

MAIN PHOTO: The scene this week at Nappers Bridge, where the earthen levee is being removed to reconnect Lake Bonney to the main river channel. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff INSET: SES incident controller Brad Flew, National Parks and Wildlife Service SA senior ranger Owen Williams, Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall and Berri Barmera Council infrastructure services manager David Pluckhahn at Nappers Bridge for the reopening of the Lake Bonney inlet. INSET PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

BREAKTHROUGH Move to reopen Bookpurnong Road

BOOKPURNONG Road is likely to be reopened as an unsealed road – temporarily – the moment it is declared safe.

Contractors began clearing debris off the now-dry surface today, after rising flood waters forced a section of the road – which links Berri to Loxton – to be closed in November. In a welcome announcement for hundreds of impacted motorists, Infrastructure and Transport Minister Tom Koutsantonis said yesterday that – provided the base is structurally sound – the bitumen could be removed and the road reopened until it dries out and can be re-surfaced.

In addition, suggestions the road would remain in a damaged state – and detours in place – until the end of 2023 were dismissed. PAGE 3 STORY

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2 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 What a relief

JOSH BRINE

AFTER almost two months, river water is again flowing into Lake Bonney, with work under way to remove the temporary levee blocking the lake's inlet.

Berri Barmera Council contractors began removing the earthen levee running alongside Nappers Bridge on Monday morning, after receiving direction from the State Emergency Services (SES), with water flowing into the lake that afternoon.

The call to reopen the lake was based on advice from a number of stakeholders, including council, the Department for Environment and Water (DEW), the SES and the Riverland Murray Mallee Aboriginal Corporation (RMMAC). Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall welcomed the direction to reopen the inlet, which was closed off on December 2, 2022.

"It's a big moment for our community - and a big relief to get the lake reconnected to the river system," she said.

"Where other towns felt a sense of relief as the peak came through and flows started dropping, for Barmera we've been waiting for the inlet to be reopened to have that turning point."

According to council's estimates, the closure prevented about 20 to 30 property inundations, plus Nappers Bridge itself, and protected both the community wastewater management system, which serves about 4000 people in Barmera and surrounding towns, and culturally significant sites.

Council's acting CEO Tracey Alexander said the levee held back almost 3m of water at the flood's peak.

"Lake Bonney is truly at the heart of our community, and with the reconnection of the lake to the river, our lake can receive a flush of fresh water, and all the benefits

that brings," she said.

"I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to the community for their patience and perseverance over the last eight weeks...

"I encourage anyone thinking of visiting the Riverland, to come and enjoy the iconic Lake Bonney, and support those who have done it tough of late."

A direction prohibiting people from being within 500m of Nappers Bridge came into effect on Monday and is expected to last for the duration of the removal works.

SA Emergency Services Minister Joe Szakacs said the removal of the inlet closure was a 'symbol" that low-lying infrastructure was now at "minimal risk of

any damage". "I thank all SES and Berri Barmera Council staff for their tenacity and hard work through a series of challenges over the last few months," he said

Deputy premier and SA Environment and Water Minister Susan Close encouraged downstream irrigators to monitor daily salinity levels due to the reopening.

"River users should be aware that the reopening of Lake Bonney is likely to result in a short-term increase in salinity levels downstream of the lake," she said.

SASES chief officer Chris Beattie said reopening the inlet was always a "key priority" once flood waters receded to a safe level.

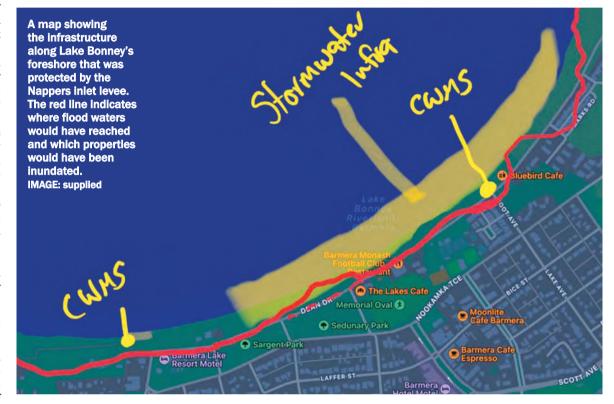
"Lake Bonney is a popular destination for South Australians and allowing the flow of fresh water into the lake will provide ecological benefits for fish and vegetation, but also for the local community," he said.

The closure of the inlet proved controversial for some Barmera residents, stirring memories of the previous time the lake was blocked off from the river, from 2007 to 2010.

The December 2 closure was



Water from the River Murray is again flowing into Lake Bonney via Chambers Creek, after work began on Monday to remove the levee blocking the lake's inlet. PHOTO: Berri Barmera Council



quickly followed by reports of blue-green algal blooms at the end

of 2022, which led to SA Health in the lake. issuing advice against swimming

PAGE 6 Editorial

DefenCell to stay for now

DEFENCELL flood barriers north of Nappers Bridge at Barmera's Lake Bonney will remain in place for the time being, Berri Barmera Council says.

The military-grade defence barriers were installed in November 2022, alongside the earthen levee which blocked off the inlet to Lake Bonney.

However, council's acting CEO Tracey Alexander said removing the DefenCell would "not be part of the reopening process". "These will be removed at a

later date once the lake and river have equalised," she said.

Ms Alexander said the sandfilled barriers were not located on the bridge itself.

- JOSH BRINE



DefenCell



RIVERLAND WEATHER NESDAY THURSDAY FRIDA SATURDAY **25** ° 29 20 RENMARI 10 10 10 MOSTLY SUNNY SW19 3pm WINDSPEED 9am WSW37 9am SW24 9am W18 **W37** 9am WSW28 | 3pm WSW15 3pm SW21 9am S12 3nm SSW12 9am SSE9 3nm **32** ° LOXTON **26** ° **23** ° 20 **25** ° **28** ° **11** ° 9 10 11 9 OSTLY SUNNY ATE SHOWER G THEN SUNNY FOG THEN SUNNY 20 **25** ° **32** ° **26** ° **28** ° **23** ° WAIKERIE **9** ° **10**° 11 **9** ° **11** ° **8**° SUNNY MOSTLY SUNNY LATE SHOWER FOG THEN SUNNY FOG THEN SUNNY WINDY WATER REPORT **FLOW INTO SA TEMPORARY ALLOCATION: \$24 PER MEGALITRE** LEVELS (METRES) LOCK 6 14.94 LOCK 3 20.29 LOCK 5 17.40 LOCK 4 **12.45** LOCK 2 9.9 LOCK 1 6.34 84000 SALINITY (EC UNITS) LOCK 4 **289** LOCK 3 312 LOCK 5 318 280 LOCK 2 LOCK 6 281 LOCK 1 285 **MEGALITRES PER DAY** APP.

BREAKTHROUGH Move to reopen Bookpurnong Road

UNSEAL THE DEAL

PAUL MITCHELL

BOOKPURNONG Road is likely to be reopened as an unsealed road temporarily – the moment it is declared safe.

Contractors began clearing debris off the now-dry surface today, after rising flood waters forced a section of the road – which links Berri to Loxton - to be closed in November.

In a surprise, but welcome announcement for hundreds of impacted Riverland motorists, Infrastructure and Transport Minister Tom Koutsantonis said yesterday that provided the base is structurally sound, the bitumen could be removed and the road reopened until it dries out and can be re-surfaced.

In addition, suggestions the road would remain in a damaged state - and detours in place - until the end of 2023 were dismissed by Mr Koutsantonis "At worst it could be

months," he said. More immediately, local commuters could be travelling their former route

sooner, rather than later. "We think short term, everything being okay with the road base, we can take the asphalt/bitumen off and reopen it as an unsealed road for a time, while it still dries, and potentially get some compaction with cars on it," Mr Koutsantonis told The Murray Pioneer.

restrictions in place and the like, but open it up."

Mr Koutsantonis said a decision on when to rebituminise the impacted section of road, from the Berri Bridge to the foot of Bookpurnong Hill, would be made as soon as possible.

"We're doing an assessment to see exactly how much damage and how much water has gone into the base, whether it's eroded near the foundation," he said.

"...we'll make a decision about when we rebituminise it, depending on the best time to go in and re-seal and what works can be done."

Mr Koutsantonis said Bookpurnong Road was a "priority" for the State Government.

"As soon as we know we can re-bituminise it, we're getting out there," he said. "This road is very, very important.

"I don't want people in the Riverland thinking we're there when the natural disaster is in full flight and once it's over we're gone.

"We've got to remain focused on the Riverland for a while and make sure these roads get the attention (they need). And a lot of other roads as well... that have had a lot of extra traffic.'

Since Bookpurnong Road's inundation, calls

"We'll have speed have emerged to improve the road post-flood, including lifting it above the '56 flood level.

Mr Koutsantonis said such measures would be dependent on gaining substantial Federal Government disaster funding, however he said the State Government would "look at" the idea.

The Pioneer understands Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton pressed Peter Malinauskas on the proposal to upgrade Bookpurnong Road during one of the Premier's recent Riverland visits.

Meanwhile Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone said last week he had been exploring the possibility of an alternative for Loxton-Berri commuters, currently taking around 50 minutes to travel between towns, rather than 15 to 20.

"I'm working with Renmark Paringa Council and government to look at opening up the Berri Bridge and having the Gurra Road connection there," he said.

"The Lyrup ferry is a great alternative route, but people have been lining up there for a long time...

Mr Whetstone said road disconnections, most notably Bookpurnong Road and Kingston Road, had placed "a lot of hardship" on locals.

PAGE 8 Ferry grateful return PAGE 13 Kingston Road



The now-dry Bookpurnong Road surface is being cleared of debris today, ahead of an inspection that will decide whether the bitumen is cleared from the road and it is reopened as an unsealed surface for a period of time. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

We think short term, everything being okay with the road base, we can take the asphalt/bitumen off and reopen it as an unsealed road for a time... - Tom Koutsantonis, SA Infrastructure and Transport Minister



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SA Power Networks correction:

A DETAIL in a story in last week's edition of The Murray Pioneer was incorrect.

The story headed 'No power for several months' included information about power disconnections, with one of the sentences incorrectly attributing the information to SA Water rather than SA Power Networks.

Top Team Fitness and Boxing correction:

A DETAIL in last week's Top Team Fitness tips to help locals keep their new year fitness resolutions was incorrect.

The story, which detailed how the crew at Top Team Fitness and Boxing (4 Colin Street, Loxton) can help people improve their health in 2023 quoted fitness and boxing manager Ryan Goodes' phone number incorrectly.

Top Team is also an NDIS provider, and can provide mentoring for participants. To contact Ryan for more information phone 0467 214 618, not the incorrect number included by The Murray Pioneer last week.



Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone has been handed the trade portfolio following a reshuffle of the SA Liberal shadow cabinet. PHOTO: supplied

Whetstone trades up to economic role

CHAFFEY MP Tim Whetstone has taken over a frontline economic portfolio in a shake-up of the SA Liberal shadow cabinet.

Mr Whetstone now has the trade and investment portfolio, after holding several lower-profile portfolios since the Liberals' state election loss almost a year ago.

He relinquished the road safety portfolio – after losing his driver's licence for three months late last year and only revealing it in January – and has now been relieved of the police and community safety, corrections, and mental health and suicide prevention portfolios.

Mr Whetstone's change

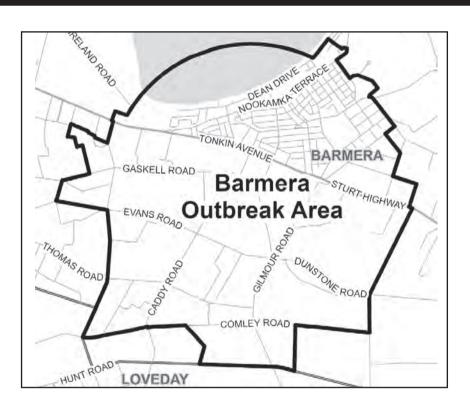
of roles within the Liberal Party has drawn wildly varying analysis in recent days.

Opposition Leader David Speirs labelled it as a "promotion", a description seized upon by the SA Labor Government. In a media release issued by Treasurer Stephen Mullighan, Labor said the appointment "rewarded

incompetence". However, the Sunday Mail had a different view, declaring in its headline that "...Whetstone loses portfolios" and saying the former Marshall government minister had been "stripped of all but one portfolio in a shadow cabinet reshuffle forced by his licence loss for speeding fines".

- PAUL MITCHELL





Queensland fruit fly has been found at Barmera causing a new outbreak.

A 1.5 km radius outbreak area has been established at Barmera.

If you live in these areas, visit **fruitfly.sa.gov.au** to understand the restrictions in place.

Some fruit and vegetables cannot move from properties in the outbreak area.

An eradication program has begun in the area. PIRSA field staff will be carrying ID and entering properties to apply organic fruit fly bait and check fruit.

Discuss special arrangements for moving commercial produce from the Barmera outbreak area by calling the industry hotline on 1800 255 556. What you need to do:

- Keep fruit on your property do not share, sell or give it away.
- **Provide** access to your garden so we can do our work quickly and efficiently.
- Pick your ripe fruit and vegetables.
 Collect fallen fruit. Dispose of it safely for your area visit the fruit
- fly website or call the Fruit Fly Hotline to find out how.
- Check your fruit for blemishes and maggots.
- Call the Fruit Fly Hotline on 1300 666 010 if you find any maggots in fruit, seal the item in an airtight bag and arrange collection.

Don't let fruit fly under the radar, visit **fruitfly.sa.gov.au** or call 1300 666 010.





After a near two-month closure, BIG4 Renmark Riverfront Holiday Park reopened to guests today, as flood waters continue to recede. PHOTO: Facebook

Caravan park now reopened

JOSH BRINE

AS the local tourism industry starts its recovery, one of the region's most popular accommodation providers has reopened its doors today after temporarily closing amid rising flood waters almost two months ago.

BIG4 Renmark Riverfront Holiday Park welcomed guests back today, ending the park's temporary closure, which began on December 9, 2022.

The park announced the reopening last week.

"As the water level has slowly receded, we have reduced the height of our levee and hope to be removing the levee completely over the coming month," the park said via Facebook.

"From February 1 most of our facilities will be open FLOOD EVENT

and operating.

"The jumping pillow is closed but will open within the coming weeks, however we are not able to offer river hire activities at this time."

Destination Riverland (DR) general manager Pamela Canavan said having accommodation providers "back on board" would have a "positive flow on effect to other local businesses".

"It will be such a positive boost for the Riverland to see parks like the BIG4 in Renmark come to life again, not only for our visitors but for locals too as it adds to the vibrancy and atmosphere of the region," she said.

"It will be crucial that w

tourism operators have a strong autumn and winter, as they have lost what is usually their busiest season of the year.

"The Riverland is a yearround destination, with each season bringing unique and beautiful experiences.

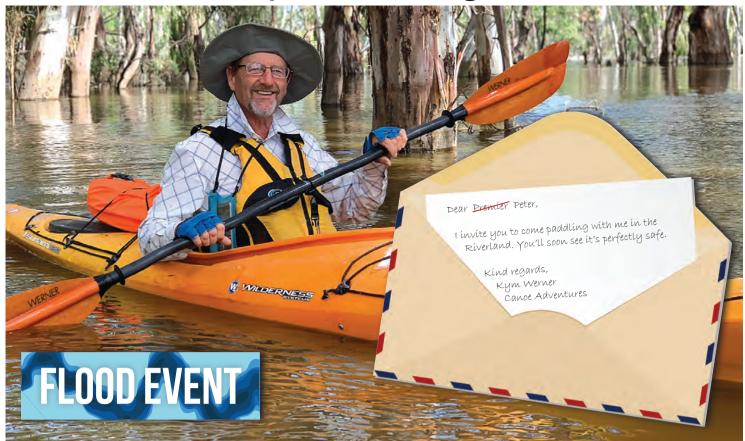
"We're expecting a spectacular winter, with extra birdlife and the many environmental benefits coming into play, which is going to be a real drawcard for visitors."

Ms Canavan said a South Australian Tourism Commission marketing campaign was in the "final stages of development".

"DR have been providing as much on-the-ground feedback as we can, because it's important that the Riverland region is featured in the best way possible," she said.

NEWS 5 www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Riverland business operator challenges river restrictions...



Canoe Adventures operator Kym Werner wants a State Government representative to accompany him on a paddle, so he can prove the Riverland backwaters are safe for human-powered vessels. PHOTO: supplied

'Come paddling with me, Premier'

PAUL MITCHELL

TO prove that lingering restrictions on recreational activities on the river are "irrational", the operator of a Riverland canoeing business has invited the SA Premier to join him on the water.

While bans on motorised vessels were lifted in local River Murray zones late last month, along with fishing and yabbying from boats, restrictions on human-powered vessels and houseboats remain in place, providing a drag on local tourism.

Kym Werner, who runs Berribased Canoe Adventures, says the river is lower - and running slower – than it was when the bans were implemented on December 20, prompting him to issue a challenge to Peter Malinauskas.

"I'd like to put an offer to the Premier or any minister – or if they haven't got the time, send anyone they trust – to come up here and we'll take them out on the water to see what it's like," Mr Werner said.

"It's obvious that whoever has made these decisions has no idea.

"So, this is an open invitation. I'm available anytime between sunrise and sunset - I'll cancel anything else."

Mr Werner said the decision to allow jet skis back on the water ahead of kayaks displays "no logic whatsoever", while the decision to keep human-powered vessels off the river and its local backwaters well after the flood peak was a similar head-scratcher. "In Berri the river was nearly

at full height when they put the prohibition in," he said. "Now we're at least three-

quarters of a metre down from where it was.

"Everyone was allowed on the water up until a week before Christmas, but it's way below what it was then and nothing's changed - even though they let the boats back out.

"It's just irrational."

As a registered and approved operator, Canoe Adventures has been permitted to continue guided tours of backwaters throughout the flood event, however Mr Werner said the business ceased hiring out vessels in December, realising the potential dangers the unusually fast-flowing river posed to inexperienced paddlers.

He said the restrictions were robbing the Riverland of scores of potential tourists.

