses and Governments and reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer. It is expected that the successful candidate will have a high level of industry knowledge and have the drive to develop and grow this position.

For more details including a job description please contact the CEO Tracey Kelly on 0437 112 425 or [traceykelly@mtesa.com.au](mailto:traceykelly@mtesa.com.au)

RZ10910





## CLEANER REQUIRED

The position will be on a Contract basis and you will be required to sign a strict confidentiality agreement. You must have a current police check.

The Contractor is to provide their own cleaning equipment. The position requires the work to be performed in the after hours period for approximately 25 hours/week.

The position will commence February 2022.

Contract & position description details are available from the Practice on (08) 85413500.

**Applications, including references/referees addressed to:**

Private & Confidential  
The Practice Manager  
Waikerie Medical Centre  
PO Box 396  
WAIKERIE SA 5330

**Applications Close**  
**5.00pm Friday 14th January 2022**

WZ10075



## WE'RE HIRING

The Gateway, Mildura is your premier regional hospitality business in Victoria. Due to ongoing redevelopment expansion of the venue and consolidation of our current management team. We are seeking individuals looking to advance their careers and join our team in the following positions:

**Bottleshop Manager**  
**Duty Manager**  
**Gambling Manager**  
**Gaming Night Supervisor**  
**Qualified or Apprentice Chef**  
**Cellar Person**

If any of these positions are of interest to you, please email your application with current resume to [HR@gatewaytavern.com.au](mailto:HR@gatewaytavern.com.au) by C.O.B on the 12th January, 2022. Successful applicants will need to satisfy the current vaccination directions issued by the Victorian Government.

795 - 807 Fifteenth Street  
Corner of San Mateo Ave  
Mildura VIC 3500



## Experienced Carpenter

Waikerie Custom Builders is a small general building company that prides itself on high quality workmanship and are looking for an experienced carpenter to expand our friendly team.

This is an active full-time role with full scope of carpentry and joinery, based within a manufacturing/cabinetry workshop, and on residential and commercial building, and construction sites. Majority of our work is renovations and extensions. Experience in these areas would be an advantage.

There will be ample opportunity to extend your skills into other relatable areas and the role includes a variety of indoor and outdoor work.

The successful candidate will have the ability to work independently with limited supervision, but also work cohesively and effectively in a team environment.

With the appropriate experience and aptitude there is the potential to step into a leading hand role.

### Qualifications Required

- Certificate 3 in Carpentry.
- White Card -General Construction Induction
- Minimum 8 Year trade experience
- Timber Framing Code (desirable)
- Working at Heights (desirable)

### Other Conditions /Requirements

- Current Drivers Licence
- Current Working With Children Check / DCSI Clearance
- National Police Check
- Position involves repetitive movements including but not limited to lifting, kneeling, bending, reaching, exposure to working at heights and confined space

For further information or job description details, please contact Nathan 0429 412 781. A written application with current resume and a list of current contactable referees can be sent via email to: [waikeriecustombuilders@gmail.com](mailto:waikeriecustombuilders@gmail.com)

The Manager  
Waikerie Custom Builders  
3 Hein Road, WAIKERIE  
Postal : PO Box 586, WAIKERIE SA 5330

**Applications close 5pm Friday 7th January, 2022**

WZ10076



## Childcare Team Leader

**Fixed term contract**  
**0.8 -1.0 FTE**

**\$73,650 - \$79,560**



Southern Mallee proudly operates the successful Mallee COGS childcare service. The service is committed to delivering high quality early childhood education that enhances cultural, physical, social, emotional, language and learning development to the children in our community. Based at our Pinnaroo centre, the successful applicant will be responsible for:

- Planning and implementation of care and education programs;
- Providing leadership to small team of staff;
- Coordinating and supervising day-to-day operations;
- Communicating and providing information to service users;
- Maintaining appropriate records and ensure crucial service standards and regulations are being met.

### To be eligible you will need:

- A valid Working with Children Check (or equivalent)
- Child Safe Environments for Children & Young People training
- Current First Aid (HLTAID012) & CPR (HLTAID009)
- A Diploma in Early Childhood Education & Care (or equivalent) with at least two years applied experience.

### Casual Relief Staff

Positions are also available on our relief staff list if you are interested you will need:

- A valid Working with Children Check (or equivalent)
- Child Safe Environments for Children & Young People training
- Current First Aid (HLTAID012) & CPR (HLTAID009)
- A Diploma or Certificate III (or actively working towards) in Early Childhood Education & Care (or equivalent).

*We do not discriminate against race, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation and do not tolerate anyone who does in our organisation.*

To enquire please visit our website or contact Katrina Bell on 08 8576 3002.

Submit applications via email to [vacancies@southernmallee.sa.gov.au](mailto:vacancies@southernmallee.sa.gov.au) by 5pm on Friday 28 January 2021.

[www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au](http://www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au)

8036171



[www.loxtonhotel.com.au](http://www.loxtonhotel.com.au)

## EXECUTIVE POSITION FUNCTIONS MANAGER

This is an opportunity for a career oriented person to work closely with our executive chef, management, and talented support staff to help grow the business as we move into an exciting new era of operations.

If you're a highly organised team player, self-motivated, always meet deadlines, have a passion for exceptional customer service and prepared to work nights and weekends when required, please email our General Manager for a job description [darren@loxtonhotel.com.au](mailto:darren@loxtonhotel.com.au) (All communication treated in strictest confidence).

**Applications close mid-January 2022.**



**Loxton Hotel**



# DESIGN PRINT

Professional  
Graphic Design  
Commercial  
Printing and  
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CONTINUED FROM PAGES 35, 36 & 37

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SAM522

# Jet ski tragedy sparks warning

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

ROYAL Life Saving Society-SA is urging people to be vigilant on waterways following the tragic death of a teenager in a jet ski accident at Murbko near Blanchetown last Thursday.

Police said a jet ski collided with a 14-year-old male from Roxby Downs, plus a younger child who received minor injuries and was taken to hospital as a precaution.

A 43-year-old Craigmore man has been charged in relation to the incident and has been granted bail to appear in the Adelaide Magistrates Court in February.

Royal Life Saving Society-South Australia's general manager of operations, Jake Culkin, said the incident was "devastating" and – after sending his condolences to those impacted – said the accident was a reminder of the need for

water users to take measures to remain safe this summer.

Mr Culkin said the easing of Covid-19 restrictions meant people were now travelling further away for holidays to unfamiliar waterways.

Recent research by Royal Life Saving Australia indicates about one-third of all Australians who drown die more than 50km from home.

The report said water users needed to be mindful that unfamiliar swimming, boating, and fishing spots increased the risk of drowning.

Royal Life Saving Australia said sandbars, rips, unpredictable currents, debris below the water surface and swiftly changing local conditions were all often well-known to locals, but harder to spot by visitors.

Mr Culkin said operators of boats and jet skis needed to be mindful of the speed

limits and conditions of the waterways they were travelling in.

"They need to be vigilant of the conditions and other users," he said.

Mr Culkin said in South Australian waters anyone operating any type of recreational vehicle with an engine, including jet skis, must hold a boat licence.

He also said it was important to avoid alcohol and drugs when operating a jet ski or boat.

Mr Culkin said people should wear a life jacket when boating or fishing and avoid going alone to an isolated waterway.

"We always recommend going with someone else, ideally someone who knows lifesaving skills such as CPR and can assist as needed," he said.

Mr Culkin said children in waterways should also be at an arm's length of an adult when in the water.



Barker MP Tony Pasin (right) with Loxton Community Men's Shed members. The Men's Shed has received \$4000 through the federal government's National Shed Development Program. PHOTO: supplied

## Christmas cash boost for Men's Shed

A LOCAL Men's Shed received an early Christmas present from the federal government recently.

The Loxton Community Men's Shed was awarded \$4000 through the National Shed Development Program and Barker MP Tony Pasin welcomed the news.

"This funding will enable Loxton Community Men's Shed to purchase an industrial dust-extraction unit, ducting kits, grounding kits and

hose clamps," Mr Pasin said.

Loxton Community Men's Shed chairman Dean Kerley said the grant would support the upgrading of the group's ducting system, with the Men's Shed contributing the remainder.

"We have recently located all of our machinery into the one area, so it is important to concentrate and extract the dust to ensure we are looking after the health of our members," he said.

"We are very grateful for the federal government contribution and thank Tony Pasin for his support."

Mr Pasin said Men's Sheds play a vital role in preventing social isolation and mental ill health.

"They offer thousands of men of all ages a safe and friendly environment where they can work on meaningful projects while building strong social connections," he said.

## Morgan celebrates Christmas with a movie

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

MORGAN children and their families celebrated Christmas with carols and a movie earlier this month.

Mid Murray Council contributed \$2000 towards the screening of The Croods: A New Age on December 11 on the Morgan Primary School oval.

Morgan and Districts Lions Club president, Laura Williams, said the movie on a giant screen was provided by Adelaide Outdoor Cinemas.

She said although the turnout was smaller than previous years it was an enjoyable evening for the families who attended.

Ms Williams also visited caravan parks in the area to inform tourists about the Christmas event and was able to recruit a



Morgan families enjoyed a free movie night earlier this month to celebrate Christmas. PHOTO: supplied

few participants.

Popcorn, homemade biscuits, a sausage sizzle, chutneys, jams, and glow sticks were on sale throughout the event. Ms Williams said conditions became quite cool in the evening.

"Everyone had blankets and their winter woollies on," she said.

Ms Williams said the children were given free gingerbread men, ice blocks and glow sticks. She said the glow stick stall operator refused to accept money for the items he generously handed out during the movie.

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# Loxton hands first loss to Waikerie

AFTER an unbeaten run of seven games Waikerie has finally been bested, with Loxton picking up a 14-point win last Thursday night in their Riverland division one women’s basketball clash.

The Warriors were without star player Hannah Lehmann and Loxton took full advantage, with Anita Modlinski playing a vital role, picking up 17 points.

Khaleisha Barnett had a strong game in the absence of Lehmann but it was not enough to keep Waikerie’s undefeated streak alive heading into the Christmas break.

Elsewhere, Berri toppled Renmark thanks largely to a combined 31-point effort from Claire Schupelius and Lana Gregoric.

The men’s division one competition saw Renmark continue its strong form with a 29-point victory against Berri.

After a tight first quarter, Renmark turned the screws and once again showcased its defensive prowess, keeping Berri to just 40 points for the game.

The Steamers were able to get it done on both ends of the court, with four Renmark players putting up double-digit points.

Meanwhile Loxton defeated Waikerie by 10 points to maintain first position on the ladder.

Jesse Will was electric from beyond the three-point line, with his four triples proving to be the difference in what was a tight contest.