"This is not from a business point of view, it just annoys me no end that there would be hundreds, possibly thousands, of people who would've loved to have come to the river from Adelaide or wherever – either here in the Riverland or to the Murraylands – to experience this once-in-a-lifetime event," he said

"They could be going through the very placid waters, the floodplains, and be among all the black boxes and red gums...

"We've probably got a couple of hundred qualified instructors and guides in South Australia, but they couldn't even get on the water, and a lot of experienced paddlers (and) sea kayakers who are used to conditions that are way more (dangerous) than you'd find here in flood.

"But I think now it's almost too late.'

While adamant the entire local stretch of the river should be reopened and any remaining restrictions removed, Mr Werner said common sense still had its place. "If you're inexperienced, I'd

still keep off the main river channel," he said.

"Avoid particularly sharp bends, and be very cautious about winds out on the flood plains, because it doesn't take much wind for the waves to come up there."

In last week's Murray Pioneer, co-organiser of a successful recent rally in the Riverland calling for restrictions to be banned, Renmark man Michael Polson, criticised the State Government for failing to introduce trigger points for lifting restrictions. Mr Polson's view has been echoed by the SA Liberals and was also endorsed by Mr Werner.

"As Michael said, there's no trigger mentioned, and as far as we can work out, all these decisions have been made without any expertise or local knowledge," he said.

"About 95 per cent of the flood plain has less flow on it than the river normally has."



Police are investigating the theft of a 2012 Nissan Pathfinder from a Blanchetown property. PHOTO:

supplied

Search for stolen car

LOCALS have been encouraged to provide information that could assist the location of a vehicle stolen from a Riverland home last week.

A black 2012 Nissan Pathfinder was stolen from a property at Blanchetown sometime between 10pm on Thursday, January 26, and 8.30am on Friday, January 27.

Riverlanders who see the car - with the registration S647AUR - are asked to contact the Police Assistance Line on 131444.



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BY PETER AND CARLA MAGAREY

PO Box 832 Renmark SA 5341

EDITORIAL Mayor's role in Lake Bonney saga

FOR the second and hopefully final time, the call has been made to remove a structure blocking the flow into Barmera's Lake Bonney.

This week's reconnection announcement marks the end of another difficult chapter for Barmera residents and lake lovers in particular, though mercifully much shorter than the 2007-2010 period.

Some locals still have clear recollections of that calamitous time in the town's history, memories that contributed to a deep distrust of the motives behind the blockage this time around.

At some point in the future, Berri Barmera Council may well face legitimate questions about it how it handled certain aspects of the flood crisis, including the extent of the levee linking Nappers Bridge to Cobdogla, but pinning any blame – or heaping praise, depending on your viewpoint – on the council for the disconnection decision is wrong.

As pointed out previously by Mayor Ella Winnall, the call to block the lake was not made by the council. It was made by the SA SES.

Council merely followed instruction, but has erroneously been seen – by some – as the instigator, due to its front-line role and Ms Winnall's visibility throughout the episode.

The disconnection has been a communications disaster from the start.

Early advice to the Barmera community was insufficient, and The Murray Pioneer understands this was borne out of less-than-ideal communications from government agencies to the council.

The Barmera community wanted and deserved earlier advice about the possibility of the lake being blocked off – understandable after what happened between 2007 and 2010.

Naturally it looked to council for this advice, but it seems the council's hands were tied and its voice muted.

Throughout this period, even Ms Winnall's critics would concede she has been focused on having the lake reopened as soon as possible. Behind the scenes, The Pioneer knows she has been lobbying furiously with government agencies, all the while trying to maintain workable relationships with bureaucracies not immune to causing inexplicable delays.

The day the disconnection was announced she was the architect behind organising an emergency meeting involving the relevant government agencies – not a task an elected member on cruise control would necessarily pursue.

She has continually fronted the media, even when she must have known doing so would only strengthen public sentiment that council owned the disconnection decision.

The SA Premier has made several, welcome trips to the Riverland during the flood crisis, yet no media events have been staged at Lake Bonney – except an algae-bloom related visit from Emergency Services Minister Joe Szakacs.

Even with that particular emergency, council was at the mercy of SA Health and its flip-flop media release approach, since replaced by a more sensible system that places responsibility on would-be lake users to check if algae levels are safe before swimming.

Indeed, Ms Winnall was frustrated at several turns, ready to declare the lake 'safe and open for business', only to learn just hours before doing so that new SA Health testing results meant swimming was suddenly prohibited again.

Different decisions could have been made about flood-proofing Barmera, including the construction of individual levees to protect the much-spoken-about crucial infrastructure.

But given the approach taken and the directions of SES, Ms Winnall's actions in having the lake reopened as soon as possible can only be fairly judged as proactive, energetic and persistent.



HA Klingberg, Loxton's saddler: What does a saddler do? In pioneering days, a horse needed a rider, a rider needed a saddle, and a leather saddle needed to be stuffed with horsehair and sewn together by a saddler, one who made saddles, bridles and harnesses. Also, the farms needed draft horses - perhaps 50-60 of them - to pull implements linked by chains to the horse, while the horses needed a collar to hold the chains. The leather collar needed to be stuffed with straw and horsehair and then sewn by a saddler. So, in the days before petrol-powered motor vehicles over-ran the work that horses did, a village needed a saddler. In 1909, Loxton village's first saddler was Albert Klingberg, who had ridden his push-bike from Tanunda to check out the growing town. He soon established Klingberg's Saddlery and Harness Making Shop in East Terrace, serving the town until 1946. The 'replica' saddlery in Loxton's Historical Village was built by volunteers in 1976. It is fully equipped with tools donated by the Klingberg family including a teasing machine (to tease horsehair for saddles and collars), a sewing machine, and various leather-working tools for making nosebags, traces and reins. PHOTO: LHV

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blanchetown check should be 24/7

I HAVE travelled from Adelaide to the Riverland twice a month since 1967. I have questioned why the

Blanchetown inspection location is not manned 24/7 and was told the State Government department does random checks.

I have never had a random check.

Why was fruit fly in Waikerie, a long way from Yamba and Pinnaroo where there are road blocks? It's because there are not enough random checks.

Why hasn't our local member Tim Whetstone sorted this out? We need a fruit fly road block at Blanchetown.

Come on SA government, fix this. My Waikerie friends are not happy.

JOHN FLANIGAN Ramco

Australia voting on apartheid plan

THE similarities between apartheid in South Africa and racial division in Australia in Ian Kent's letter ('Divisive, racist and xenophobic', Murray Pioneer, 25/1/23) are ominously real.

They should be ringing alarm bells, but we appear to be too complacent to react.

We lived in South Africa for 40 years under the white apartheid government.

We saw the evils and injustices of apartheid, and opposed it. The government did not

approve, and we were threatened and kept under surveillance, so we left and came to our wonderful new home in Australia.

Apartheid in South Africa divided the nation into two classifications: white (a minority) and non-white (the vast majority).

By legislation and force the white minority enjoyed special privileges. Legislation kept the white and non-whites divided. Now we are introducing apartheid in Australia.

We have already divided our nation into Aboriginal (a minority) and non-Aboriginal (the vast majority) and now our Prime Minister threatens to use legislation to ensure the Aboriginal privileges if the Voice vote fails.

The comparison becomes obvious. What is really motivating our government?

In South Africa it was the very successful 'divide and rule' concept.

The initial error and the beginning of the end is dividing our nation. Identifying some citizens as different to others by race, colour or ethnicity is the basis of apartheid.

We are already there. We must drop the labels differentiating us, and acknowledge that we are all Australians.

The term 'First Nations' is glibly used. Was there really any coherent nation before 1788?

Was there even a comprehension of united nationhood?

First Nations strongly implies another difference. Does that mean that non-Aboriginals are Second Nation? Or maybe as immigrants my family and I are Third Nations?

We all need to react and stop this racism before it is too late.

Australians did a great job of opposing apartheid in South

Africa. Let's do that here. MALCOLM and KATHLEEN TUBB

Renmark

What's next after indigenous voice?

FURTHER to Frank

Gathercole's comments regarding the Voice to Parliament (Murray Pioneer, 18/1/23), I also ask why there have been no details about it.

It's strange that since being elected this Federal government has, on two occasions, refused to listen to Aborigines experiencing serious abuse. Secondly, one can't help but wonder if the lack of detail about the Voice is because it may be that there will be more than one voice and more to follow?

Will there be a LBGTQ voice? Maybe an Asian voice or a Muslim voice?

Who really knows? I always get very concerned when there is a lack of detail or

when there is a lack of detail on these ideals, particularly when they are using claims of racism against people who do not support it.

JIM WEST Loxton

Privilege to have known 'Johnny'

I WAS pleased to read the report on the late 'Johnny' Gurr in last week's Murray Pioneer ('The Years Go By').

However, there was no mention of her being, (I believe), the first female councillor on the then Corporation of the Town of Renmark.

When I was a councillor elect to the District Council of Berri in 1975, I was most appreciative of her taking the time to contact me, offering her best wishes, (and some advice).

She was an excellent journalist with the ABC in Renmark.

It was my privilege to have known and respected Johnny. MARGARET EVANS

Berri We should listen to climate experts

I SUGGEST some of the points in Jeff Knispel's letter ('We need CO2', Murray Pioneer, 18/1/23) need clarification.

Jeff says: "Without any atmospheric CO2 causing some glasshouse effect, the entire earth would freeze over. Additionally, all plant life would be destroyed and with that so would human existence."

This idea is accepted by scientists. It would be too cold without some CO2, but with

too much CO2 the planet will become too hot for life as we know it. This idea is easily demonstra

This idea is easily demonstrated if we leave the windows up in the car on a hot day.

He continues: "For the past few hundreds of thousands of years, science reports show that the atmospheric CO2 has been trending down to dangerously low levels with regards to what is optimum for plant life to flourish – and also in keeping the planet comfortably warm via the glasshouse effect."

This statement is confusing as it is good for plant growth, but not good for the world's land, sea and atmospheric temperatures.

CO2 levels are now well above 400ppm and the last time there was this much carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere, seas were up around 30 metres higher than they are today.

An increase in CO2 levels results in a warmer atmosphere that is able to hold more moisture. That means we see bigger storms in some parts of the world, along with deeper droughts in other parts of the world.

An increase in CO2 means more is absorbed by oceans, causing them to become more acidic. This has serious impacts on marine life and in particular those with shells.

There are more important reasons why too much CO2 is bad for the planet. Jeff's argument about a rise in CO2 levels being good for plants sounds good at first, but the negative consequences outweigh the positives regarding better plant growth.

The vast majority of climate scientists agree that our everrising levels of CO2 will lead to catastrophe unless we quickly stop this trend.

We should listen to climate experts who, like us, have family and loved ones who will also suffer.

"Australians did a great job of opposing apartheid in South Africa. Let's do that here..."

- MALCOLM and KATHLEEN TUBB

facebook/themurraypioneer murraypioneer.com.au

Take Australia Day back to the rotunda

WHAT believable reason can the District Council of Loxton Waikerie give for holding the Australia Day ceremony inside at the Loxton Club?

It was poorly advertised nothing at all in The Pioneer on January 25 and the council website on the same day was also completely devoid of any mention of Australia Day.

When I rang the council to inquire. I was told it would be at the Loxton Club, a ticketed event, and that all tickets had been taken but I could be squeezed in.

I decided not to attend because I did not want council to think that I approved of this selective, tickets-only event.

If the reason for this almost private event was for "Covid safety", that ship sailed long ago.

I would hope that DCLW has not joined the woke brigade, trying to bury any celebration of Australia Day in case it offends someone.

Raise your game council, and bring the Australia Day celebration back to the rotunda at East Terrace to give everyone who wants to attend the chance to do SO

That includes all our visitors at the caravan park who, like the locals, have missed out this year, and who always appreciate the casual, laidback celebration, right in the middle of town, with the shops open and the general ambience of goodwill

SALLY GOODE Loxton

Abandoned vineyards and orchards

AS someone who grew up on a horticultural property, I can attest that growers are not just hard workers but tolerant people and problem solvers.

We understand each other's



hardships and help each other when things get tough.

In gut-wrenching situations, horticulturalists abandon their crop due to personal illness, financial hardship, or sudden industry collapse.

In most cases, communication and collaboration ensure the neighbouring orchard's condition is maintained. However, on occasion, relationship breakdown occurs, or tolerance is exceeded.

In these situations, currently, in South Australia, no single legislation specifically addresses abandoned orchards and vineyards. There are some avenues whereby owners of abandoned orchards or vineyards might be accountable, but these are complex, filled will loopholes, and only sometimes realised.

Unfortunately, the effect of this neglect can manifest as pests or diseases which impact not just neighbouring properties but has the potential to affect an entire region. Furthermore, abandoned orchards and vineyards not only create a biosecurity risk but also create a fire hazard.

As we find ourselves in the heat of summer, these risks are at the forefront of the minds of many living in regional communities.

As the cost of doing business rises, regulatory burdens threaten the profitability of farming, and with China continuing to impose trade restrictions, the problem may worsen.

Let's be clear, this is a complicated topic, and there are often arguments, rightly so, about whose responsibility abandoned or neglected orchards and vineyards should be, and, if the government does step in, who then

picks up the tab?

These are difficult questions with complex answers; however, we must start the conversation.

The timing is right as we look to a new draft of the Biosecurity Act off the back of the 2020 review conducted by the previous SA Liberal government.

This type of reform occurs once in a lifetime. We should consider providing communities with the legislative tools to navigate these difficult situations and enable them to protect their properties and industry from pests, diseases and other risks.

For too long, South Australia has been a toothless tiger when it comes to abandoned and neglected orchards and vinevards.

NICOLA CENTOFANTI MLC SA Liberal Spokesperson for primary industries

Looking back... 10 years ago February 1, 2013 INSIDE: WIN tickets to the Clipsal 500 The Murray Dioneer Locals warned against ramping up prices for majo **Run out of town** No hard feelings over triathlon funding cut AROUND Split Systems

RUN OUT OF TOWN: A local man hoping to organise regular meets for street rod enthusiasts is warning Riverland accommodation providers against charging premiums during major events. Big River Nationals co-ordinator Graham Matthews told The Murray Pioneer he feared the practice could see local events face a similar fate to that of the Bright Rod Run in Victoria.

20 years ago January 31, 2003 The Murray Pioneer





GRAPE PRICES DOWN: The region's top grower group claimed this week that the 2003 red grape prices listed by BRL Hardy and McGuigan Simeon have been based on unrealistic conditions. The Riverland Winegrape Growers Association and the Sunraysia-based Victoria and Murray Valley Winegrape Growers Council said the quality requirements introduced by the wineries would create the "season from hell" for many growers. They believe the expected low red grape yields and prices based on colours that may not be achieveable in the current hot weather would result in growers receiving prices that were "barely in break even territory".

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) 78 Ral Ral Avenue, Renmark 5341, PO 832 Renmark 5341

Phone: 8586 8000 Web: www.murraypioneer.com.au Editor: Paul Mitchell **OFFICE HOURS**

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Great news that the Lyrup Ferry is again operating, pity no forethought went into how the increase in usage would be handled. This could be the norm while Bookpurnong Road remains closed. An eight-car ferry is totally inadequate. How about improving the ferry service and providing a 12-car ferry until Bookpurnong Road and/or Gurra Gurra Road reopens? Also having two operators (one at each end) at peak morning and evening times to speed up the crossing would also help. I hate to say it, but at least by detouring via Paringa and Renmark vou knew how much travel time to allow. I have no idea if I need to allow 15 minutes or an hour and 15 minutes to get across. So frustrating for Lyrup locals. GG

Lyrup

Regarding David Kimber's letter to the editor ('Do I need a nanny?', Murray Pioneer, 25/1/23), apparently nowadays we all need to be told what to do, when to do it, and how to do it. And you are definitely not the only one that's

had an absolute gutful of the crap. ERIC Berri

David Kimber, couldn't agree with you more. JC

Berri

I don't think knocking on people's doors about backyard fruit trees really makes sense if there are fruit trees dropping fruit like we saw in The Pioneer last week ('Renmark block sparks call to community').

DDT Renmark

Maybe the Berri Barmera Council could dump all its wasted levee dirt from the DefenCell and other silly levees at Nappers Bridge and use the dirt to build up Bookpurnong Road, so it actually does something constructive next flood?

BRIAN Glossop

I love traditional owners and everything traditional, hence I toiled away last Thursday on Invasion Day and when the big day of the referendum gets here I will be casting a traditional 'no' vote. JM

I am very disappointed to hear the eyesore known as the Murray River Queen (MRQ) has had its lease extended for a further 12 months, enabling it to continue to block our view once again. I can understand an extension of three months, with a three-monthly review due to the river height. I do not support the decision made by our new council members or staff. I believe many of our local houseboat businesses or visitors to our town could put that

mooring to better use, once they are allowed out on the river. SUE

Renmark

Waikerie

I enjoyed Tony Pasin's little dig at 'Albo', who rocked up here for the cameras, then left again pretty quickly ('Peter praises Tony praises Peter', Murray Pioneer, 25/1/23). Bit like his trip to Alice Springs, apparently.

ROB Berri



Let's hope and pray the carp might catch Murray Valley encephalitis and get wiped out. If nothing else it would prove the humble mosquito is far more useful than bureaucrats.

JOE Waikerie

People complain, because I complain. To me, to get things done in our community to do this. I totalled, on average, 20 SMS and letter entries to The Murray Pioneer in one edition and found there was 17 complaints. Can anybody with reasonable brain feed realistically see this, or are they all 'Nigels'? GARY

Waikerie

Where in Renmark is there a photo lab where people can get their digital photos printed and enlarged? Big W's has closed down and it is an inconvenience to a number of people who used it regularly.

DORIS JOHNSON Renmark



A recent photo of Twentyfirst Street. in Renmark, revealing damage to the road and bridge from flooding. **PHOTO: Grant** Schwartzkopff

'Big issue' on Twentyfirst Street

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

DAMAGE to a Renmark road from recent flooding will be investigated by the local council, with the town's mayor seeking a long-term approach to improve the site.

Recent images taken on Twentyfirst Street, in Renmark, show damage to the road and bridge caused by the Murray River flood event. Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter

Hunter said council would assess the flood's full impact on the road and bridge. "In the short term we hope to

retain as many of the banks as we possibly can," Mr Hunter said.

going to need engineering advice, partly for the road, but the big issue is that bridge.

"It's had enormous amounts of water through it and we need to check out what, if anything, has been undermined."

Mr Hunter expected coun-

"Twentyfirst Street itself is cil would investigate potential improvements for the bridge.

'The bridge is far too low and reflects the flow far too much," he said.

"We've got to do something long term with that bridge. Let's get those assessments done and make sure the road surface looks good, but what's underneath? "We've got to get that dried out,

compacted and spot on. "We need to look at plans. What's the short-term option in terms of use, and what's the best option that we can push through in the sense of improving things in

the long term?"

Lyrup ferry resumption good for business

ELYSE ARMANINI

AFTER more than a month of being closed due to the River Murray flood event, the Lyrup ferry resumed service early last week.

The ferry reopened to light vehicles – with a four-tonne weight restriction, excluding emergency vehicles – on Tuesday after-noon, much to the delight of many across the region.

Lyrup Club manager Neville Tschirpig said December's ferry closure "certainly had an impact" on his business, with many patrons forgoing their trip to the club and several Christmas shows cancelled.

"We were having eightball here – we're the centre for the Riverland Eightball Association – and we were having a summer competition that was run every Wednesday," he said.

'We lost about 60 players every Wednesday... the ladies competition shut down because the majority of teams were from over the river, predominately from Berri, Barmera, Cobby and Renmark.

"We get quite a few of the ex-Berri Club people coming this way who are more cluborientated rather than hotel-orientated. We've got a lot of people coming from Berri and Barmera to support us, but because of the distance it was just too far."

Mr Tschirpig said the ferry resuming service would benefit the club, with the hopes of business slowly returning to normality.

"In saying that... there's a 45 to 50-minute wait at the ferry sometimes, and especially on certain days," he said.



The Lyrup ferry resumed services last Tuesday afternoon, and Lyrup Club manager Neville Tschirpig says it will help business return to a sense of normality. PHOTO: DIT

"We've noticed that it's going to be quite busy on Fridays, and we're hoping that they might put two ferry drivers on to speed up the service across the river. There will be busier times and quieter times, you just have to hope you fluke it and time it right.

"(The service resuming has) definitely helped us. We do our banking with ANZ and the only ANZ in the Riverland now is in Berri, so we had to travel around for that. It's

certainly eased things up for us - there's no doubt about it. "We have a number of people frequenting

the club who work in Berri and live in Lyrup. They were lucky, they said in the mornings it wasn't too bad - they were able to drive on pretty easily - and it saved them the 50-minute drive around.

"To go to Berri from here return is about 28km, to go right around is 105km, so there's certainly a big

difference in just the cost of fuel and things like that. I think people are going to be prepared to do a half-hour wait rather than use the fuel."



Eightball returned to the club with a catch-up game on Sunday afternoon and will resume

 Neville Tschirpig playing Wednesdays, helping the club get

back to normal. "We'll get a few more of our Berri and Barmera patrons, they don't mind coming for a bit of a drive, coming across the ferry and coming in for lunch - especially on Sundays," Mr Tschirpig said.

"We will resume and start being proactive with functions... we're looking forward to it.

"I must say, people have supported us well. The patronage has stayed up - it didn't drop off anywhere near as much as we expected – so it was good that people made the effort to come around, and we certainly appreciated it."



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Government of South Australia Department of Primary Industries and Regions



Bec Shaw

Council says 'no' to cutting back Waikerie meetings **ALEXANDRA BULL**

LOXTON Waikerie council meetings will remain split evenly between the two towns, after a councillor's proposal to hold more meetings in Loxton and less in Waikerie was voted down at last month's meeting.

Cr Altschwager put forward a notice of motion that proposed meetings in Waikerie be reduced from six to three per year.

The council has two offices and alternates meetings between its Loxton and Waikerie, however Cr Altschwager said this arrangement creates irregularities in remuneration.

Councillors who live more than 50km from Loxton - the council's "principal office" - receive an annual travel time allowance, but those who live within 50km of Loxton do not receive an allowance.

The travel remuneration starts at \$454 per annum (30km to 50km from principal office), then increases to \$775 (50km-75km), \$1162 (75km-100km) and \$1649 (100km or more).

Cr Altschwager said her suggested change would create "greater equity" for those living near Loxton.

However, councillors voted down the motion 6-3, leaving meetings to be held on alternate basis between Loxton and Waikerie on the third Wednesday of each month.



Up to 400 vehicles are expected to be involved in next month's rescheduled Riverland Auto Street Party, to be held in Barmera, near Lake Bonney. PHOTOS: supplied

Postponed party to rev up in March

A NEW date has been announced for an award-winning, hugely successful Riverland motoring event, cancelled late last year due to the high river event. The second Riverland Auto Street Party

will be held in Barmera on Saturday, March 11, after organisers were forced to postpone the event originally scheduled for last November.

The inaugural event, held in 2021, was

B

BERRI HOTEL

universally acknowledged as a winner, and up to 400 special interest vehicles from across SA, Victoria and NSW were expected at the follow-up.

"The disappointment of having to postpone the second Riverland Auto Street Party back in November is still fresh in the minds of the organising committee, but the setting of a new date... has reinvigorated them and planning is now full steam ahead," said spokesperson Graham Matthews.

"Furthermore, having received the Berri Barmera Council Community Event of the Year Award on Australia Day has (encouraged) the committee to work harder to make the event even more successful than the inaugural one."

Owners of special interest cars, trucks and motorbikes are invited to enter the event and show off their pride and joy.

"Then, to finish off the day, five people's

choice and seven VIP awards will be presented," Mr Matthews said.

The event is promoted as a family day out, "not only for vehicle enthusiasts", featuring market stalls, catering, a live band and merchandise.

It is also a major fundraiser for the Riverland branch of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Mr Matthew said pre-registration would not be required, however a registration form is required to be completed and presented on the day. The forms are available through the event Facebook page or by contacting the organising clubs.

Set-up starts early in the morning, before the event is opened to the public from 11am to 3pm.

In addition to vehicles driven to the event, trailered exhibition vehicles - such as burnout and drag cars – will also be on display.

New Riverland car club gets a name

THE Riverland's newest car club finally has a name.

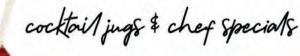
The "all-inclusive" club will be known as Auto Motives, with its inaugural foundation meeting to be held at the Monash Hall next Wednesday, February 8, from 7.30pm.

'No matter whether you

own an older vehicle or the current model Ford Mustang, you are welcome to join and enjoy the company of likeminded people who own special interest vehicles," said spokesperson Graham Matthews.

"Motorbikes will also be eligible for membership.

"An agenda has been drafted for the meeting and will include the aims and objectives of the club, membership requirements and responsibilities, and information regarding acceptance by the government to issue conditional club registration for vehicles 25 years old and older."



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Bert 'reflection of Loxton community'



Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton with the Loxton Citizen of the Year Bert Haslam at the Loxton Australia Day breakfast. PHOTO: Alexandra Bull

THE "vision and leadership" of Loxton's latest citizen of the year was acknowledged at last week's Australia Day breakfast in the town.

In front of 200 people at the Loxton Club, Bert Haslam was presented with his Citizen of the Year award and lauded for his "outstanding impact on the Loxton and Loxton North communities" by Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton.

"Bert has demonstrated vision in a lot of areas and leadership in every room he is in," Mr Norton said.

"Citizen of the Year is not just the one who gets up and does the most, but... one who leads the rest of the community.

"And Bert, being our Citizen of the Year, is a reflection of our community as one.

"He motivates and encourages people and he is still doing that. He works not just with the adults and elderly people, but he is very much engaged with students.

"Bert is a loved member of the community as well, not just an appreciated one."

Mr Haslam, who was the Riverland's Citizen of the Year in 1984 for his services to youth sport, was this year recognised for his contribution in a diverse range of areas including health, sport, education and volunteering in the Loxton community.

The current president of the Loxton Rotary Club, Mr Haslam has been a Justice



of the Peace for 22 years, a volunteer at The Pines Historic House and Garden for over 20 vears and served as a Loxton Waikerie councillor for seven years from 2003 to 2010.

Mr Haslam said he was "thrilled" with the attendance at last week's breakfast at the Loxton Club.

"I think the thing that did stand out was the number of elderly people who came along to the breakfast and said they could all remember working with me during some of the community projects," he said.

"It was also disappointing the ceremony wasn't held down the main street, but I am pleased that next year's ceremony will be held in the main street.

"I would like to thank my mentors in the community, Fred and Ruth Proud, Jarred Uren of Larry Signs and Vic Altman.

"I would also like to thank the council employees, mainly Hayley Hucks, Sue Schultz and Sally Vasey.'

There were no nominations for the 2023 Loxton Young Citizen of the Year, nor the 2023 Loxton Event of the Year. Mr Norton said he hoped to see multiple nominations in both now-vacant categories next year.



Waikerie asked for flood recovery ideas

FLOOD EVENT

LOXTON Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton issued an invitation to the Waikerie community to provide council with suggestions on what needs to be done as part of the flood recovery effort.

Mr Norton put out the request at the Netafim Waikerie Australia Day event on Saturday night.

He reflected on the unpredictable nature of the weather in the region and how the situation had reversed since his previous term on council as deputy mayor.

"Four years ago in 2018, when we came together as a new council, the first task we had was to allocate the Murray Darling Basin Drought Fund into our community," Mr Norton told the crowd of about 1000 people. "Four years on, we have

come together as a new council again and we are only two months old and our task is to cope with a oncein-a-generation flood on behalf of our community."

Mr Norton said it was important everyone came together as a community to help rebuild.

"In terms of the flood we

will be stretched," he said. 'We will need you to tell us what is important to you and what is important to your community."

Mr Norton said it would take a while to return affected areas in the town to "as they were".

He said hopefully some of the rebuilding would ensure that inundated areas would be "made even better and less impacted" in a future flood.

Mr Norton thanked Loxton Waikerie council staff, the contractors and the community for working together to cope with the flood.

- CHRISTINE WEBSTER



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Grassland fire on private property

POLICE say a fire that burnt about a hectare of grassland on private property on Cadell Valley Road at Cadell recently was not suspicious.

Waikerie CFS captain Shaun Arnold said an earth track used by vehicles on the property helped stop the fire from spreading to nearby scrubland.

"If it had burnt another 200 metres it would have reached the scrub and we would have been there all night," he said.

Mr Arnold said the fire was also burning towards Hogwash Bend Conservation Park.

Two Waikerie CFS units and three Cadell CFS units attended the blaze.

Mr Arnold said it was important to send all these CFS appliances as a precaution.

"It sounds like overkill, but it is better to put it out and go home, rather than spending all night there trying to put it out," he said.

"It could have got into a patch of grape vines and citrus as well as thick scrub."

The cause of the fire is unknown.

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Berri's flood relief centre closes

THE State Government yesterday closed the Berri Emergency Relief Centre (ERC), with Riverland flood support services now being run through the Berri Housing SA office.

The ERC had been operating out of the Berri Senior Citizens Club, on Crawford Terrace, since late November.

Minister for Human Services Nat Cook said the new location – at 29 Vaughan Terrace – could provide assistance surrounding financial assistance grants and mental health



first aid.

"The services provided at ERCs are designed to deal with the immediate needs of individuals and families impacted by emergency events," Ms Cook said.

"As we're seeing the water levels recede, that means the immediate emergency is ending and I want to

thank all staff and volunteers who have given their time to help our Riverland and Murraylands communities, who have been so incredibly resilient.

"Now is the time to start turning our attention to the recovery from this significant event."

It is understood \$186,771 in grants had been administered through the Berri ERC for "social and financial support to locals".

SA Housing Authority deputy state manager emergency functional relief, Fiona Curnow, said long-term support for Riverland communities remained a priority.

The Berri ERC.

located at the Berri

Senior

closed

Citizens

Club, was

yesterday,

with flood

support services

to now

be run

town's

PHOTO:

Bull

Alexandra

from the

Housing

SA office.

"People will slowly start being able to access their properties and they will be able to assess their situations," Ms Curnow said.

Recovery services can now be accessed through the Housing SA office, at 29 Vaughan Terrace, in Berri, between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday. Further information is available from the SA Relief Information Line on 1800 302 787.

At the Waikerie

Rotary Club's

Australia Day breakfast, president Andre Skujins

(left) presented

and his wife Lyn

with a painting of

Walk. The couple

Adelaide. PHOTOS:

have moved to

supplied

the Rotary Cliff Top

the longest-serving

member lan Oliver

Bike rider leads police to Cooltong

A RIVERLANDER received multiple fines after fleeing from police while on a

Police attempted to stop a man riding a quad motorbike on Renmark Avenue, in Renmark, just before 3.30am on Saturday, January 28.

The rider, who was failing to wear a helmet, refused to pull over.

Police then located the man, a 23-year-

Cooltong, where he was

arrested and issued an expiation notice for riding an unregistered and uninsured motor bike, and disobeying a direction from police.

Disorderly behaviour arrest in Waikerie

POLICE arrested a 20-year-old local man and charged him with disorderly behaviour and refusing to give his name and address

at Waikerie on Saturday night. The man was charged following an event

on Peake Terrace. He has been granted bail to appear at

court at a later date. - CHRISTINE WEBSTER at the town's roundabout and raising the Australian flag. The commemoration at the flag pole - previously donated by the club - is an annual event and was held instead of the regular dinner meeting.

THE Rotary Club of Waikerie marked

Australia Day on Thursday by gathering

An Australia Day breakfast was cooked by club members and hosted by Mark and Betty Kuchel.

A special presentation was made to the Waikerie Rotary Club's longest-serving member Ian Oliver and his wife Lyn, who have moved to Adelaide.

Mr Oliver was gifted a painting of the Rotary Cliff Top Walk to remember the club. A Waikerie Rotary Club spokesperson said

Mr Oliver would continue to be a member



Waikerie Rotarians gathered at the town's roundabout and raised the Australian Flag to celebrate Australia Day.

and drive back to the town each month for its meetings.

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🖂 admin@holtham.com.au

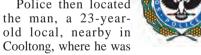
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Extensions | Renovations | Construction

motorbike last weekend.



Classrooms empty at Moorook

ELYSE ARMANINI

MOOROOK Primary School is not officially closed, but the classrooms were empty when school returned this week.

At the end of 2021, a spokesperson for the Department for Education confirmed Moorook Primary was seeking to amalgamate with Kingston-on-Murray Primary School (KOMPS) following a community vote.

While Moorook Primary School technically remains open, it has not taken enrolments for the 2023 school year.

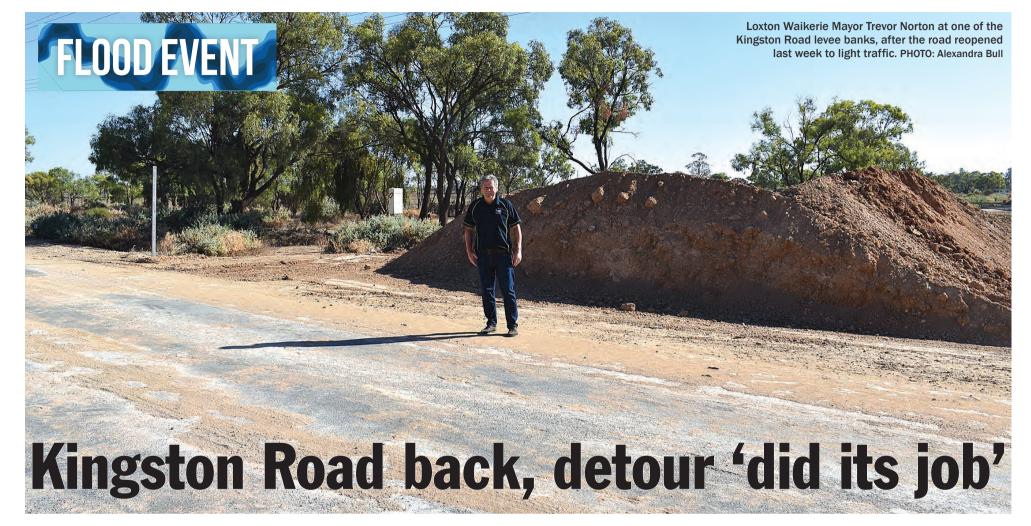
The Murray Pioneer understands

the proposal to amalgamate will be presented to the Minister for Education, Blair Boyer, for consideration in the coming weeks.

"Our students and families are really excited and positive about

the amalgamation with Kingstonon-Murray," Moorook Primary School principal Sonya Warren told ABC Riverland.

"They're really excited to begin the school year."



ALEXANDRA BULL

A LOCAL mayor says the Kingston Road detour "did its job" to keep people connected while the road was closed due to the River Murray flood.

After being closed to traffic from mid-December, Kingston Road reopened to vehicles under four tonnes last week.

Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton said it was "really important" to get Kingston Road open for commuters and other travellers.

"Even though the detour did its job, this is still a lot better; a lot of people don't like driving on unsealed roads," he said. "There is still the heavy vehicle access around the back."

Mr Norton said the main benefits of Kingston Road reopening were savings in travel time and fuel costs.

"This is probably going to be the most high volume access road for people going from Loxton to Berri otherwise you have to go via Renmark, so this will shorten the trip to Berri for a lot of our residents," he said.

"Hopefully we will see the Moorook

General Store get back to normal trading, because this is their peak time."

Mr Norton said Kingston Road appears to be in good shape after the road was inundated in several areas.

"The fact that it has been swept off and it's back in service would say there is no damage evident at the moment, but it's a good reason to keep heavy vehicles off because these roads need time to dry out and set again," he said.

The detour via Drogemuller and Heinrich Roads added approximately 20 minutes to the drive, with both unsealed roads holding up well under the increased use.

"I think they held up well, but in saying that our council and operational staff have put in a mammoth effort to keep them in good condition..." Mr Norton said.

"That will continue while they're being used, particularly for heavy vehicles, and we will continue to keep those roads safe for everyone to use."

Restrictions of 60km/h are in place along Kingston Road, with traffic cones in place to keep vehicles off vulnerable road sections.