**RESULTS**

<b>MEN</b>				
<b>DIVISION ONE</b>				
Renmark	13	29	51	69
Berri	12	21	32	40
Points: Renmark – J. Hansen 16, D. Johnson 13, C. Gartery, W. Stockman 12, Z. Gartery, B. Rover 6, R. Curtis 4. Berri – J. Szalbot 15, H. Campbell, J. Wade 8, R. Tieste 3, O. Hunyadi, R. Kunoth, J. Marr 2.				
Loxton	12	36	51	68
Waikerie	14	30	47	58
Points: Loxton - J. Will 21, C. Lange 17, R. Kennedy 15, J. Oates 6, B. Tregeagle 5, L. Francis 4. Waikerie – J. Ling 18, S. Smyth 12, J. Parfitt 9, L. Exton 7, S. Parfitt 6, B. Fridd 4, D. Leuders 2.				

<b>DIVISION TWO</b>				
Allstars 41 d Supercats 32; Waikerie White 45 d Waikerie Black 36; Tigers 45 drew Barmera 45; Berri 45 d Loxton 35.				

<b>DIVISION THREE</b>				
Waikerie Black 33 d Warriors 27; Loxton 49 d Berri Red 31; Renmark 42 d Berri 32; Steamers 40 d Barmera 28; Blazers 53 d Waikerie White 24; Supercats 41 d Chaffey 27; Loxton 51 d Waikerie Black 50.				

<b>DIVISION FOUR</b>				
Blazers 31 d Loxton 28; Supercats 37 d Barmera 35.				

<b>WOMEN</b>				
<b>DIVISION ONE</b>				
Berri	13	33	42	67
Renmark	20	29	40	48
Points: Berri – C. Schupelius 16, L. Gregoric 15, A. Westley, E. Eleftheriadis 9, B. Gates 6, C. Foulds, E. Westley 4, D. Eleftheriadis, A. Morgan 2. Renmark – R. Leuders 13, D. Johnson 10, M. Petersen, M. Newman 9, F. Rowett 5, S. Rucioch 2.				

Waikerie	13	31	40	54
Loxton	19	29	53	68
Points: Loxton – A. Modlinski 17, M. Hogan, E. Foulds 11, B. Hahn 9, T. Tickle 8, S. Smith 6, S. Edwards 4, S. Hsu 2. Waikerie – K. Barnett 18, S. Lehmann 15, A. Curtis 9, T. Fridd 7, C. Turner 5.				

<b>DIVISION TWO/THREE</b>				
Allstars 82 d Loxton 23; Catstars 29 d Lakers 25; Berri 37 d Wildcats 17; Barmera 58 d Supercats 22; Steamers 26 d Waikerie 15; Renmark 55 d Tigers 19; Tigers 52 d Loxton 18.				

<b>DIVISION FOUR</b>				
Berri 27 d Loxton 22; Waikerie 25 d Tigers 24; Renmark 43 d Supercats 27; Barmera 20 d Allstars 18.				

<b>BOYS</b>				
Under 18 (div 1): Loxton 66 d Waikerie 35; Renmark 54 d Barmera 15.				
Under 18 (div 2): Berri 46 d Renmark 29; Barmera 35 d Loxton 25.				
Under 16 (div 1): Loxton 47 d Berri 46; Renmark 49 d Waikerie 37.				
Under 16 (div 2): Loxton 49 d Waikerie 19; Barmera 32 d Tigers 17; Renmark 29 d Supercats 27.				
Under 14 (div 1): Renmark 40 d Barmera 15; Loxton 44 d Berri 18.				
Under 14 (div 2): Barmera 35 d Loxton 26; Lakers 26 d Renmark 14.				
Under 12 (div 1): Berri 37 d Barmera 19; Waikerie 30 d Loxton 25.				
Under 12 (div 2): Supercats 28 d Barmera 4;				



Renmark’s Zachary Gartery goes up for a contested bucket with Berri’s Ondre Hunyadi defending him tightly. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff



Renmark’s Judd Hansen led the game in points, amassing 16 including one from beyond the arc.

Loxton 26 d Waikerie 16.	Supercats 33; Supercats 43 d Waikerie 38.
	Under 14 (div 1): Details not provided.
	Under 14 (div 2): Waikerie 26 d Supercats 20; Barmera 25 d Loxton 9.
	Under 12 (div 1): Waikerie 28 d Barmera 12; Berri 44 d Loxton 31.
	Under 12 (div 2): Supercats 18 d Barmera 2; Waikerie 22 d Loxton 8.

<b>GIRLS</b>	
Under 18: Loxton 22 d Barmera 18; Renmark 42 d Waikerie 23.	
Under 16: Loxton 59 d Waikerie 14; Barmera 61 d Berri 15; Supercats 45 d Waikerie 26; Barmera 36 d	

# Darts duo wins doubles decider

THE Cobdogla Club hosted the final event of the year for the Riverland Darts Association as Calib Martin and Corey Wagner were crowned mystery doubles champions last week.

The event was a 501 double-start, double-finish tournament that saw a crowd of

competitors vying for the prize, including a number of fresh faces.

Wayne Bonham and Les Platten advanced from the first round and took on Martin and Wagner in the final, with the latter duo claiming victory.

Kendall Hayes had the high

peg-out of the night and Steve Lockwood recorded his first maximum of the year.

Regular matches will resume in the new year on Thursday, January 6, with Double Jacks taking on Monash Wanderers and RC Ones pitted against Expendables at the Cobby Club.