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14 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 Patients return to hospital

IT is business as usual again at the Renmark Paringa District Hospital, with acute inpatient care resumed and relocated residents returned to the facility.

With flood waters receding at the levee near the hospital, acute inpatient admissions returned last Wednesday after being suspended on December 5 as part of the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network's (RMCLHN) flood response.

All aged care residents who were relocated either to other facilities or to other areas in the

FLOOD EVENT

hospital complex as part of the flood response have returned to their usual rooms.

SA Health Minister Chris Picton said he was "incredibly pleased" that activities at the hospital had returned to normal. "I'd like to thank our staff for all their efforts, the residents and their families for

their ongoing support and

understanding, and the SA Ambulance Service for the role it has played in supporting local families during this period," he said.

"It's a wonderful outcome that aged care residents can return to their own rooms and most importantly, that they continued to receive high quality care."

RMCLHN CEO Wayne Champion thanked residents and families for their "understanding and co-operation" and hospital staff for going "above and beyond" for residents.

"In particular, I would like to thank the nursing staff who travelled to the other aged care facilities at Loxton, Waikerie and Barmera to provide continuity of care to residents who were temporarily relocated," he said.

"I'd also like to thank the Renmark Paringa Council for its work in upgrading and maintaining the Renmark Hospital levee, which has helped to keep our facility and the Renmark community safe throughout the flood event.'



It's a wonderful outcome that aged care residents can return to their own

rooms...

- Chris Picton, SA Health Minister

Locals support Loxcare

A LOXTON charity has received a \$14,000 donation from two Riverland businesses.

CMV Farms Loxton and Riverland Almonds both donated \$7000 to Loxcare, as part of the CMV Staff Charitable Foundation.

"Both Riverland Almonds and CMV Farms Loxton chose Loxcare due to the great volunteer work they do through the community," CMV Loxton property manager Jeremy Miatke said.

The foundation was

established to provide CMV employees with the opportunity to have an impact on the community by providing assistance to those in need of support.

Last year, the CMV Staff Charitable Foundation celebrated 15 years, with over \$2m in funding channelled into the local communities in which the CMV Group operates.

To celebrate the milestone, each CMV Group business was given the opportunity to give a grant to a local charity.



Jeremy Miatke from CMV Farms Loxton and Colin Watkins (second, from right) presenting Loxcare co-ordinator Bev Scarf and Loxcare chairperson Tania Klix with a donation of \$14,000 recently. PHOTO: Alexandra Bull



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New public housing coming to Renmark

RENMARK is one of 11 suburbs to receive tenders for the construction of 133 new public housing homes across the state.

Of the 133 homes, 103 are part of the State Government's commitment to build 400 additional public housing homes under the \$177.5m Public Housing Improvement Program, part of Labor's first budget.

The tender includes a commitment to use where available – South Australian-manufactured the SA Housing Authority products in the construction. "As in many other parts

of Australia, South Australia has seen significant pressure in the housing sector over the past Nat Cook year. This has

impacted housing affordability and availability," said SA Minister for Human Services, Nat Cook. "It is the aim of the South

Australian Government and

Safe and secure housing supports better lives for both individuals and communities...

- Nat Cook SA Minister for Human Services



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It's good to go to someone you know!

to ensure South Australians have access to safe and quality public housing options. Safe and secure housing supports better lives for both individuals and communities. "I'm proud of the com-

mitment we've made to improving existing homes and building new homes for families, couples and singles. All of these new houses out to tender will be a mix of two, three and four-bedroom properties."



WINNERS ARE GRINNERS: Riverland's Best Mullet winners Archie Kent, 13, of Renmark and Joel Hanlon, of Berri. PHOTOS: Deirdre Graham

The Riverland's best mullets revealed

ELYSE ARMANINI

IT was a tight race to top spot, but the best mullets in the Riverland have been found.

Berri's Joel Hanlon and Renmark's Archie Kent took out first place in The Murray Pioneer's Riverland's Best Mullet competition in the seniors and under 18s categories respectively.

Joel was surprised to find out he had won after being unknowingly nominated by Karen and Paul Frahn.

"I was pumped and I didn't even know. I found out when The Pioneer rang me to tell me," he said.

"I thought (the competition) was cool as. I didn't realise how many mullets were out there. Some of them are absolutely huge mullets. I couldn't believe it."

Joel said people comment on his mullet – which has been growing for two years – "all the time" despite not having a set routine to keep the style.

"I just wash and condition it and brush it – that's all I do," he said. "I've never cut it, and I'll just let it go."

Archie, 13, said his main inspiration for growing his mullet was Bailey Smith from the AFL club Western Bulldogs.

"I'm always getting comments, asking how long I've been growing it for. It's been about three years now," he said.

"I couldn't really believe that I had actually won it out of all the others.

"I want to get it grown down to about the middle of my chest, and I'm keeping the shaved sides."

For taking out first place, Joel received a \$60 voucher to the Renmark Club plus two movie tickets to the Chaffey Theatre, and Archie received a \$50 voucher to use at SportsPower Renmark.

Kane Watts, also of Berri, was runner-up in the seniors and took home a \$50 voucher to use at the Renmark Football Club, while Jedrick Jachman from Cadell was second in the under 18s and will receive two movie tickets.

Just pipped at the post for



Senior runner-up Kane Watts, of Berri, with winners Archie and Joel.

the seniors were Joel Watson and Jesse Morena, while Luke Andriske came close in the under 18s.

Pioneer advertising sales manager Glenda Malinovski said the competition was "hair-raising stuff".

"Congratulations to our winners and runners up," she said. "We were delighted to see such a great response to this fun feature competition. If you feel you could do better we urge you to start growing your mullet.

"We are looking forward to running the competition again next year and hope to see the length and styles continue to amaze us."

Fancy a stay at the Novotel? Get your AFL tips in this year



THE Murray Pioneer Footy Tipping Competition will return in March and details of the great prizes on offer have been released.

A trip to the Barossa is on the line for this year's competitors. First prize is two nights' accommodation in a Superior King Suite and breakfast for two at the Novotel Barossa Valley Resort.

The winner will also be able to nominate a second couple to accompany them, with a second package of two nights' accommodation and breakfast for two included.

A bottle of Barossa wine in each room upon arrival will start the getaway off right, followed by a three-course dinner for four in The Cellar Kitchen regional restaurant on site at Novotel Barossa.

The total prize package is valued at over \$2500.

Second prize is a \$1000 voucher to spend at Berri Betta Electrical, and third prize is a \$500 voucher for Caudo Vineyard.

Keep your eyes peeled for the competition coupons in The Pioneer on March 1 and 8 to get your tips in and enter the competition before the AFL season begins.

The AFL 2023 season is set to start on March 16 when the first game of 2023 kicks off with a Richmond v Carlton Thursday night blockbuster.



Cadell. PHOTO: supplied



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QLD TRIP

Citrus SA

THANKS to those growers who have indicated their interest in a study tour to Queensland. The trip will likely take place mid/late March (exact dates to be confirmed this week – keep an eye on your email).

The itinerary is likely to include a visit to Variety Access to view new varieties being developed, new variety and rootstock breeding at the Bundaberg Research Station, commercial mojo mandarin production, different production practices and a visit to a semi-commercial trial block.

If there are any specific areas of interests or topics you would like to see covered, or you would like to take part in the tour, please email contact@citrussa.com.au ASAP.

GROWERS URGED TO SIGN UP TO FRUIT FLY SELF-BAITING PROGRAM

New fruit fly outbreaks were declared in the region last week at Overland Corner and Murtho. There are now 25 fruit fly outbreaks in the Riverland.

PIRSA general manager of the fruit fly response Nick Secomb said the latest two outbreaks were detected due to a report to the Fruit Fly Hotline and during a routine PIRSA backyard fruit hygiene check.

"While our treatments at identified hotspots are having an effect, we are concerned that we continue to find new outbreak triggers in new areas. This can however be attributed to an increased level of surveillance, including from community members." said Mr Secomb.

Chair of the Riverland Fruit Fly Committee Jason Size urged commercial fruit growers to get involved with the self-baiting program.

"The Riverland community needs you to play your part in fruit fly eradication. If you are a grower in a red outbreak area, please sign up to the grower self-baiting program. It was disappointing to see in an article recently on fruit being left to drop and unmanaged. If we all don't do our part, it will be harder for us to manage this in the long run," said Mr Size.

"For everyone, if fruit trees and unwanted fruit is unmanaged, fruit fly could become uncontrolled. With this, no one will be able to grow fruit or fruiting vegetables in their home garden without using lots of chemicals or expensive netting covers.

"I encourage growers who are feeling overwhelmed and not sure on where to start in dealing with fruit fly to reach out to a local Family

> WAIKERIE LUTHERAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

and Business (FaB) mentor for free, confidential support and advice."

Growers can learn more at Family and business (FaB) mentors or call a Riverland FaB directly: Robyn Cain (0411 633 085); John Chase (0419 848 672); Brent Fletcher (0439 409 430).

For the most up to date outbreak advice and other information go to fruitfly.sa.gov.au or call the Fruit Fly Hotline (1300 666 010).

FLOOD SUPPORT GRANTS

There are several State and Federal Government grants that some citrus growers may be eligible to apply for following the flood. These grants include SA Government Financial Assistance, PIRSA River Murray Flood Support for Primary Producers and Federal Government Assistance.

PIRSA River Murray Flood Support This grant supports South Australian River Murray primary producers accessing River Murray water for primary production to meet costs associated with flood impacts to irrigation infrastructure and electricity supply because of the 2022 River Murray Floods.

The grant will assist with costs for relocating and re-establishing irrigation pumps and purchasing alternative power sources such as generators. Up to \$25,000 in funding is available.

Details: 1800 931 314 or email (PIRSA.GrantsEnquiries@sa.gov.au). <u>SA Government Financial</u>

Assistance Grants, relief packages and support are available to help people and businesses affected by the flooding. You can find out more information by visiting the Relief Centre at the Berri Senior Citizens Club (9/12 Crawford Terrace, Berri) between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday or calling the Information Line (7 days a week, 9am-5pm) on 1800 302 787.

Disaster Recovery Allowance (federal)

The Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA) provides income support payments to employees, primary producers and sole traders who can demonstrate they have experienced a loss of income as a direct result of the floods in South Australia.

DRA provides fortnightly payments for up to 13 weeks up to the applicable rate of JobSeeker Payment or Youth Allowance, depending on the person's circumstances.

You have until May 29, 2023 to lodge a claim for DRA.

For eligibility information, visit

the Services Australia website or contact the Australian Government Information Hotline (180 22 66) for claims assistance.

AGNOVA/CITRUS SA CGW TRAP UPDATE

AgNova reports it had positive feedback about the traps in the 2022 citrus gall wasp season.

The traps and Surround are being used in trials with Andrew Creek (NSW DPI) on the National Citrus Gall Wasp project.

A marketing strategy has been developed to maximise market update this year and production of traps is underway for this season.

Citrus SA and AgNova are about to engage an employee to ensure splat formulations and toxicants are researched so in spring '23 we can finally trial this work in orchards.

FEBRUARY PRODUCTION NOTES

It is important to assess the crop set and fruit size of each orchard, to determine what crop production strategies to apply. Some timely reminders include:

Pruning/hedging/skirting Continue hand pruning and desuckering of re-growth.

□ Hedge where required to control tree height and maximize sunlight penetration but be aware that hedging patches may leave areas susceptible to sunburn and later, frost damage.

Foliar nutrient spray and Fertigation

Potassium sprays to increase fruit size.

Monitor each patch for crop load and size-adapt irrigation/fertigation strategy accordingly.

Pesticide sprays

□ Critical timing for brown citrus rust mite, citrus butterfly, mealy bug, red and cottony cushion scale, FRW, citrus leaf miner and twospotted mite.

Irrigation

Increase irrigation and continue monitoring soil moisture probes.
 Weed Control

□ Knockdown herbicides or residual herbicides as required.

Fruit thinning Hand thinning to help improve

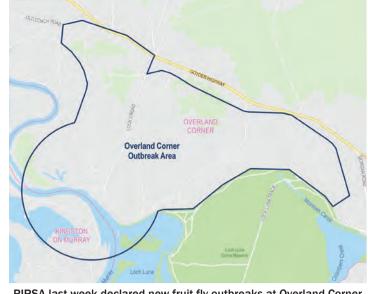
size is recommended. Assess crop load prior to thinning.

Crop estimates

Frame counts and fruit size measurements in conjunction with packer.

Leaf samples

Take leaf samples for nutrient analysis.



PIRSA last week declared new fruit fly outbreaks at Overland Corner and Murtho after maggots were found in backyard fruit. IMAGE: supplied

25th outbreak

RIVERLANDERS have once again been urged to clear properties of fallen backyard fruit after the region's current number of fruit fly outbreaks reached 25 last week.

PIRSA declared a new fruit fly outbreak at Overland Corner, after maggots were detected in a backyard nectarine, and at Murtho, where maggots were found inside a backyard peach.

Riverland Fruit Fly Committee chair Jason Size advised "if fruit trees and unwanted fruit is unmanaged, fruit fly could become uncontrolled".

"With this, no one will be able to grow fruit or fruiting vegetables in their home garden without using lots of chemicals or expensive netting covers," Mr Size said. "It was disappointing to see in an article recently on fruit being left to drop and unmanaged.

"If we all don't do our part, it will be harder for us to manage this in the long run."

PIRSA general manager of the fruit fly response, Nick Secomb, said "while our treatments at identified hotspots are having an effect, we are concerned that we continue to find new outbreak triggers in new areas".

Further information and advice regarding Riverland fruit fly outbreaks can be found by visiting the website (www.fruitfly.sa.gov.au), or by calling the Fruit Fly Hotline on 1300 666 010.

Grape quality assessment tomorrow

NEW measures designed to improve the assessment of Riverland winegrape quality will be discussed at a meeting for local members of the wine industry.

Riverland Wine will tomorrow hold a workshop regarding updates to the Winegrape Assessment at the Vineyard and at the Winery best practice guide.

A Riverland Wine spokesperson said the workshop was aimed at "improving transparency around the assessment of winegrape specifications or assessing damage to grapes as a result of pests or diseases or seasonal events". The spokesperson said the workshop – targeted at vineyard owners, grower liaison officers and winemakers – would also introduce new industry-endorsed standard procedures for a number of winegrape assessment criteria.

The workshop will be held at the Ricca Terra Cherry Shed, at 68 Dunstone Road, in Barmera, tomorrow, from 2pm to 5pm.

Registration for the workshop can be made by visiting the website (www.eventbrite. com.au/e/agw-best-practicewinegrape-assessment-at-thevineyard-and-at-the-winery-tickets-517266868127).

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ALEXANDRA BULL

A LOXTON resident has been recognised for his service to the Loxton Waikerie district in the Australia Day 2023 Honours List.

Dean Kerley was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the community across sport, education, local government and volunteering.

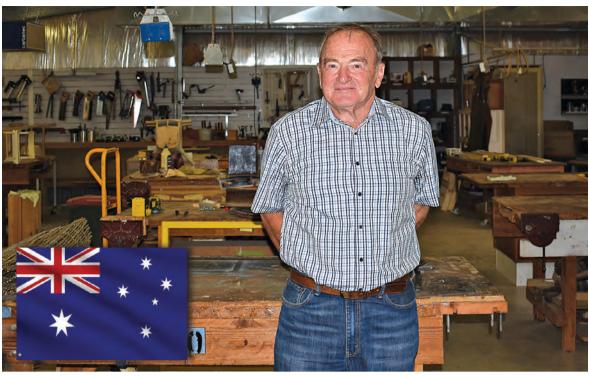
Mr Kerley, who was the Loxton Waikerie council Citizen of the Year in 2016, moved to Loxton 13 years ago from Peebinga, where he was a dryland farmer.

Mr Kerley has been the chairman of the Loxton Community Men's Shed since 2013, the co-zone leader of the Loxton Neighbourhood Watch, a volunteer of the Loxton High School Breakfast Club and has been a Justice of the Peace since the 1990s.

"It's an honour to have been awarded an OAM but I am still the same person, nothing has really changed," Mr Kerley said.

"I have always been involved in the community in different ways; I am just a hands-on working person in the community.

"Wherever I have lived I have always taken an active interest



Loxton man Dean Kerley was awarded an OAM in the 2023 Australia Day Honours List for his work in the Loxton Waikerie District, including the Loxton Men's Shed where he is pictured. PHOTO: Alexandra Bull

in it. Volunteering is one way to meet different people and I have always said the way to meet people when you move around is to get involved in something in that town.'

A committed member of the Brown's Well Football Club, Mr Kerley was awarded two Mail Medals as a player, but also served as a committee member, social club member, treasurer and

bar operator.

"I have always enjoyed sports; football was my biggest love I suppose," he said.

Mr Kerley served as a councillor on the Brown's Well Council between 1990 and 1997, before the formation of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie in 1997. He was a Loxton Waikerie councillor for a further three years.

"When I was involved it was during the amalgamation so it was very interesting," he said.

Mr Kerley was also a member of the Brown's Well Area School governing council from 1979-1990 and was a member of the Open Access Education Committee for four years.

A volunteer of the CFS for over 30 years through the Brown's Well Brigade and the Chaffey Operations Brigade, Mr Kerley received the National Medal from the CFS in 2014, and was awarded his 30-year service medal in 2019, after serving as a volunteer since 1989

"I finally stepped back after 30-odd years but my knowledge of the area as a farmer definitely helped with the CFS," he said.

"I would like to thank people who have sent all their congratulations to me over the past few days.

"I have stepped back from a lot of things now that I am 75 but I enjoy being with the Loxton Men's Shed and I will probably stay there for quite a while.'

Community spirit high at Renmark ceremony

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

CONTINUING contributions to the surrounding community from two wellknown Renmark residents were acknowledged at a Riverland council's Australia Day event last week.

Renmark Paringa Council's annual Australia Day awards ceremony was held last Thursday at the Renmark Club.

Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter Hunter said favourable weather conditions drew a large crowd to the venue.

"It seemed to go well and we received lots of positive feedback," Mr Hunter said.

"When people don't need to give feedback, but choose to, it's always nice.

"It would have been full at the club in the end. We had a few walk-ins which meant it was effectively full."

horticulture expert Ian Tolley was named Renmark Paringa Citizen of the Year, Ryde Clothing operator Nathan Woodrow was named Young Citizen of the Year, and the Renmark Rowing Club's Wharf to Woolshed Long Row received Community

Event of the Year. Mr Hunter said Mr Tolley and Mr Woodrow's work had resulted in ongoing benefits for the local community.

"Ian Tolley is an exceptional gentleman, as is Nathan," he said.

"Governor-General (David Hurley) was able to visit Nathan at his store last week, and came out full of positives."

Mr Hunter said a musical performance from locals Kassie and Luke Heuzenroeder also highlighted the ceremony.

"The support from club Internationally renowned staff was excellent, and to have Kassie and Luke Heuzenroeder there really added to the whole occasion," he said.

"There was such strong support for our (award winners). It all came together exceptionally well."

Four new Australian citizens were welcomed by Mr Hunter during the ceremony

Mr Hunter said the event also provided an opportunity to celebrate the co-operation between council, State and Federal Governments, and the community throughout the recent River Murray flood event.

"We're able to reflect on the last 12 months as well... and the way the community came together," he said.

"Contractors, council staff, State Government and Federal Government came on board and that's what got us to a safe position."



Renmark Paringa's Young Citizen of the Year Nathan Woodrow, Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter Hunter and Citizen of the Year Ian Tolley at the Australia Day celebrations at the Renmark Club last Thursday. **PHOTOS: Eva** Nikou



At the Renmark Club for Australia Day celebrations were (front, left): Renmark Rowing Club's Karen Trenwith, Heather McNaughton, Renmark Paringa Mayor Peter Hunter, Anna Peterson and Lisa Colebeck. Back: Claire Smith, Rod Edmonds, Steph Turnbull, Wayne Coombs and Tony Townsend.



Waikerie community gathers for packed Australia Day event

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

A SPECTACULAR fireworks display captivated an estimated crowd of nearly 1000 people at the Netafim Waikerie Australia Day event on Saturday night.

It was the first time in two years that the community celebration at the Waikerie Football Oval was held without Covid-19 restrictions.

MC for the event was Waikerie High School principal Craig Griffiths and the national anthem was sung by Waikerie High School year 11 student Ellen Kroehn.

Waikerie Australia Day Event Committee chairman Ian Sutton said while tourism numbers in the area were down due to the high river, locals provided "strong support for this year's event".

"It will take probably a couple of years before we get back to pre-Covid numbers," he said.

Prior to the Covid pandemic the event usually attracted a crowd of 2000 people.

Mr Sutton said popular SA band GenX, which performed songs from the '70s, '80s, and '90s, was a hit with the crowd.

Adelaide-based Jump Ride & Slide provided affordable children's entertainment, including a rock climbing wall, mechanical bull and jumping castle.



"The kids' entertainment was well and truly utilised," Mr Sutton said.

"I have never seen kids have so much fun." The evening was fully licensed and featured a variety of food stalls including Indian, a Rollbusch Quality Meats barbecue, yiros, and the Rotary Club of Waikerie's "famous" salt and

pepper squid. Mr Sutton said organisers were grateful to Graeme and Sam Paschke for making their travelling irrigator available to Loxton Waikerie council to water the oval, as the power was disconnected to the existing irrigation system due to the flood.

"The oval was looking sad around Christmas time, but it got some water on it and came back to life nicely," he said.

Mr Sutton said community-donated generators also



display entertained the crowd of Day event on Saturday night. Schwartzkopff

Ballistic Fireworks'



ensured the event could go ahead at the oval.

He said the support from the community and local sponsors and stall holders made the Australia Day celebrations at Waikerie possible.

"We look forward to the event happening again next year," he said.

Sponsors of the event included Netafim, Waikerie Foodland, Stevens Partners, Waikerie Hotel Motel, Viewpoint Café, Tankard Dental, Nippy's, Whitmore Property, Waikerie Club, Favco, Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone, and the District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

District Council of Loxton Waikerie



Guest Speakers On The Night From Murray Pioneer Newspaper **Business SA Bank SA**

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WITH THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS







At Waikerie's Netafim Australia Day event on Saturday were: Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin, Waikerie Hospital Guild president Helen Cook, Waikerie Citizen of the Year for 2022 Carmel Wuttke and Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton. PHOTO: Paul McCormick

Waikerie celebrates its very best

THE Waikerie community recognised its top citizen and event for 2022 at its Netafim Australia Day event at the town's football oval on Saturday night.

Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton presented long-serving volunteer Carmel Wuttke with her Citizen of the Year Award.

Mr Norton said it was a "privilege to present the awards recognising the community's high achievers for the past year".

'Communities revolve around a lot of people that volunteer their effort," he said.

Mr Norton told the crowd he discovered how committed Mrs Wuttke was to her Meals On Wheels role while he was trying to arrange to meet with her to advise her of her award win.

"It was a very interesting scenario for me as the new mayor," he said.

"I came down to see her and let her know she was the recipient of the award and I couldn't find her.

"I managed to ger her on the phone, and she said she really didn't have time for me to call around as she was heading to Meals On Wheels, which pretty much says it all about Carmel, I think.

Mrs Wuttke is Waikerie branch chairperson and co-ordinator of Meals on Wheels, an organisation she has served for 14 years.

She volunteers at the Rain Moth Gallery and at Santa's Cave every season and is involved in the Mainly Music program for pre-school ages.

Mrs Wuttke is also a pastoral assistant to the Waikerie Lutheran Church minister and has made a significant contribution to its parish and the Lutheran school for many years.

Upon receiving her award she said it was "indeed an honour" to be recognised in this way

She thanked Loxton Waikerie council and the person who nominated her for the award. "I was surprised and overwhelmed that I

was chosen for this award," Mrs Wuttke said. "I can recommend volunteering to anyone because you are not only helping others.

'There is always a sense of satisfaction in knowing you may have made a difference."

Mrs Wuttke also thanked her family and her husband for "keeping the fires burning" while she gave her time to the community.



Year 11 Waikerie High School student Ellen Kroehn impressed the crowd with her rendition of the Australian national anthem at Waikerie's Australia Day event on Saturday. **PHOTO: Paul McCormick**

Mr Norton also presented Waikerie Hospital Guild president Helen Cook with the Event of the Year award for the Waikerie Hospital and Guild's centenary celebrations held last year.

For 100 years, guild volunteers have held fundraisers to purchase equipment for the hospital.

Over the year of celebrations, the guild organised a fete at the Waikerie Civic Centre that raised more than \$4000, plus a dinner at the Waikerie Hotel for past and present staff, board members and guests.

It also produced a recipe book and a history book on Waikerie Hospital and the Hospital Ladies Guild to mark the centenary.

An exhibition about the hospital and guild was set up in the foyer of the Waikerie _ibrary.

Mrs Cook told the audience at the Waikerie Australia Day event that when the guild was established its aim was to provide comfort to patients and support staff at the hospital.

"This is what we are still doing today," she said.

"It is with much pleasure that we accept this award for Waikerie's event of the year for 2023."

- CHRISTINE WEBSTER



At the Netafim Waikerie Australia Day event on Saturday were **Barker MP Tony** Pasin. Waikerie Australia **Dav Event** Committee chairman lan Sutton, Loxton Waikerie Mavor **Trevor Norton** and former Loxton Waikerie mayor Leon Stasinowsky. PHOTO: Paul McCormick

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 NEWS 19 Bonney beautiful Australia Day in Barmera

JOSH BRINE

A SUN-soaked Lake Bonney provided the perfect backdrop to honour Berri Barmera's award winners at the council's Australia Day ceremony last Thursday.

A couple of hundred locals, along with Barker MP Tony Pasin, attended the event which was held without the Covid-19 restrictions imposed on the 2022 ceremony.

Glenys Matthews, Kale Karpany, the Riverland Auto Street Party and Berri Community Men's Shed received their respective Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Community Event of the Year and Building a Better Community awards.

Mrs Matthews said it was "a bit overwhelming" to be receive the award in front of the local community.

"I just do the things I've done because they are things I'm happy doing," she said.

"I really appreciate the fact people have acknowledged what I've been doing...

"The lakefront was a great place to hold the ceremony, particularly with the floods and the talk about the lake and what was happening."

Mrs Matthews also congratulated other Australia Day award recipients.

"Î was blown away hearing what

<image>

Barker MP Tony Pasin, Riverland Auto Street Party organiser and Riverland Rodders president Graham Matthews, Glenys Matthews, Kale Karpany, Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall, the Berri Community Men's Shed's Pastor Clinton Wardle and Ian Campbell, and Riverland Auto Street Party organiser and Riverland Customs and Classics president Bill Sweet at the Barmera Australia Day ceremony. PHOTOS: Josh Brine

Kale has done and it was good to see the Auto Street Party get an award as I was part of the organising team for that too, so it was a bit of a double-whammy celebration," she said.

"The Men's Shed is something that's really important to the community. It gives a fellowship to the older group of men in the community and is somewhere they can come together." Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall said it was a "beautiful morning at Lake Bonney" for the ceremony, where five new Australian citizens were also welcomed.

"We had a big crowd and lots of support for our award winners and new citizens," she said.

"Given the unique impacts that Barmera has experienced throughout the flood, to be able to come



together by the lake and celebrate what's great about our community was a special moment."

Ms Winnall also presented former mayor Peter Hunt with a surprise token of appreciation for Mr Hunt's nearly 28-year service to council, which ended last November.

"I felt it was important to take the opportunity while we were all together as a community to properly recognise Peter Hunt's service to council and our community," Ms Winnall said.



Mr Pasin (left) and Ms Winnall (right) with new Australian citizens Soha Mahmoud (second from left), Rajinder Kumar, Krista Schmidt, Gurpinder Kaur and Tony Kempthorne.

Ms Winnall with long-serving former Berri Barmera councillor and mayor Peter Hunt, after Mr Hunt was presented with an award for his service to council.

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Renmark Paringa Citizen of the Year Ian Tolley (front, left) with Mayor Peter Hunter and friends James (back, left) and Lisa McLeod, Rosemary and Andrew Lott, Nataliia Stoeckel, Karina Shponarske, 14, Ruth Tucker, Michelle and Humphery Howie.



Kassie and Luke Heuzenroeder performing *Down Under* at the Australia Day celebrations at the Renmark Club.







Heath Kempthorne (left), Andrew Centofanti, Nigel Battams, Gavin Centofanti and Alex Centofanti at the Barmera Australia Day ceremony.

COMMUNITY DIARY

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

on the fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am at the Loxton RSL hall.

WEEKLY The Barmera Community Men's Shed is

open Monday and Thursday from 8am to 12.30pm at the Bruce Oval. All men are welcome. Not open on public holidays. **WEEKLY**

Barmera Lake Bonney Quilters meet every

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

WEEKLY

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

WEEKLY

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

WEEKLY Meet, Greet & Eat at Loxcare Community Hub, 13 Drabsch Street, Loxton, every Friday at 10am. Come and enjoy morning tea and

a chat. For inquiries phone 8584 6954. **WEEKLY**

The **Berri Community Men's Shed** new open times are 9am to 1pm on Mondays and Thursdays. New members welcome. Inquiries phone 0428 215 114.

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

Tea nights at **Barmera RSL**, Sturt Street, Barmera. Every Friday night, served from 6pm. \$15 for a two-course meal. For bookings contact Peter (0408 813 882). **WEEKLY**

The **Renmark Senior Citizen's Club** meet every Tuesday at their clubroom, 75 Ral Ral Avenue. New members welcome. Please call Marina (8586 3331). **WEEKLY**

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

WEEKLY

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

Berri Seniors meet every Tuesday, 1pm to 4pm at the RSL Room, Cottage Homes while clubrooms are used for emergency flood use. Activities including bridge, cards, games, computer, socialising, afternoon tea/coffee. **WEEKLY**

Loxton Historical Village is closed until further notice. Apologies for any inconvenience. **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

Loxton Mardi Gras committee together with Charity for All Bingo at the Loxton Club. Raising funds for Mardi Gras ambassador Makaede Ireland. Eyes down at 7pm, so don't be late to join in the fun.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 Riverland Justices meeting at Cobdogla Club, 6pm. Guest speaker is Rosemary Gower on floods. RSVP for catering to secretary Jacque (0438 839 691). All welcome.

WEEKLY

Guided tours of **The Pines Historic House** are held every Sunday at 2pm, at 18 Henry Street, Loxton. Gardens open seven days. Extra tour inquiries to Helen (0421 601 903).

WEEKLY

Barmera Theatre Art & Craft Gallery in the Bonney Theatre complex open for sales Tuesday to Friday 10am to 2pm, and Saturday 9:30am to 11:30. Inquiries to Ruth (0428 899 506). **WEEKLY**

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

Line dancing at the **Monash Club** every Thursday, 11am to 2pm. Lunch and drinks available.

WEEKLY

The Loxton Legacy Widow Group meet



Remember these snapshots of everyday Australian life?

TVs miraculously

erooms, and yet Steptoe

and Son seemed an alto-

gether miserable show.

Once programming was

finished around 11pm,

a geometric test pattern

Christian or other-

exclusively in churches.

Captivated and curious

women with disinter-

ested kids gathered on

Saturday afternoons to

watch the bride arrive in

a sparkling wedding car.

wise, couples married

appeared on our TV

screens.

arrived in our loung-

DAD'S driving into town and as a car approaches and, without missing a beat, he raises his right pointer finger from the steering-wheel.

It was an automatic gesture, a simple hello to a fellow local, a practise common to locals.

I like to think that that small deed was one influence among many, helping kids feel secure in a bigger community.

This is an example of everyday life then, intricate things that were so everyday that we paid no notice. So, here is a glance back on those small matters.

With excessive determination after a shower, Johnson's Baby Powder worked its wonders inside our undies, singlets and bras. A letter from yesterday written by Pat Mickan

Popular home décor was a set of three ceramic flying ducks mounted on loungeroom walls.

While we remained in our cars, the service station attendant, usually the owner, filled the tank, checked the oil, radiator and battery, and offered to wash the windscreen.

Houses had more wall space than windows, affording hours of solo hitting a tennis ball against a wall. Roman sandals, with their criss-cross straps across the foot, were cool school footwear. Thanks to Lance Hill.

an Adelaide inventor, kids had the Hills Hoist to swing on.

Tea, not dinner, happened at the kitchen table and was preceded by the family saying grace, beginning with "Come Lord Jesus..."

At school, boys did woodwork and some girls struggled with every aspect of needlework.

We raced each other to the bottom of the Kellogg's Cornflakes packet to retrieve those little plastic toys, the most popular, a small walking horse called Neddy. So we wouldn't forget, on New Year's Eve somebody painted on the road which year it was.

Working bees with shovels and wheelbarrows offered dads, who usually worked solo on their blocks, a chance for teamwork – which helped everyone feel good.

Dessert was called 'sweets', and believe me, our family built the entire Amscol Ice Cream empire.

"Close the back door, the flies are coming in," came the cry of Riverland mothers.

A new school year and books had to be covered. Sticky contact needed more dexterity than I had, and those creases – slashing across my book covers – subtly moaned at me all year.

Flowers had beautiful fragrances. People generally dressed well, men wore suits and women wore dresses and on special occasions, added hats and gloves.

If rising very early, a shrill phone call, booked the previous night with the operator, worked so well it woke the entire household, a free and exacting service.

Dialling 1194 gave you the precise time – but doesn't anymore. Wristwatches needed

daily winding. At Eudunda Farmers,

most everyone bookedmonup their weekly grocer-monies - including after-we detect

Voice strategy, but no position...yet

PETER Dutton was happy to share his political strategy, but not necessarily his opinion, on the Voice to Parliament during his recent trip to the region.

The Coalition Leader spent two days touring the flood-hit Riverland and Murraylands, a week before Australia Day thrust extra focus on the controversial proposal.

When talking to The Murray Pioneer, Mr Dutton refused to be drawn on whether the Liberal Party should oppose the Voice on principle, twice deflecting the question by shifting the spotlight to the idea's main proponent, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese.

Mr Dutton outlined a strategy of forcing Mr Albanese to explain why the Voice was a good idea, rather than giving the Prime Minister a chance to politically weaponise a hard and early 'no' from the Liberals.

"I don't see one group of Australians above the others at all," Mr Dutton said.

"But the Prime Minister has proposed the Voice."

With the latest polls suggesting support for the Voice has slipped in recent weeks, Mr Dutton continued his push to ask Mr Albanese for more detail.

"All of us want to see a better outcome for indigenous Australians, but the



Prime Minister has now refused on many occasions... to answer the questions about the most basic details," Mr Dutton said.

"I think it's now becoming a question about his integrity and his sincerity, when he's put out a very significant proposal to change the constitution, which we should never take lightly.

"We have one of the most strongest and stable democracies in the world... and he's refusing to provide the detail.

"And now it turns out that he's not even got advice from the Solicitor General, or if he has, he's made a mistake in relation to saying that he hasn't.

"It's a very strange and convoluted web that he's weaving at the moment and it's confusing Australians."

On Australia Day, Mr Albanese told media there was "something missing from our nation's birth certificate".

"It's missing from our constitution," he said.

"And I say this – if not now, when? If not now, when will this change occur? And if not the people of Australia this year, who



Opposition Leader Peter Dutton, pictured talking to locals at Banrock Station last month, says Anthony Albanese's attitude towards questions about the Voice to Parliament casts doubt over the Prime Minister's "integrity and sincerity".

will make this change?"

However, Mr Dutton said too many crucial details were missing from the Voice proposal.

"Part of my job is to hold the government to account and to ask for that detail on behalf of millions of Australians, so that they can make an informed decision," he said.

"There are fundamental questions that the Prime Minister needs to answer in relation to enshrining the Voice in the constitution.

"What that means for the High Court's interpretation of it, whether it can spread beyond health and education into defence and foreign affairs, and border protection, and indeed other matters in the budget more generally.

"If the Voice says that we believe money should be spent in this region or in this area of service delivery, and not here in this electorate or in this region, how will the High Court interpret that.

"And these are fundamental questions that the PM needs to answer."

The Oppositio Leader also took aim at Mr Albanese's attitude towards questioning about the Voice.

"He refers to the Langton/ Calma Report," Mr Dutton said.