**RIVERLAND GOLF RESULTS**

<b>LOXTON</b>	
<b>Wednesday, December 15</b>	
A grade – M. Thiele 41, J. Henwood 40 (second on a countback), G. Morrison 40, D. Sunman 39, A. Linder 39, D. Unferdorben 38.	
D. Sunman 39, A. Linder 39, D. Unferdorben 38.	
B grade – S. Semmler 39, A. Hucks 37, R. Smith 37, T. Arndt 36, S. Smart 33, E. Branson 33.	
Women’s Orange Tees – J. Cooney 38, M. Tyler 36, Y. Tatt 35, J. Patching 33.	
<b>Saturday, December 18</b>	
Women – S. Panell 37, J. Patching 36, D. Harman 36, S. Grein 33.	
Men – R. Koch 40, P. Harman 37, O. Walkley 36,	

D. Sunman 36, S. Smart 36, P. Richardson 35, S. Harris 35, S. Smith 34.	
<b>BERRI</b>	
<b>Wednesday, December 15 (stableford)</b> - P. Cummins 42, J. Parker 37, L. Seddon 34 (cb), W. Thiele 34, K. Traeger 34, G. Calgie 33, W. Adams 32.	
Saturday, December 18 (stableford) - S. Gore 40, P. Efthimiou 37 (cb), S. Wade 37, K. Traeger 37, S. Stegmeyer 36 (cb), P. Frahn 36, R. Day 35 (cb), R. Burn 35, A. Brand 34 (cb), L. Seddon 34, S. Renfrey 34, I. Bradshaw 34, G. Mack 33, M. Jennings 32 (cb), M. Wilksch 32 (cb), D. Shawyer 32.	



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Berri Blue's Kris Taylor was instrumental in his side's 11-run victory against Berri Red last week. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff

# Berri Blue bags bragging rights

A COMPREHENSIVE performance saw Berri Blue defeat cross-town rivals Berri Red in last Friday's Riverland baseball fixture. Berri Blue dominated from the outset, compiling an early four-run lead and capitalising on Berri Red being undermanned. The second inning saw Berri Blue pull away further with seven

unanswered runs before honours were split in the third inning. Blue's Kris Taylor was in fine form with both ball and bat, recording four strike-outs and a safe hit. Renmark Angels also enjoyed a convincing win, defeating Riverland Pirates by 10 runs. A triple in the first inning to Hamish McDonald saw the Angels

pull away to an early lead and although fielding errors led to a Pirates comeback, they ran out comfortable winners in the end. These fixtures brought Riverland baseball to an end for 2021, with play set to resume on Friday, January 14. Renmark will go into the break on top of the ladder, just one point ahead of Pirates in second place.



Roland Beviss was in good pitching form despite Berri Red's loss.

RESULTS					Inn	1	2	3	4	T
Inn	1	2	3	T	Renmark	4	4	1	5	14
Berri Blue	4	7	1	12	Pirates	-	2	2	-	4
Berri Red	-	-	1	1	Safe hits: Renmark – J. Bonner 2, H. McDonald, D. Grenfell 2, C. Jarrett, G. O'Brien 1. Pirates – K. Liddell, J. Frazer 1. Points: Renmark 12; Pirates 11; Berri Red 9; Berri Blue 8.					
Safe hits: Berri Blue – L. Sutherland 4, D. Campbell, P. Reid 2, K. Taylor, B. Ebert, W. Cox, L. Peltz 1. Berri Red – A. Rogers 1.										

# Ivanovic four keeps invincible dreams alive

THE Lawns Red dropped points for the first time this season, with a draw against Loxton Red in last week's Bowls Riverland Midweek Triples competition. Steve Ivanovic's four recorded a 17-shot win which was enough to keep The Lawns Red's undefeated record intact but not enough to win his side the match. Barmera defeated Berri Red by 12 shots, taking advantage of The Lawns Red's hiccup and drawing to within 29 points of the league leaders. Elsewhere, Renmark Gold had a massive 78-shot win over The Lawns, with Des Schliebs' quartet winning their rink by 46 shots. A mid-table match-up saw Waikerie defeat Lyrup, with Roger Davies' four the difference, winning their rink by 18 shots in the 16-shot overall win. The competition will now go into a brief recess, with play set to resume on Wednesday, January 5.

**RESULTS**  
Barmera 78 d Berri Red 66.

K. Carter 14 lost to J. Cresp 23; R. Reynolds d L. Knight 12; D. Button 17 lost to J. Centofanti 21; J. Morena 27 d R. Correll 10. **Renmark Gold 104 d Monash 66.** B. Cropper 28 d R. Jury 23; H. TerBogt 13 lost to P. Grocke 21; B. Dopson 41 d M. Wood 5; M. Howe 22 d P. Raams 17. **Waikerie 92 d Lyrup 76.** R. Davies 30 d L. Recchia 12; M. Morete 20 drew with G. Millich 20; R. Thompson 22 d C. Gamble 15; K. Dubrich 20 lost to G. Jenke 29. **The Lawns Red 75 drew with Loxton Red 75.** S. Ivanovic 29 d T. Thurston 12; P. Lawton 13 lost to D. Kimber 24; R. Stoeckel 11 lost to G. Cockshell 26; R. Lawton 22 d G. Schulz 13. **Renmark Green 82 d Barmera Pelicans 74.** B. Knight 19 lost to I. Lloyd 21; R. Andt 21 d P. Symens 12; J. Thompson 24 drew with H. Robinson 24; B. QuatreBorne 18 d P. Thompson 17. **Loxton White 128 d The Lawns 50.** W. Harrison 28 d M. Hudson 21; R. Coombs 25 d R. Ashworth 12; D. Schliebs 51 d F. Turton 5; W. Schulz 24 d K. Knight 12. **Berri Blue 76 d Loxton Blue 69.** R. Grosser 20 d P. Vaughan 15; A. Kosturjak 13 lost to F. Braddock 21; G. Elleway 26 d H. Appleton 18; K. Carpenter 17 d J. Patterson 15. **Points:** The Lawns Red 269; Barmera 240; Loxton Red 204; Loxton White, Berri Blue 190; Waikerie 186; Renmark Gold 170; Lyrup 147; Renmark Green 141; Berri Red 119; Barmera Pelicans 83; Loxton Blue 82; The Lawns 69; Monash 66.