"It's 272 pages and (Mr Albanese) basically says to school Polly Waffles – on their accounts.

To access our underground rainwater tank, we'd move the brick, peel back the corrugated iron, then bucket the water out. An occasional bird drowned in the drinking water left Dad the pleasant task of fishing it out before it disintegrated.

Jimmy Little sang Royal Telephone, Nana Mouskouri had her own TV show, and Kamahl sang No Charge – a song that made mothers weep and we kids feel guilty.

So, there we have it. There are thousands more of those small moments, forgettable moments, but somehow, we don't forget.

Australians if you haven't read the 272 pages you're an idiot."

Mr Dutton promised the Liberal Party would announce its official stance on the Voice "in the not-toodistant future".



Meanwhile while several ABC public figures have been enthusiastic supporters of the Voice, Mr Dutton foreshadowed a stronger emphasis on ensuring the national broadcaster stuck to its charter – which includes an impartiality clause – should he be elected.

"I think the bias is evident in the ABC on a daily basis in their reporting and I think the management has a lot of work to do to regain the confidence of many Australians," he said.

"They are run on taxpayer funds and they should be accountable for money that they spend.

"There are a lot of political causes that many ABC reporters pick up that aren't within the remit of the ABC and that shouldn't be the case."

Johnsoni baby powdel

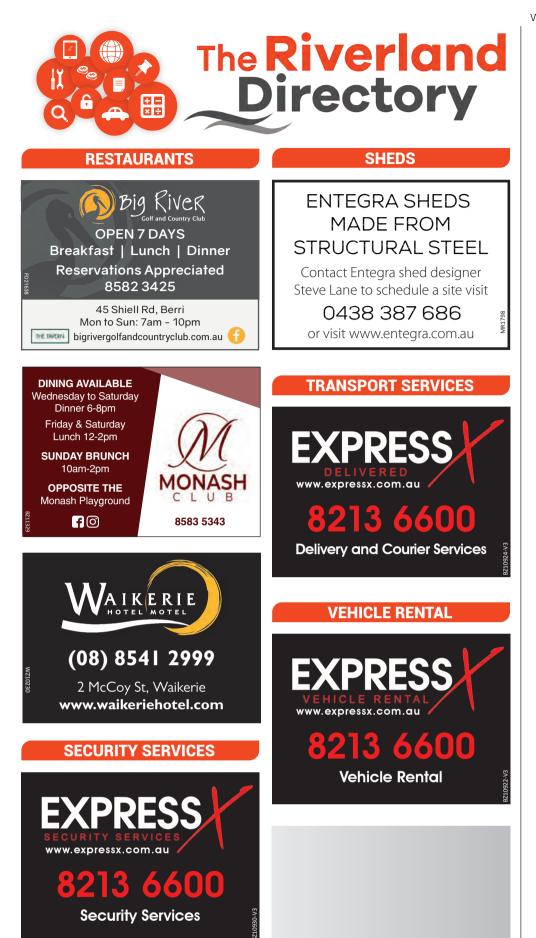


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Riverland schools aboard ban on student phones

THREE Riverland high schools are among a number of schools across South Australia that have already implemented the State Government's mobile phone ban policy.

The ban policy was recently updated with new conditions to start this year, however Renmark High School, Berri Regional Secondary College and Loxton High School are already on board with the policy.

The banning of mobile phone use in classrooms was a key SA Labor election promise, focusing on reducing inappropriate use of phones including instances of bullying and violence.

Individual schools will be required to transition to the new policy by the end of term 2. From the start of term 3, all secondary students will be required to keep devices off or in flight mode and away in bags or locked cupboards while at school or on excursions.

"Nothing is more important to our state's future than quality education for our children and young people," said Premier Peter Malinauskas.

"While respectful use of technology will be part of that education, at best phones in the classroom are a distraction.

"At worst, they can become a tool that facilitates bullying, harassment and antisocial behaviour.

"We know not everyone will like this phone ban, but it's backed up by strong research, and is the right thing to do."

The revised policy includes exemp-

tions to cater for individual circumstances, including for students who require their device for medical reasons, students with disabilities or learning difficulties who use the device for learning support, or students who use their phones for the translation of English if it isn't their first language.

Minster for Education, Blair Boyer, said he believed the policy "will be a turning point for schools and their students to embrace learning, encourage personal engagement and refocus on physical activity during breaks in the school day".

"Research shows that excessive use of technology and social media can have detrimental impacts on developing minds and identifying strong correlations with increased depression and anxiety," he said.

"The trials undertaken in this policy, and through extensive consultation, show considerable improvements to schools' overall culture, a focus on learning and improved relationships among students."

The policy was recently criticised by State Opposition spokesperson for education, John Gardner, who said it was a "sloppy delivery", and includes "extremely broad exemptions and strangely seems to avoid using the word 'ban' at all".

"This policy exists because Peter Malinauskas wanted to talk tough before the election about banning phones," he said.

"This policy fails to deliver a real ban, but instead raises expectations and creates new complexity for schools, principals and teachers."



Glen Orr from the Department for Energy and Mining, Woolworths Berri manager Tyler Reichert and Minister for Human Services Nat Cook at the Berri Flood Relief Centre last month. PHOTO: supplied

\$14,000 for relief centre on the cards

ALEXANDRA BULL

THREE Riverland supermarkets have donated 280 gift cards to the Berri Flood Relief Centre, with the initiative coming from one of the Riverland's own.

Woolworths Berri donated \$10,000 in \$50 gift cards, with Foodland Renmark and Foodland Barmera each donating \$2050 worth of \$50 gift cards.

Woolworths Berri manager Tyler Reichert initially put forward the idea to donate to the relief centre. "I think it's the right thing to do that we get involved and do what we can to support the community," Mr Reichert said.

"People that work for us are affected and we want to show our support for them as well, and just show that we care."

SA Minister for Human Services Nat Cook visited the centre recently to congratulate Mr Reichert on the initiative.

"Being able to provide some of these additional vouchers and food supplies on top of the grants that are already being provided, they're like the icing on the cake," Ms Cook said. "I think in regional com-

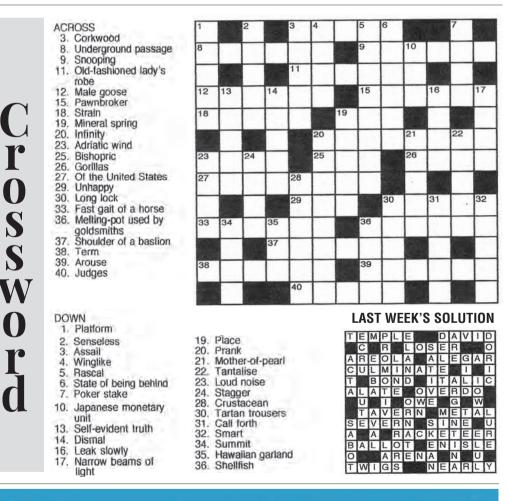
munities, supermarkets become this kind of meeting place; people know each other intrinsically, the staff know the people that shop there and they are all part of each other's lives.

"To be able to watch that relationship turn into something really beneficial in a crisis like this is a joy to watch, and I am really grateful to see that human spirit reaching out and providing something extra."

Τ	V GUIDE	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY	1 to Tuesday, February	7		
	ABC	ABC2	7		WIN	SBS
WEDNESDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Four Corners; 10:45 Q+A; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 12:30 National Press Club Address; 1:45 Call The Midwife; 2:45 Back Roads; 3:15 Gardening Australia; 4:15 Long Lost Family; 5:00 Australian Story; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7.30 8:00 Hard Quiz 8:30 Spicks And Specks 9:15 Utopia 9:45 Ol 10:15 ABC Late News 10:35 Midsomer Murders 12:05 No Time For Quiet 1:05 rage 4:00 One Plus One	Kangaroo Beach 6:10 The Adventures Of Paddington 6:20 Bluey 6:30 Spicks And Specks	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 TBA; 1:40 Surveillance Oz; 2:00 Dog Patrol; 2:30 Border Security; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 TBA 11:15 Inside Belmarsh Prison 12:15 The Good Doctor 11:15 Travel Oz 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Married At First Sight; 1:30 My Way; 2:00 Point- less; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Million-	6:00 The Talk; 7:00 Farm To Fork; 7:30 Good Chef Bad Chef; 8:00 Everyday Gourmet With JustineSchofield; 8:30 Entertainment Tonight; 9:30 The Bold & The Beautiful Encore; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil; 2:00 Australian Survivor Encore; 3:45 Enter- tainment Tonight; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 Australian Survivor 9:15 Fire Country 10:15 Bull 12:00 The Project Encore 1:00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 2:00 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings	Photography Challenge; 10:10 Beyond The Beaten Path; 11:05 Great Canal Journeys; 12:30 ABC World News To-
THURSDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Back Roads; 10:30 That Pacific Sports Show; 11:05 Car- bon; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Hard Quiz; 1:30 Ql; 2:00 Movin' To The Country; 2:45 Back Roads; 3:15 Gardening Australia; 4:15 Long Lost Family; 5:00 Australian Story; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7.30 8:00 You Can't Ask That 8:35 TBA 9:20 Joanna Lumley's Hidden Caribbean 10:10 Movin' To The Country 10:40 ABC Late News 10:55 Australia's Wild Odyssey 11:55 Q+A	Buddi; 5:25 Children's Programs; 5:55 Kangaroo Beach 6:10 The Adventures Of Paddington 6:20 Bluey 6:30 Spicks And Specks 7:30 QI	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 TBA; 1:40 Motorbike Cops; 2:00 Dog Patrol; 2:30 Border Security; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 TBA 10:05 Kitchen Nightmares Australia 11:15 Police Code Zero 12:15 Pimped 2:30 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	First Sight; 1:30 It's All Greek To Me; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00	6:00 The Talk; 7:00 Farm To Fork; 7:30 Good Chef Bad Chef; 8:00 Everyday Gourmet With JustineSchofield; 8:30 Entertainment Tonight; 9:00 Judge Judy; 9:30 The Bold & The Beauti- ful Encore; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil; 2:00 Australi- an Survivor Encore; 3:45 Entertainment Tonight; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 Taskmaster Australia 8:30 Law & Order 10:30 NCIS 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 1:30 Home Shopping	David Muir; 1:00 PBS NewsHour; 2:00 Destination Flavour China Bitesize; 2:10 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bite- size; 2:15 Secrets Of The Royal Gar-
FRIDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Searching For Super- human; 11:00 Australia Remastered; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Les Miserables; 2:00 Joanna Lumley's Hidden Caribbean; 2:45 Back Roads; 3:15 Gardening Australia; 4:10 Long Lost Family; 5:00 Australian Story; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 Monty Don's Adriatic Gardens 8:30 Endeavour 10:00 Van der Valk 11:35 ABC Late News 11:50 Parkinson In Australia 1:10 Unforgotten 1:55 rage	Buddi; 5:25 Children's Programs; 5:55 Kangaroo Beach 6:10 The Adventures Of Paddington 6:20 Bluey	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 TBA; 1:40 Motorbike Cops; 2:00 Kochie's Business Builders; 2:30 Bor- der Security; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 TBA 12:15 The Good Doctor 1:15 RSPCA Animal Rescue 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	First Sight; 1:30 Destination Wa; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Mil- lionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon	Gourmet With JustineSchofield; 8:30 Entertainment Tonight; 9:00 Judge Judy; 9:30 The Bold & The Beauti- ful Encore; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil; 2:00 Jamie's Ultimate Vea: 3:00 Entertainment To-	Photography Challenge; 10:10 Boswell And Johnson's Scottish Road Trip;
SATURDAY	6:00 rage; 7:00 Weekend Breakfast; 9:00 rage; 10:30 rage Guest Program- mer; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 12:30 Endeavour; 2:00 Midsomer Murders; 3:30 Joanna Lumley's Unseen Adven- tures; 4:30 Silver Spitfire; 5:30 Further Back In Time For Dinner 6:30 Better Date Than Never 7:00 ABC News 7:30 Call The Midwife 8:35 Midsomer Murders 10:50 Come Home 11:50 rage Guest Programmer 5:00 rage	5:05 Tik Tak; 5:10 Clangers; 5:20 Buddi; 5:25 Children's Programs; 5:55 Kangaroo Beach 6:10 The Adventures Of Paddington 6:20 Bluey 6:30 Spicks And Specks 7:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 8:15 Live At The Apollo 9:00 Russell Howard Stands Up To The World 9:45 The Set 10:20 Dcctor Who 11:05 Would I Lie To You? 11:40 Bliss 12:05 Wreck 12:55 Fleabag 1:20 QI 1:50 Louis Theroux's Altered States 2:55 ABC News Update	6:00 NBC Today; 7:00 Weekend Sun- rise; 10:00 The Morning Show; 12:00 Seven's Horse Racing; 5:00 Seven News Adelaide; 5:30 Border Security - Australia's Front Line 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Big Bash League Cricket 11:00 Grown Ups 2 1:10 Australia's Amazing Homes 2:00 TBA 4:00 Get Arty 5:00 My Greek Odyssey	7:00 Weekend Today: 10:00 Today	ploring Off The Grid; 8:30 am What's Up Down Under; 9:00 Everyday Gour- met With JustineSchofield; 9:30 Good Chef Bad Chef; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures; 1:00 The Offroad Adventure Show; 2:00 All 4 Adventure: 3:00 What's Lip Down Un-	News; 9:00 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 9:05 Blue Water Safari; 10:00 Love Your Garden; 11:00 Going Places With Ernie Dingo; 12:00 BBC News at Ten; 12:30 Surf Life Saving Iron Series
SUNDAY	6:00 rage; 7:00 Weekend Breakfast; 9:00 Insiders; 10:00 Offsiders; 10:30 The World This Week; 11:00 Compass; 11:30 Songs of Praise; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 12:30 Landline; 12:55 Movin' To The Country; 1:25 Monty Don's Adriatic Gardens; 2:25 Call The Midwife; 3:25 Victoria; 4:15 Grand De- signs; 5:00 Australia's Wild Odyssey 6:00 Antiques Roadshow 7:00 ABC News 7:30 Joanna Lumley's Unseen Adventures 8:20 Vera 9:50 Wreck 10:40 Operation Buffalo 11:35 Making Child Prodigies 1:05 Les Miserables 2:05 Victoria 2:55 rage	6:05 The Adventures Of Paddington 6:20 Bluev	6:00 NBC Today; 7:00 Weekend Sun- rise; 10:00 The Morning Show Week- end; 12:00 Bathurst 12hr - Race; 4:30 Border Security - Australia's Front Line; 5:00 Seven News Adelaide; 5:30 South Aussie With Cosi 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Australian Idol 8:45 TBA 9:45 What The Killer Did Next 10:45 Born To Kill? 11:45 Autopsy USA 12:45 Dr Harry's Animal Encounters 2:00 TBA 3:30 Million Dollar Minute 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	fair; 7:00 Weekend Today; 10:00 The Coolangatta Gold 2022; 11:00 For The Love Of Pets; 12:00 Arctic Vets;	6:00 Mass For You At Home; 6:30 Turn- ing Point With David Jeremiah; 7:00 Joseph Prince; 7:30 Joel Osteen; 8:00 Luca's Key Ingredient; 8:30 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohey; 9:00 Good Chef Bad Chef; 9:30 Destination Des- sert; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 Australian Survivor Encore; 1:45 My Market Kitch- en; 2:00 Waltzing Jimeoin; 2:30 Explor- ing Off The Grid; 3:00 Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures; 4:00 All 4 Adventure; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Sunday Project 7:30 Australian Survivor 10:00 FBI 11:00 The Sunday Project Encore 12:00 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings	5:00 World News; 9:00 Destination Fla- vour China Bitesize; 9:10 Blue Water Safari; 10:05 Love Your Garden; 11:00 Going Places With Ernie Dingo; 12:00 APAC Weekly; 12:30 Surf Life Saving Iron Series Kurrawa; 2:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 3:00 ISU Figure Skating Highlights; 4:30 Des- tination Flavour China Bitesize; 4:40 Secrets of The Tower Of London; 5:30 WWII 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 Egypt - The Treasure Of The Sacred Bulls 9:00 Mysteries From The Grave - Titanic 10:30 Scotland In Search Of Sir Walter Scott 11:35 24 Hours In Emergency 1:30 Murder Case
MONDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Muster Dogs; 11:00 Antiques Roadshow; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Silver Spitfire; 2:00 Par- liament Question Time; 3:00 Vera; 4:40 Long Lost Family; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7:30 8:00 Back Roads 8:30 Four Corners 9:15 Media Watch 9:35 Q+A 10:35 ABC Late News 10:50 The Business 11:05 Midsomer Murders 12:40 Parliament Question Time 1:40 Father Brown 2:25 The Trouble With Maggie Cole 3:10 rage	6.20 Bluev	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 TBA; 1:30 Motorbike Cops; 2:00 Bor- der Security - International; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 Australia Idol 9:15 TBA 10:30 Australia 11:30 Busted In Bangkok 12:30 Australia's Amazing Homes 1:30 Emergency Call 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra; 11:30 The 65th Annual Grammy Awards; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Millionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News 6:00 Nine's Afternoon News 7:00 A Current Affair 7:30 Married At First Sight 9:00 Big Miracles 10:30 Nie News Late 10:30 New Amsterdam 11:20 The Equalizer 12:10 Almost Family 1:00 Helio Sa 1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping 4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory 4:30 A Current Affair 5:00 Nine News Early Edition 5:30 Today	Entertainment Tonight: 9:00 Judge	And Johnson's Scottish Road Trip:
TUESDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Kurt Fearnley's One Plus One; 11:10 Aussie Inventions That Changed the World; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Father Brown; 2:00 Par- liament Question Time; 3:00 Gardening Australia; 4:10 Long Lost Family; 5:00 Australian Story; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7.30 8:00 Better Date Than Never 8:30 Australia's Wild Odyssey 9:30 TBA 10:20 Shaun Micallef's On The Sauce 11:20 ABC Late News 11:35 The Business 11:50 The Business 11:35 Media Watch	6:05 The Adventures Of Paddington	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 TBA; 1:30 Motorbike Cops; 2:00 Border Security; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 Australian Idol 9:15 Quantum Leap 11:15 Inside Belmarsh Prison 12:15 The Flip Side 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Married At First Sight; 1:30 Country House Hunt-	Good Chef Bad Chef; 8:00 Everyday Gournet With JustineSchofield; 8:30 Entertainment Tonight; 9:00 Judge Judy: 9:30 The Bold & The Beauti-	5:00 World News; 9:00 Destination Flavour China Bitesize; 9:15 World's Most Secret Homes; 10:10 Boswell And Johnson's Scottish Road Trip; 11:05 Great Canal Journeys; 12:00 BBC News at Ten; 12:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 1:00 PBS NewsHour; 2:00 Destination Fla- vour China Bitesize; 2:10 The Queen's Jewels Heirlooms And Legacy; 3:05 Portillo's Greatest Railway Journeys; 4:00 Who Do You Think You Are?; 5:05 Jeopardy; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:35 Who Do You Think You Are? M Broderick 8:30 U S And The Holocaust 10:50 SBS World News Late 11:20 Antidisturbios

Word search How many words can you find?