# Tracey pockets eightball singles title

TRACEY Altschwager, of the Lyrup Club Odd Bunch, has been crowned the Riverland women's eightball McKinnon Singles champion after an impressive performance at the Renmark Hotel last week. A number of competitors came to play on Monday night, making for some tough competition and high-quality matches. Tracey was able to win her way to the grand final where she took on and defeated Shelley Garrett of Monash Club DV8s. The semi-finals of the Monash Club Knockout took place two days later, with four sides playing for a spot in the final in January 2022. Monash Club DV8s won its clash with Lyrup Club Odd Bunch to progress through to the final round alongside Lyrup Club, which defeated Barmera Hotel Unpredictables. The final will take place on Wednesday, January 19 at the Monash Club.



Tracey Altschwager was in great form last Monday, taking home the McKinnon Singles title at the Renmark Hotel. PHOTO: supplied

# Riverland cycling hits the brakes for 2021

A HUGE turnout meant for an exciting final round of Riverland cycling for 2021 last week. Clint Bambrick impressed with a strong performance in the Monash criterium long-course A grade event, which saw him ride through in first place. Bambrick finished in second position the week prior behind Lee Stevens, but turned the tables last Wednesday and came out on top. Stevens had another strong ride and finished in second position, with Phil Pfennig coming in third. In the C grade event, there was a tie for first place between Sue Lahainer and Stephen Battye. Cycling will return with road

races, criteriums, mountain bike races and more in January 2022. **RESULTS**  
**Monash criterium long-course**  
A grade – 1st C. Bambrick, 2nd L. Stevens, 3rd P. Pfennig.  
B grade – 1st S. Hardwick, 2nd L. Rasheed, 3rd W. Champion.  
C grade – 1st S. Lahainer and S. Battye, 2nd R. Strout.  
D grade – 1st M. Ryan, 2nd J. Stevens, 3rd A. Ylia.

# Ling duo combine at Lake Bonney

GEOFF and Chelsea Ling combined aboard On The Ball to win the Lake Bonney Yacht Club's final race of the calendar year last Saturday. Formerly known as the Queen of the Lake race, the Perpetual Trophy race is usually set across the lake to a northerly mark, and return via several legs of the course. The Queen part of the former title refers to the nautical tradition of calling boats 'she'. "The start of the race looked as though the sailors would have reasonably good conditions but unfortunately the breeze died out and several of the smaller yachts experienced difficulties in the hot conditions," a spokesperson said. The next club racing will be held on Saturday, January 15, with the club championship heat 5. Sail training will recommence after school resumes, with a date to be announced.



# Riverland futsal's future on show at state champs

**BEN LENNON**

A GROUP of young Riverlanders travelled to Adelaide last week to take part in the 2021 Football SA State Futsal Championships.

The event was held at the St Clair Recreation Centre and showcased the best players South Australia has to offer, with a number of city-based teams training daily throughout the year.

The undermanned Riverland teams battled hard throughout the day against high-quality opposition.

Due to a lack of players for the men's side, Ji Ji Mitchell, Tessie Mitchell and Belinda Rayner stepped up and filled in when possible.

Although the Riverland teams failed to figure in the final standings, Riverland Futsal president Patty Fournaros-Carney believes those that who took part gained a lot from the competition.

"I think it's brilliant that we fronted up and participated at that level and some

of the results were fantastic," Ms Fournaros-Carney said.

"The open men's team could've played in the under 16s competition; most of them would have qualified, only Crispin Mitchell was over 16, so they did very well in that competition.

"There's a lot to get from the under 13 girls as well. A couple of them are already in the state identification programs, they're all superstars in the making.

"We're really pleased with their development."

Following the tournament, those involved were informed that the St Clair Recreation Centre had been deemed a casual Covid-19 contact exposure site.

With one round left before the mid-season break, the Riverland Futsal committee decided to err on the side of caution and postpone the round until 2022.

"We were informed on Saturday that it was a casual contact site," Ms Fournaros-Carney said.

"To follow the protocols, we needed to make sure we

alerted everyone.

"It was safer for us to reschedule round 10 because it just adds to the risk.

"Nobody has tested positive, which is fantastic, but we certainly weren't going to risk it and our committee wants to be proactive in keeping everyone as Covid-safe as possible.

"Because we use the Toyota Arena which is a shared facility, we don't want to put anyone else that uses that stadium at risk.

"We were very happy to do our bit to ensure everyone's safety and we will continue to do so."

Six rounds remain in the Riverland Futsal season and it is currently unknown when round 10 will be played.

"We don't know how that is going to play out, it's really on a week-by-week basis," Ms Fournaros-Carney said.

"We have our mid-season break and we're scheduled to play again on February 13.

"We'll be meeting to see if we can play this round before we go back if possible but it's yet to be decided."



Riverland men's player Cooper Ebert taking the game on. PHOTOS: Tessie Mitchell



Mikayla Rayner starred for the under 13 girls side, netting nine goals across the entire day's play.



Crispin Mitchell in action for the Riverland men's team in the 2021 State Futsal Championships

**I think it's brilliant that we fronted up and participated at that level and some of the results were fantastic...**

— Riverland Futsal president Penny Fournaros-Carney

# BSR's new coach doing nothing by Harves



New BSR coach Alan Harvey (right), with club president Aleck Zadown, is looking to bring some bite to the Redbacks in season 2022. PHOTO: Facebook

**BEN LENNON**

AFTER the release of next season's fixtures last week and a number of clubs' pre-seasons in full-swing, the RFL Independent competition is gearing up for a huge 2022 and BSR has a new man at the helm.

Alan Harvey has taken on the top job with the Redbacks and the former Sedan Cambrai coach has enjoyed a positive start to his time with BSR.

"I'm absolutely impressed to tell you the truth," Harvey said.

"Being at Sedan I had some insight into how the clubs work out here.

"A tiny club in a small town, volunteers are the hardest thing to get for us, but the four or five we have up there at the moment are absolutely sensational.

"It's a natural environment where everyone's on the same page and everyone's there for the same reasons."

Harvey has a wealth of experience across differ-

ent leagues, spending time coaching in Adelaide as well as in the Hills League and the Independent competition with Sedan.

"I started back in 2012 when I got the B grade gig at Brahma Lodge Football Club," he recalled.

"I was still playing a bit back then, so I went down there as a player coach.

"I was lucky enough to get an A grade flag and made finals for the first time in about 20 years with the B grade, so I started off my coaching career very well.

"I went to North Pines for one year in 2015 and then I got the job at Sedan in what was their last year in the Hills league.

"I did their last year in the Hills and their first year back in the Independents."

BSR has been busy this off-season, already announcing a number of new signings, with Harvey tipping Jake Reynolds, James and Bobby Mapstone, Cameron Horstmann and Jacob Verrall all to make a huge

difference for the Redbacks.

His time coaching in the city as well as the country has allowed him to gain perspective on the different challenges clubs can face depending on their location.

"Numbers is the big one and the ease of being able to attract players to the club is massive," he said.

"Being in the country you've either got to find some sort of incentive, whether it's petrol money or money in their pocket, that sort of thing.

"You have the luxury in the city of blokes just rolling up to your footy club so you pick up a few bonus ones you weren't expecting."

Harvey describes himself as a "stickler for fitness", and is looking to bring a sense of professionalism back to BSR.

"Last year the boys were only training one night a week, a 45-minute session and the drills were pretty basic," he said.

"With me, I'll sit at home most nights and I've got a

book full of 100 or so drills and I'll scribble down ideas that I've got and try to put them in place.

"The excitement at the moment up there is that everything's a little bit different."

The Independent competition has gone through some massive changes recently, with Cobdogla withdrawing from the competition and Lyrup remaining on the outer.

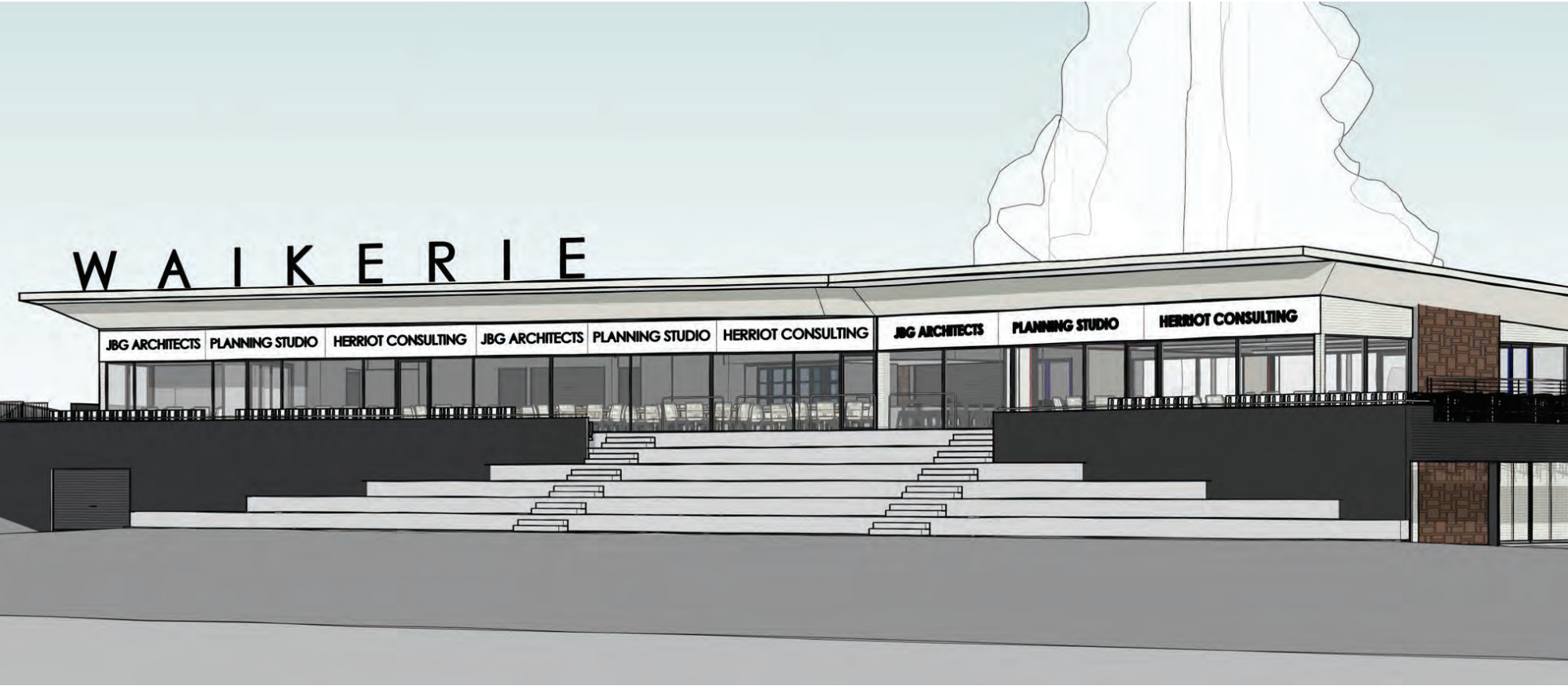
The introduction of double-headers has Harvey and the rest of BSR excited and he believes that making sure the Independent competition stays alive is important.