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www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 NEWS 25 February 2022 Horoscopes: week 1

ARIES (March 21st - April 20th) Negotiations could be hampered by the fact that the other person is in a much stronger position than you are. Don't push your luck too far! Romance. A comment about your appearance will cheer you up. The person concerned will mean what they say! Find out what they really think about you.

TAURUS (April 21st - May 21st)

An acquaintance who appears from out of the blue may have a message for you. Listen to this new friend's advice, even if it isn't something which you want to hear at the moment. Romance. Taking a firm stance may be more effective than just giving in. You need to find a better balance between your own needs and those of your partner.

GEMINI (May 22nd - June 21st)

You might be putting too much energy into the wrong areas. Make sure that you're using your time effectively over the coming days. Romance. This will be a fairly quiet period for romance. A meeting with a close friend later in the week will help you to think through your long-term options.

CANCER (June 22nd - July 23rd)

Don't be shy about expressing your feelings to the people who matter to you. If your friends don't know what is important to you they won't be able to help you. Romance. A chance remark may have more significance than it seems at the time. Remember what this person says - you will see the full meaning of it later in the week.

LEO (July 24th - August 23rd)

You have had a string of achievements recently and may be feeling a little over-confident. A difficult aspect to Jupiter later in the week may bring you down to earth. Romance. A meeting with a close friend will give you a chance to talk about your relationship with your partner in much more depth than usual. There are some issues which you need to address quite urgently.

VIRGO (August 24th - September 23rd)

A remark which you feel is harmless may nevertheless upset the person concerned. They may feel that you are taking advantage of their weakness. Romance. Your emotions will be especially strong at the moment. You will respond well, so long as your partner treats you gently and with respect.

LIBRA (September 24th - October 23rd)

There won't be much that you can count on to stay the same: do your best to move with the tide and take advantage of any opportunities which open up for you. Romance. Your relationship with your partner will soon be in better shape than it has been for some time. You have plenty to celebrate!

SCORPIO (October 24th - November 22nd)

A meeting with co-workers later in the week will help you to relax. You have been under a lot of stress recently, particularly at work, and need to take it easy for a while. Romance. You owe your partner a few favours at the moment. Don't be too slow to give them a hand.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23rd - December 21st)

A positive aspect to Neptune later in the week will make this an excellent time for original thought. Your creative juices will be flowing and you will be full of bright ideas! Romance. Your ability to read between the lines will help you to see through a recent admirer. This person is not as straightforward as you may want to believe.

CAPRICORN (December 22nd - January 20th)

React as soon as possible to a change in your working environment. You will need to adapt to a situation which may not have been of your making. Romance. Your partner has much more insight into your needs than you probably realise.

AQUARIUS (January 21st - February 19th)

Don't forget an offer to get together with friends. You have had a number of things on your plate recently, and need to give yourself the chance to relax. Romance. A chance meeting in a very unromantic place may surprise you. You will need to be patient in order to build up a serious relationship with this person, however.

PISCES (February 20th - March 20th)

Look beneath the surface to work out what has really been going on recently. Recent events may not have happened in quite the way you think. Romance. This will be an excellent week for romance. A favourable aspect to Venus will bring out the best in both you and your partner.

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Don't forget that if your name appears on the birthday list then you can pick up a voucher from the Murray Pioneer, for a FREE Wholemeal Crispy Chicken Snack Wrap, Apple Slices and 250mL Pop Tops[™] Water Happy Meal®

> A full range of crossword and sudoko magazines are available from the Loxton Newsagency East Terrace, Loxton - Phone 8584 7750

26 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 New deals for Riverland seniors

SENIOR locals seeking new experiences have been encouraged to take advantage of annual discount offers.

The 2023 discount directory Your Lifestyle Guide was last week released for South Australian Seniors Card members.

Office for Ageing Well executive director Cassie Mason said the guide would help elderly locals "connect with their community and take part in

WELCOME to February, which has 28 days this year. Friends are asking 'where did January go?'. During the past months local residents and families have experienced and endured the mighty River Murray in flood. It was a first for many and a once-ina-lifetime experience. As the river levels begin to drop each day, work to repair the damage is beginning. Although it will be a long and difficult project, this work will eventually bring our beautiful Riverland back again. To see the wetlands and the creeks enjoying what nature brings has been amazing and the brilliant photography shared will enable a history collection like never before. We are grateful for the support our region has received and the care and concerns from former residents, friends and government departments. This historic flood has brought our communities closer together and we think of those towns and regions in other states that endure floods year after year. How difficult that would be.

With school reopening this week our thoughts are with those little ones attending for the very first time. It is so much easier for children when they have had preschool connections as in childcare, and we give thanks to those who provide that care. We also think of the senior students entering high schools and the career choices they may be leading to. Whatever they choose we wish them well.

The Netafim Waikerie Australia Day Event was, as always, a great success, held in perfect weather and an opportunity to catch up with friends. Thanks to the organising committee and its support volunteers for helping to set up for the event. The fireworks display was brilliant, as always, and the play equipment area for the children was also kept busy. This event is when we congratulate and thank our Citizen of the Year winners. This year the Citizen of the Year award was presented to Carmel Wuttke, with gratitude and thanks for her dedication to others in our community. The Event of the Year was awarded to the Waikerie Ladies Hospital Guild's 100year celebrations, with Helen Cook

new activities".

"The guide can inspire members to explore a new hobby, try a new restaurant or learn a new skill.

"Members can browse discounts or search for deals based on category or location. The online discount directory is user-friendly and accessible on any device including smartphones."

Further information is available by visiting the website (www.seniorscard. sa.gov.au).



accepting the award on behalf of the Guild. Thanks to Loxton Waikerie Mayor Trevor Norton, who presented the Australia Day Awards.

Diary date: Waikerie Santa's Cave committee advise that its annual general meeting will be held at the Community Meeting Room on Penaluna Drive on Monday, February 27, at 7pm. This community event always welcomes new volunteers to maintain and continue what has been so successful for almost 30 years.

You are welcome this Friday from 7pm at Waikerie's Rain Moth Gallery for the opening of Renee Bell's exhibition, titled Seen. Remembered. Imagined. This is Renee's debut solo exhibition of landscape paintings commencing. The local launch of former resident Rick Darling's recently released book, Bush to Buckingham Palace, will also occur. Why not enjoy a pleasant evening at the Rain Moth Gallery.

The dinner at the Waikerie Community Club with members of the Adelaide Football Club including chairman John Olsen, CEO Tim Silvers, executive engagement office Sam Jacobs together with AFC staff, including 12 current AFL players and three AFLW players is next Monday, February 6 from 6pm. We still have a few seats available, so give me a call (0408 609 304) or Jenny (0407 641 932) ASAP if you want to be there. Dinner tickets are \$28 per person.

Thought for the week: "The generosity of your time is the most valuable gift you can give." - Sara Henderson

Loxton Waikerie Library Service January news:

THE Loxton Waikerie libraries both offered great craft activities during the holidays.

Thank you to all the children who attended, and the adults for bringing them along.

Regular programs are back up and running during the term. The Loxton Library has Storytime commencing Wednesdays at 10.30am, while Wriggle & Rhyme will be held at the Waikerie Library on Mondays at 11am.

Both libraries will be running the Little Creators STEM workshop series, commencing Friday, February 10.

This four-week interactive program is designed for children, aged two to five, to learn basic STEM concepts and increase cognitive development. Loxton Library still has a few places left, but bookings are essential.

The Waikerie Library is holding a free legal information session for those affected by the flooding River Murray.

Come along and listen to a solicitor from the Riverland Community Justice Centre provide tips on how to read and understand your insurance policy, lodge and negotiate insurance claims, collect evidence to assist with claims, and answer general questions that you may have. This will be presented today at 4pm.

The Waikerie Library has its regular Coffee & Catch Up morning tea on the first Friday of the month from 10.30am to 12 noon. Come along and meet new people and have a few laughs over a cuppa and cake. Bookings appreciated.

Library Lovers' Day has been celebrated in libraries for many years.

Visit either the Loxton or Waikerie Libraries on Tuesday, February 14, and feel the love.

Library staff are giving back to customers by offering all who visit a sweet treat as a 'thank you' for loving your local library. But get in quick – it's only while stock lasts.

For further information on programs held at the libraries phone the Loxton Library (8584 8051) or the Waikerie Library (8541 0720).

JANUARY **O** K 0

TITLE: WAIKERIE No Plan B LIBRARIES AUTHOR: Lee Child

Still Standing by Stephen Leather The Artist's Secret by Alexandra Joel

Headland by John Byrnes

Seven Sisters by Katherine Kovacic **Uncharted Waters** by Peter Cruskall **Sleep No More**

by Jayne Ann Krentz **Red Winter** by Marc Cameron

Desert Star by Michael Connelly

Red Mist



LOXTON WAIKERIE TOP 10 NOVELS **BOOK REVIEW BY:** Katrina Webber

I've always enjoyed Lee Child's Jack Reacher series but since his brother, Andrew, has co-authored, I've found them less appealing.

Not to be deterred, I had to give No Plan B a go - and I was surprisingly impressed.

The style, pace and plot of the Jack Reacher series is back.

For those new to the Reacher novels, he was a major in the US army's military police, turned drifter. His only possessions are the clothes on his back and his toothbrush. He travels by bus or hitchhikes to places he's never had time to visit before.

He's smart, strong, 6 foot 5 inches tall and 250 pounds. He's an unstoppable force not to be messed with.

No Plan B commences with Reacher getting off a bus in Colorado, where he's decided to visit a Civil War museum. He doesn't get very far when he witnesses a woman being pushed in front of a bus. The man who pushes her

JACK REACHER AND ANDREW CHILD NO PLAN B

grabs her bag and casually walks away before anyone realises what's happened. The bus screeches to a stop. The onlookers are horrified. There is complete pandemonium.

Reacher chases the killer down an alley.

There are two witnesses to the incident. Both statements are completely different. The death of the woman is declared a suicide.

Reacher loathes injustice, so decides to investigate. This takes him on an actionpacked adventure that ends up at a private Mississippi prison where not everything is legal.

There are numerous side plots, headbutts and elbow strikes, weaved through this fast-moving adventure that makes you want more. If you enjoy gripping novels with a bit of bloodshed, I can highly recommend reading it.

MEET THE TEAM Meet Glenda, Elise, Paul and Caitlin at The Murray Pioneer, who can help your business grow through our print and online mediums.

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elise.christopher@murraypioneer.com.au

PAUL | 8541 2060 paul.mccormick@murraypioneer.com.au

CAITLIN | 0423 918 207 caitlin.bruce@murraypioneer.com.au



Shelter From the Storm by Penelope Janu

by Ant Middleton





Riverland Youth Theatre's teen ensemble Ruby, 15, Levi 12, Zahli, 13, Levi, 15, Lillie, 13, Jerrick, 11, and Rowen, 15, acting out their performance of We Have Questions last week. PHOTOS: supplied

RYT to be bigger and better in 2023

EVA NIKOU

The teen ensemble of the Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) launched its 2023 theatrical season with its play, We Have Questions, at the Chaffey Theatre last week.

RYT creative director Fleur Kilpatrick says the performance was based on the "one million questions you ask as a teenager" and the many questions her class asked in sessions.

"I loved this part of the class so much that I thought we could use it as the basis of a performance in itself," Ms Kilpatrick said.

'Sometimes they just need that safe space to ask adults and peers questions that, you know, maybe they wouldn't ask a parent."

At the end of the performance Ms Kilpatrick and digital and community artist Alysha Herrmann unveiled RYT's 2023 program.

This year RYT will hold weekly and fortnightly classes and programs for teens, tweens and adults.

"So, we've really got a big focus on our wellbeing programs this term (and) this year," Ms Kilpatrick said.

"I'm really excited (about) art therapy with Relationships Australia...(and) a taste testers club where kids try all these different art forms - from resonance art to dancing – with the Restless Dance Theatre."

RYT holds a variety of inclusive classes, including fortnightly workshops with its Aboriginal Youth group, Pondi, and workshops for those with disabilities.

Ms Kilpatrick says it has also launched a one-on-one program this year for people who have self-managed National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) support.

RYT member Mia on stage.

"It's really about providing an accessible space for children who might not thrive in a group environment, or... might not be able to work in a group setting," she said.

"So, we're offering the opportunity for these kids to do a bunch of our classes oneto-one."

Ms Kilpatrick encouraged parents to reach out via RYT's website if they want their children to have fun and a safe space to be themselves: https://ryt.org.au/contact/.

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 NEWS 27 Theatre project Steps Up, thanks to grant

> LOXTON-based dance theatre project, Step by Step Together, is a new creative by-product of the Country Art's SA Government arts funding initiative.

um to bringing people together... and making good vibes happen." The Step by Step Together program will offer eight free community workshops on Monday afternoons starting from February 6. After the workshops, community members aspiring to be paid per-

2.30pm. To find out more, contact Sue Ellen on 0404 389 098 or Claire on 0407 716 105.

August.

jects."

Theatre Production, per-

formed at the Loxton

Lutheran Peace Hall in

to eight performers, as

well as some technicians

for the production, and

a videographer as well,"

non-for-profit, and any

proceeds will go to fur-

ther community arts pro-

Ms Shepherdson

said the project aimed

to bring the community

together after a challeng-

hoping to achieve is

that it spreads joy, and it

"Well, what we're

ing few years.

"The production is

Ms Shepherdson.

'We can employ up

and South Australian

The Elevate Arts Program awarded \$29,000 to creative directors Sue-Ellen Shepherdson and Claire Dalzell to make their aspirations a reality: to create a project "exploring what dance means to the everyday person".

"(The program) is about trying to bridge that gap between what dance is to the everyday person versus dancing on stage, (while tackling) that wellbeing component," Ms Shepherdson said.

improves the wellbeing (of people) in our community after what's been quite hard times with "Dance (is) a medi-Covid-19 and then the floods," she said. The workshops will cater to people aged between eight and 18,

and those 18 and over, says Ms Shepherdson. The information session is to be held at Eternal Yoga in Loxton on Sunday, February 5 at

formers will be given the opportunity to audition for the Digital Dance

The Seychelles are located in which ocean? 1.

- Which opera by Mozart is said to have revealed 2. secrets of The Freemasons?
- What type of creature is a godwit? З.
- Which Roman numerals depict the year 1991?
- Which US actor played the title role in the television police drama 'T J Hooker'?
- The Blenheim Cocktail was created for the 90th birthday of which British politician?
- The 1987 autobiography 'They Made a Monkee Out 7. of Me' is by which member of The Monkees?

- Rojo is Spanish for which colour? 8.
- 9. Which is the largest island of Asia?
- 10. Which Star Wars film was released in May 1980?
- The Grey Cup is awarded to the champions of the 11. Football League in which country?

- 12. What is the national animal of Greenland?
- 13. In April 1966, Bobbi Gibb became the first woman to run the entire distance of which marathon?
- 14. In which US city was Dr Martin Luther King assassinated in 1968?

- 15. What type of creature is a cichlid?
- 16. People born on the 1st March have which sign of the Zodiac?
- 17. In the first Harry Potter novel who is the headmaster of Hogwart's School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?

- 18. In October 1977 three members of which US rock band died in a plane crash in Mississippi, three days after the release of their album 'Street Survivors'?
- 19. Gorgonzola cheese is from which country?
- What is the title of the 2001 film in which Russell 20. Crowe plays mathematician John Nash?

In which James Bond film does the character Honey Ryder appear? Answer in next week's







Barmera women Gwen Nagel proudly displays the special book presented to her during her recent 90th birthday celebrations. The book was compiled by her daughter. PHOTO: Paul Mitchell

Family feels bring Gwen to tears

GWEN Nagel has rarely cried during her 90 years, but a heartfelt family gesture had her bawling like a baby recently.

The long-time Barmera resident was thrown a surprise birthday party and presented with a book about her life, while family members spoke of their love and admiration for her.

"I couldn't stop crying and I was embarrassed, because it's not me to do that," Gwen said.

"I made a speech of my own afterwards and I said 'I'm so thankful I heard this today, because I wouldn't have heard a thing if I was dead and you

were all at my funeral'." Gwen was particularly

touched by the speech of daughter Janet, who outlined the experiences and influences that shaped her mother's life. "The whole thing was a

big shock," Gwen said. "I couldn't believe it when I had that beautiful book presented to me." Janet spoke of her mum's

generosity, plus her "determination, enthusiasm, extraordinary energy and nurturing of family".

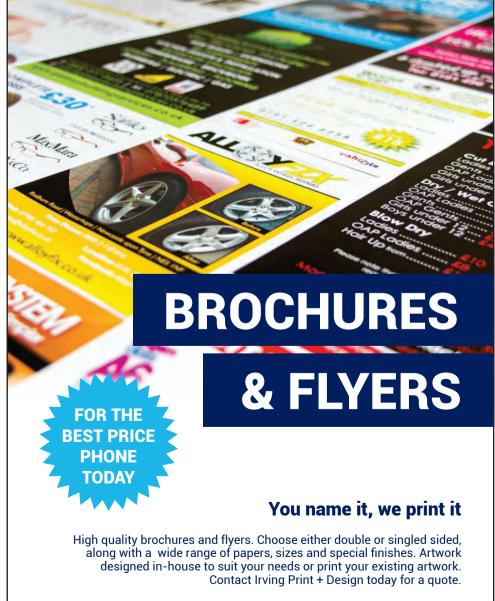
Held in Birdwood in late December and attended by family members from across Australia and South Australia, the birthday celebration was a welcome high point in an otherwise challenging period for Gwen, who broke her femur in late 2021.