"I think that's a fantastic concept," he said.

"With how small our clubs are, they are rely on each other to stay alive with bar takings and things like that.

"Atmosphere wise, coming from town you play B grade and then A grade, it sets up a brilliant atmosphere so for me the double-headers is a massive thing for this year."





The latest design of Waikerie Football Club's \$3.5m community hub, which was unveiled at its AGM last month.

# Waikerie footy club's grand plan unveiled

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

PLANS for the Waikerie Football Club's \$3.5m community hub have been unveiled, with hopes its construction can begin by mid-next year.

The club's redevelopment committee spokesman Brendan Sidhu provided the 25 members who attended the AGM in November with details about the latest designs of the new clubrooms.

The project has received \$1.5m from the Federal Government's Building Better Region's Fund.

The state government also provided \$1.5m towards the community hub after Loxton Waikerie Council provided a loan to the football club, which has also committed funds.

Waikerie Football Club president Aaron Thompson said an updated development application for the new clubrooms was expected to be submitted to Loxton Waikerie council early next year.

The Waikerie Football Club's previous development application involved knocking down the existing building and replacing it with new clubrooms.

However, after seeking advice from a consultant, the club decided to explore building the new facility on the river-front end of the oval.

Mr Thompson said tenders would be sought for a builder to develop an "early contractor engagement proposal" before the development application was lodged with council.

"The builder will help us refine it and see if we can save some costs somewhere and get the building right before we commit to a price," he said.

Mr Thompson said having a builder involved early would hopefully speed up the process, and the club would receive the results they were after in the clubroom's construction.

He said it would be ideal for a Riverland company to become involved in the planning and construction of the new clubrooms.

"It will be an open tender through Loxton Waikerie council," he said

Mr Thompson said the strong support of the Waikerie community had ensured the football club had experienced a healthy profit this year despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Our main source of income would be our clubrooms, hence why we are redeveloping it," he said.

"Our bar, our canteen and game day (are) pretty important to us and sponsorship on top of that helps run the club."

Mr Thompson said the football club also had a strong membership base, which ensured its financial viability.

"With us building a new clubroom, we are intentionally saving money towards its construction," he said.

Mr Thompson said fortunately this year



● Murray Pioneer, 13/10/21

the club only missed out on playing two games due to Covid-19 restrictions, unlike in 2020, when all Riverland Football League senior games were cancelled.

At the club's AGM last month, Mr Thompson, Sue Miller and Brendan Sidhu all renominated to be on the board, while Sam Whittington joined as a new board member and Gilda Carter resigned.

## Local rewarded with Westies leadership role

RENMARK footy product Ashlea James has earned vice-captaincy honours for West Adelaide Football Club in 2022.

The club announced next year's leadership group last week via social media, with a video of SANFLW coach Mark Moody presenting the new leaders to the playing group.

When making the announcement Moody had nothing but praise for the 21-year-old.

"She's an unbelievable individual," Moody began.

"On grand final day I said she's one of my favourite human beings and I don't back down from that.

"She's a great individual and a very good leader.

"She loves her footy and actually travels four hours to get here twice a week now."

A versatile player, James played 14 games for the Bloods in 2021 including an impressive finals campaign that saw them narrowly miss out on a premiership.

# A new era beckons for Keynes and Berri

THE new RFL under 15 girls competition is set to kick off in 2022 and Berri has locked in Rebecca Keynes as its inaugural coach.

In an interview posted on the club's Facebook page last week, Keynes explained that it was her students that gave her the inspiration to take on the role.

"They show such dedication to all sports that they compete in and when asked to coach this particular age group, I realised that it was the group I have been working with over the last three years and they have made my job so rewarding and enjoyable," she said.

Keynes has been heavily involved in a number of sports, namely local hockey where she held positions as a coach and an umpire.

She also has coaching experience across junior divisions in basketball, but says her love of football has grown in recent years through both her work and her children's participation in the sport.

She is looking to draw on her background across multiple sports and her competitive attitude in season 2022.

"I have always played sports

and I am quite competitive," she said.

"I am still playing a decent level of sport myself and have a love of the strategic component to games.

"I feel that I will bring a positive attitude, enjoyment for the sport and a love of being part of a team to this group of players, as well as teaching them to have a go at it and make sure that they have a great time while doing it.

"I am really excited about working with this group of players, excited to learn more about the game, the players and families."

With a support network of assistant coaches around her, Keynes is looking forward to growing with her team in 2022 and has a message for young girls thinking about coming out to play.

"I am also really excited about what opportunities will come for this group now that they have a competition for girls of this age in the Riverland," she said.

"My message to any of the girls thinking about coming out is to come along, have a good try, loads of laughs and meet some great people in the process.

"If you say no to an opportunity, you never know if you may get it again."



Rebecca Keynes will coach Berri in the new RFL under 15 girls competition in 2022. PHOTO: Facebook



# Challenger emerges as Berri springs upset

BERRI has announced itself as a genuine challenger to Cobdogla's Riverland division one tennis dominance.

Berri scored a last-gasp 8-7 victory over the previously unbeaten reigning premiers last Saturday, with Shane McPherson – promoted from division two – and the experienced Georgia Tzanavaras combining to clinch the winning doubles set, beating Nigel Battams and Hayley Drogemuller 6-2.

The victory – on Cobdogla's home hard courts – reversed the result from round one of the 2021/22 season, when Berri lost by a set.

Tzanavaras said the entire Berri club had developed a "strong bond" this season, and that players were dedicated and enjoying their tennis.

She said McPherson did well in the decisive doubles set to adapt from his favoured grass-court surface.

However, walking onto the court, the Berri pair chose to remain unaware of the overall match situation, preferring to wait until after the set to learn of their team's fate.

"It's happened to us before, and we've lost, so this time we didn't want to know," she said.

Berri did well to win three of the singles sets. Tzanavaras won all four of her sets, while her daughter, rising star Maria, won three of her four sets.

Cohen Battams performed well for Cobdogla, winning three of his four sets.

Cobdogla was missing Shane Nettle, while Sam Butterworth played just two sets, winning both. Berri was without youngster Max Jericho, forcing the elevation of McPherson.

In the other division one match, Loxton trounced Renmark 13-2.

Darren Bright featured in both of Renmark's winning sets, com-

binning with veteran John Pick to beat Justin Lane and Todd Griffin 6-4 in doubles, then beating Griffin 6-4 in singles.

Cobdogla turned the tables in division two, beating Berri Blue 9-6.

In division three, Ali Rajab won Renmark's sole set against Loxton Bashers.

**RESULTS**  
**DIVISION ONE**  
**Berri 8-63 d Cobdogla 7-67.**  
Doubles: E. Day/P. Reid lost to H. Carter/S. Butterworth 5-7; P. Cresp/S. McPherson lost to W. Swinstead/C. Battams 3-6, M. Tzanavaras/G. Tzanavaras d Sophie Nettle/H. Drogemuller 6-1; Day/Reid lost to Carter/Butterworth 2-6; Cresp/McPherson lost to C. Battams/N. Battams 2-6, M. Tzanavaras/G. Tzanavaras d Nettle/Drogemuller 6-4.  
Singles: Day d Carter 6-2, Reid lost to C. Battams 2-6, Cresp d Swinstead 7-6, McPherson lost to N. Battams 0-6, M. Tzanavaras d Nettle 6-4, G. Tzanavaras d Drogemuller 6-1.  
Doubles: Day/Red d Carter/C. Battams



Maria Tzanavaras won all four of her sets, as Berri upset Cobdogla in Riverland division one tennis on Saturday. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopf

6-4; Cresp/M. Tzanavaras lost to Swinstead/Nettle 0-6; S. McPherson/G. Tzanavaras d N. Battams/Drogemuller 6-2.  
**Loxton 13-87 d Renmark 2-39.**  
Doubles: A. Waters/P. Smith d D. Strongman/J. Bright 6-4; J. Lane/T. Griffin lost to J. Pick/D. Bright 4-6; T. Smith/A. Biggins d E. Reid/R. Godara 6-0; Waters/P. Smith d Strongman/J. Bright 6-1; Lane/Griffin d H. Beavis/D. Bright 6-1; T. Smith/Biggins d Reid/Godara 6-0.  
Singles: Waters d Strongman 6-3; P. Smith d Hill 7-5; Lane d J. Bright 6-4; Griffin lost to D. Bright 4-6; T. Smith d E. Reid 6-0;

Biggins d Godara 6-2.  
Doubles: Waters/Lane d Strongman/J. Bright 6-1; P. Smith/T. Smith d D. Bright/Reid 6-3; Griffin/Biggins d Beavis/Godara 6-3.  
**DIVISION TWO**  
Cobdogla 9-71 d Berri Blue 6-63.  
Berri Red 9-66 d Loxton 6-60.  
**DIVISION THREE**  
Loxton Bashers 9-60 d Renmark 1-41.  
Loxton Smashers 8-53 d Barmera 2-35.  
Paringa 5-71 d Moorook 0-17.

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RIVERLAND TEAMS AT STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

PAGE 41







Waikerie Football Club hopes to begin construction on its community hub by midway through 2022. PHOTO Grant Schwartzkopff

# Footy club’s grand plan

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

PLANS for the Waikerie Football Club’s \$3.5m community hub have been unveiled, with hopes its construction can begin by

mid-next year.  
The club’s redevelopment committee spokesman Brendan Sidhu provided the 25 members who attended the AGM in November with details about the latest

designs of the new clubrooms.  
The project has received \$1.5m from the Federal Government’s Building Better Region’s Fund.  
The state government also provided

\$1.5m towards the community hub after Loxton Waikerie Council provided a loan to the football club, which has also committed funds.

PAGE 42 FULL STORY



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Close to sporting facilities, schools  
and swimming pool  
Private undercover entertaining area

Price: \$289,000



BLANCHETOWN

3 1 7

Permanent living or holiday home

3 bedroom brick veneer home  
2 living areas  
Low maintenance corner 940m² allotment  
6m x 4m shed with concrete floor, lights & power  
Undercover entertaining area

Price: \$250,000



WAIKERIE

2 1 1

Unit on the “high side of the road”

2 bedroom unit  
Spacious open plan living  
Both bedrooms with built-in robes  
Single car carport  
Rear undercover entertaining area

Price: \$199,000



WAIKERIE

3 1 6

Often sought seldom found

3 bedrooms all with built-in robes  
2 living areas  
Double carport with automatic roller door  
9m x 6m shed with concrete floor, light & power  
Large undercover entertaining area

Price: \$324,500



MORGAN

3 1 7

Stone cottage in the centre of Morgan

3 bedroom stone cottage  
Centrally located  
Spacious lounge  
Walk to river, supermarkets and hotels  
12m x 6m shed with concrete floor, lights & power

Price: \$149,000



Waikerie



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Waikerie



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Waikerie



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