Then last month she came off second best in a tangle with a neighbour's errant bougainvillea and was forced to take herself to the local hospital's emergency department. "My leg was full of blue fluid," she said. "It was up

like a football." Now returning to full fit-

ness, Gwen said her birthday was one of the more emotional events of her recent life, alongside losing the "love of her life", husband Roy, in 2016.

- PAUL MITCHELL



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Duo Brooke McClymont and Adam Eckersley big winners

ROBYN MCINTOSH

FROM four Golden Guitar nominations, the husband and wife team of Brooke McClymont and Adam Eckersley took out three awards.

MY KIND OF COUNTRY

The following are the full results of the Country Music Association of Australia Golden Guitars awards: Alt Country Album of the Year: Looks

Like Heaven, Kim Cheshire – produced by Rod McCormack.

Contemporary Country Album of the Year: *Wiser*, Lyn Bowtell – produced by Shane Nicholson.

Traditional Country Album of the Year: In The Moment, Ashleigh Dallas - produced by Brett Dallas.

Toyota Album of the Year: Light It Up, Casey Barnes - produced by Michael DeLorenzis / Michael Paynter.

Male Artist of the Year: Andrew Swift. Female Artist of the Year: Amber

Lawrence. Country Music Capital News Group or Duo of the Year: Brooke McClymont and Adam Eckersley.

Vocal Collaboration of the Year: Same Songs, James Johnston & Kaylee Bell.

Bush Ballad of the Year: Out on Killarney, Dean Perrett - songwriter Dean Perrett.

Heritage Song of the Year: South East Queensland, Luke O'Shea - songwriters Luke O'Shea / Fred Smith / Mitchell Lynham.

Instrumental of the Year: Soda Cap Boogie, The French Family Band. Bluegrass Recording of the Year: Good

Morning Moon, Kristy Cox. New Talent of the Year: Blake Dantier;

Cass Hopetoun; James Johnston; Max Jackson; Taylor Moss.

Song of the Year: Star Of The Show, **Brooke McClymont & Adam Eckersley** - songwriters **Brooke McClymont** / Adam Eckersley / Dan Biederman / Tiggy Heart Eckersley

CMT Video of the Year: South East Queensland, Luke O'Shea – directors Luke O'Shea / Jay Seeney.

Apple Music Single of the Year: Memory Lane, Brooke McClymont & Adam Eckersley.

Other announcements made on the night were CMAA Musician of the Year, which went to Jedd Hughes, and the elevation to the Roll of Renown of Colin Buchanan.

Winners of the 2023 TSA Songwriter Salute Awards were presented with their awards at the Longyard Hotel in Tamworth, on January 17.

The Tamworth Songwriters Association 2023 Songmaker Awardee is Graham Rodger, and the 2023 Songwriters Salute Tex Morton Award recipient is local Tamworth singer/songwriter Patti Morgan.

Other results are: Country Song of the Year: Fly To You, Patrick Kenny/Kelsey Berrington.

Alt Country Song: Fly To You, Patrick



STAR MAKER 2023: Proud Gamilaraay woman Loren Ryan performed two original songs in the Star Maker grand final during the Tamworth Country Music Festival. PHOTO: supplied

Kenny / Kelsey Berrington.

Country Ballad (John and Judy Martin Commemorative Award): Take The Wheel, Craig Lloyd / David Carter / Merelyn Carter.

Country Rock Song: Wish You Were My Beer, Blake Dantier

Traditional (Eric Watson Commemorative Award): The Legend of The Lamp, Matt Scullion.

Bluegrass Song: Stranger in My Home, Dave Diprose.

Bush Ballad (Bev Daniel Commemorative Award): The Dinner Tree,

Terry Bennetts. Comedy/Novelty (Geoff Mack

Commemorative Award): Modern Day

Country Song, Mark Rigney. Country Blues Song: Empty, Shelly Jones / Lester Treuer.

Gospel/Spiritual (Britton Morrison Commemorative Award): God Knows,

Clayton Saunders. Local Heroes: Free Again, Karen Law.

Lyrics Only: Ten Acres Out of Town, Kevin Pye.

New Songwriter: Felicity Dowd, Handle It. Novice (Garry Koehler Commemorative Award): One for Sorrow, Allan West / Ren Kyder.

Youth (John P Toomey Commemorative Award): Gem Gem, Amy Ryan.

Loren Ryan is the 2023 Toyota Star Maker, however the judges had a hard task selecting a winner, due to the competition's high standard.

Tamworth-based Loren, 28, performed two original songs, Bounce Back and Suddenly, and I know she will make use of the brand new Toyota vehicle and fuel card for the next 12 months, plus the many other prizes she has won.

Sales of Chad Morgan – 70 years In The Making have kept Anna Rose going flat chat during the Tamworth festival. She has been at Shopping World every time Chad has performed there, and also found time in the night to get books ready to post out the many orders as they came in.

Don't forget that this is a limited edition print, and there has been some great feedback from those who have purchased it. Visit chadmorgan70years.com.au to order a copy.

It sure is a good read, and you will learn stuff about the Sheik of Scrubby Creek than you ever knew.

On February 11 Chad Morgan will hit the big 90.

The late Archie Roach was last week posthumously elevated to the highest honour within the Order of Australia, a Companion (AC) in the General Division.

SA Farmer SA Farmer at you Award-winning ORTICULTURE fingertips Riverland dried fruit? It's a pretty Subscribe • fig deal 0 online today 0 for FREE! SA.FARMER.DIGITAL

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The Murray River Queen is set to remain moored in Renmark for another 12 months.

MRQ delays **'out of** council control'

David Beaton

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

ONGOING challenges presented by the Murray River flood event continue to prevent an historic boat's move from the Renmark riverfront.

Renmark Paringa councillors passed a motion at last week's general meeting to extend the sublicence agreement with Queenie Enterprises regarding the Murray River Queen's (MRQ) mooring in Renmark for 12 months.

A report on the matter stated delays in moving the vessel were out of council's control.

"Due to the floods, it is almost impossible and certainly unsafe to consider attempting to relocate the MRQ at this time," the report read.

"It is at the council's absolute discretion whether they wish to extend the sublicence agreement for a further period.

"Given the extenuating circumstances surrounding the flood as well as the extensive clean up required it is recommended that council extend the sublicence agreement for a period of at least six but no more than 12 months."

Deputy mayor Margaret Howie had also put forward a motion seeking to remove any potential further extensions to the sublicence agreement beyond January 31, 2024, however this failed to receive a seconder.

Renmark Paringa councillors previously extended the agreement in October, although the State Planning Commission in May had granted permission to construct infrastructure to moor the boat in Loxton.

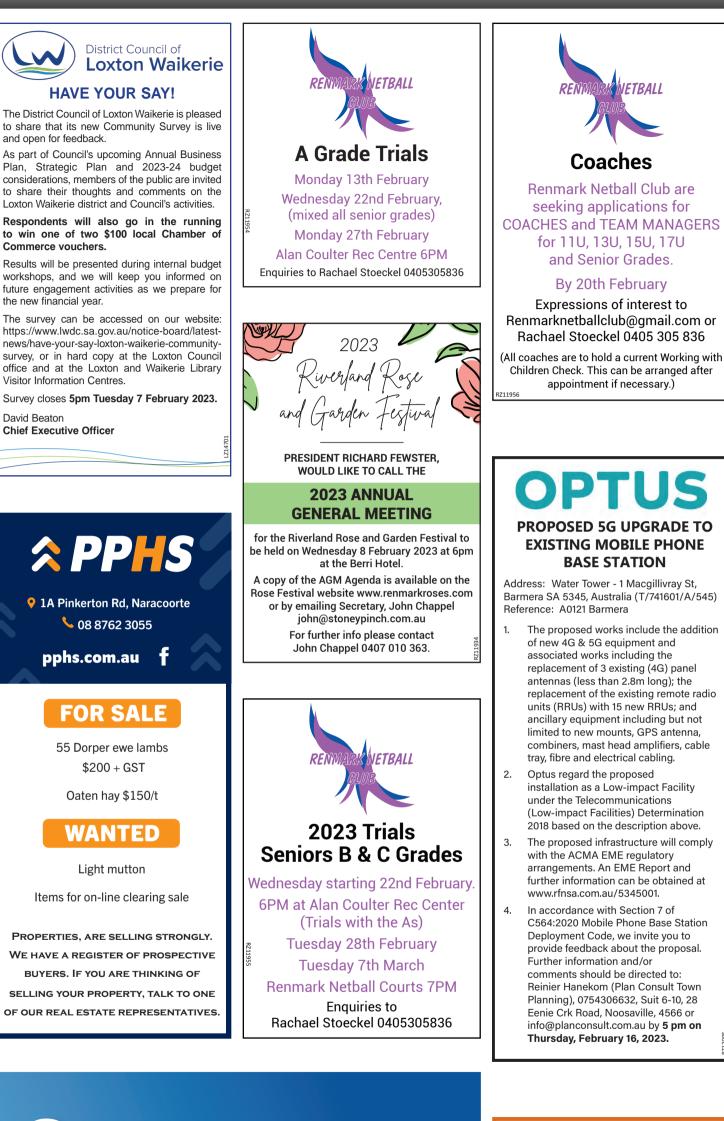
It is understood council will maintain a net profit on costs associated with mooring the vessel while it remains in Renmark

High river halting queen's move



OOD EVENT





4 L

answ 1. The Indian Ocean 2. The Magic Flute 3. Bird 4.MCMXCl 5.William Shatner 6.Winston Churchill 7.Davy Jones 8.Red 9.Borneo 10.Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes

Back 11.Canada 12.Polar bear 13.Boston

Marathon 14. Memphis 15. Fish 16. Pisces 17. Professor Albus Dumbledore 18. Lynryd Skynyrd 19. Italy 20. A Beautiful Mind

BONUS QUESTION ANSWER (from last week): John F Kennedy Airport was opened in 1948.

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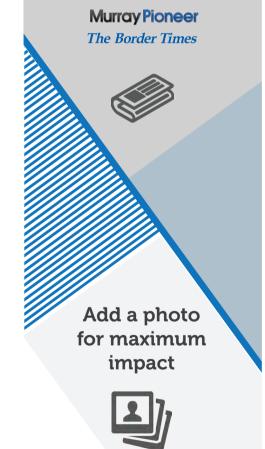
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8586 8000

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Spanning two publications, advertise with the largest circulating classifieds in the Riverland and Mallee. Terms and conditions apply, phone 8586 8000.



Only \$10 per photo + \$5 per logo

Advertising classifieds deadline: Monday 3pm



Clement 'Denny'.

1/11/1942 -

28/1/2023

in Loxton.

Aged 80 years.

Youngest son of Fred

and Elsie

(both deceased).

Husband of

Ulla-Maija.

Dearly loved father of

Rosebud (deceased),

Jason and Samantha.

Adored pop of

Jessie, Zoe, Max,

Harley and Hope.

Great-pop of

Kaiden and Tori.

Your pain has

now gone,

rest peacefully, Dad.

Will be forever loved

and missed.

ECKERMANN, Julie

Passed away

suddenly on January 28, 2023.

Aged 73 years.

Beloved wife of

Trevor for 53 years.

Loved mother of

Jodie and Darren.

Darren and Carol.

Meegan and Damien.

Loving nan of Ashleigh, Brayden,

Lachlan, Nikita.

Keeley and Kade.

Adored sister of

Gavin and Joanne.

Ann 'Git'.

www.murraypioneer.com.au

DEATHS

MATHER, Edna. Congratulations on your 80th birthday on February 7, 2023.

Love and best wishes, your loving husband, Morrell, Michael and Lyndall, Julie and Neil, Craig, Troy and Anne, your 10 grandchildren and your 8

great-grandchildren.

97th BIRTHDAY

PONTT, Dawn.

Happy 97th birthday on February 1st to the Queen of Pyap. Love from the

Dawn Pontt Appreciation Society.



IRVING

DESIGN & PRINT

BZ11253

Always in our hearts. Forever missed.

Please refer to The Advertiser, edition Wednesday February 1, 2023 for funeral details.

v v v 8586 8080







BATTAMS, Denis Passed away suddenly

DEATHS

KLEEMANN, Trevor. Passed away as a result of an accident. Loved and remembered by Janette, David, Tania, Tim, Ashley

and Hannah. LLOYDE, Bev (nee Engler).

Passed away with family present at the Barmera hospital on Saturday, January 28, 2023.

Aged 79 years. Loving wife of lan. Much-loved mother of Craig, Angela, Matthew and Nicole (deceased). Loved mother-in-law of Karen, Wayne and Karyn. Cherished nana of 9 grandchildren and 4

Treasured memories silently kept, Of one we love and will never forget.

great-grandchildren.

Moorook Cemetery on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 11am

ALTSCHWAGER FAMILY FUNERALS 0400 012 089



DEATHS **FUNERALS**

ROWE, Edna Mavis.

Passed away in

Balaklava on January

26, 2023.

Beloved wife of

the late Jack.

Loving mum of

John, Mary, Robyn,

Grant and Kym,

and their partners.

Loved nanna of

52 grand and

great-grandchildren.

A life well lived.

Funeral to be held in

Balaklava on Friday,

February 3, at 1pm.

SMITH, John Frederick.

Passed away at

Loxton, on Friday,

January 13, 2023.

Aged 69 years.

John will be sadly

missed.

BATTAMS.

FUNERALS

MasterCar

KLEEMANN.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Trevor's funeral service to be conducted entirely at the Ramco Lutheran Church on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 2pm.

Riverland 💒 **FUNERALS** Berri and Renmark

8582 1333 Member AFDA

LLOYDE.

Family and friends of Bev Lloyde are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service to be conducted entirely at the Riverland Funeral Chapel, 32 Hughes Street, Berri on Tuesday, January 7, 2023 at 11.30am.

A private family burial will be conducted at a later date.

In lieu of flowers if Relatives and friends desired, a donation to are respectfully the Garvan Institute of advised that Denis's Medical Research into funeral service will Pancreatic Cancer in be conducted entirely Bev's memory would graveside in the be appreciated. Donations may be made at the service.

> Riverland **FUNERALS** Berri and Renmark

Dearly loved. 8582 1333 Member AFDA Love is forever.

Susan, Coco, Joan. SANSBURY, Frisco.

LEE, Wally.

LEE, Dixie.

Called home on February 2, 2022. Missed by and thought of everyday. Nat and fur babies.



BENNETT, Morris.

Eileen, Kevin, Ron, thv. Kvm partners, wish to thank everyone for their love and support by visits, cards, flowers and messages on the sad loss of our loved husband, father, fatherin-law and poppa.

Special thanks to the wonderful doctors, nurses and staff of the Berri hospital. Thanks to Dr Paul Smith and Dr Annas. A big thank you to the nurses in the chemo unit. He loved you all dearly.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.



SMITH

FOR BEST VALUE CLASSIFIEDS

CALL THE MURRAY PIONEER,

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SUBMIT YOUR CLASSIFIEDS VIA

OUR ONLINE PLATFORM.

The relatives and friends of the late John Smith are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted entirely at the Riverland Funeral Chapel, 32 Hughes Street, Berri on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 11am, followed by a private cremation at the Riverland Crematorium.

AMERICAN

EXPRESS



Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA SUTTON, Terry.

Terry's funeral service will be held in Salisbury Memorial Park, Chapel Spains Road, Salisbury Downs on Monday, February 6, at 12 noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Terry are greatly appreciated.

IN MEMORIAM

Gone but not forgotten.

Sadly missed.

Treasured memories.

Classifieds

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 CLASSIFIEDS 31

Call: 8586 8000

All Welcome

Pastor Andy Krause

Ph: 0418 617 582

Riverland Voluntee

Phone 0419 783 779

berrichurchofchrist.org.au

Riverland **Volunteers Notice Board** MOTOR CHURCH VEHICLE **FREE SERVICE** FOR SALE FOR SALE GARAGE SALES FOR HIRE NOTICES Looking for PUPPIES - Jack Rus-**Volunteers?** COOLTONG 77 FORD XR8 AUII, build Tareena Street. Saturdate 9/2001. sell cross. Vet checked. Blue The Murray Pioneer, printed day, February 4 and hand-built wormed. vaccinated, can help. Sunday 5th, 10am -Tickford V8 5ltr motor, and microchipped. Email or fax the name utheran 220kw. Momo leather Male and female. 3pm. of your organisation, the Church . enhancements, Ticktype of volunteer needed White and cream, tan of Australia GLOSSOP - 46 Spenand contact details to: ford 17" wheels, red UNITING CHURCH and white, black and ds@murraypioneer.cor Fax: 8586 4333 in colour, paint very diff Road. Saturday, white. Eight weeks old RIVERLAND ALUMINIUM bow Trailer **BERRI | BARMERA BERRI / BARMERA** good. One owner since on January 16. Berri February 4, 8am ladders, 2 year guar-antee, 3 leg pick-ing ladders, Pinyon You throw it Bins. and we will print your 2002. Been shed-Sunday, February 5 area. Breeder number: 1pm. Follow signs - We tow it. For all Sunday, February 5 request ded for past 4 years. winery. Housefrom Sundays at 10am EF7 EC22302. Phone vour rubbish removal Free of Charge! Berri I Iam HNRYS8, \$29,000. Berri, Denny Street hold items, including 0488413418. Engineering. Phone needs at competitive Phone 0407201233. Barmera 9am mobility aids. Barmera. Nookamka Tce 85866057. prices. Great alter-Pastor S Trautwein PUPPIES - Kelpie. 1 native to skip bins, berribarmerauca.org.au Loxton Mardi Gras... HOLDEN VE HSV1 LOXTON North - 249 female and 5 males range of sizes avail-All Welcome Helpers needed to CARAVAN poptop 2007, Calais, titaf Edwards Road. Open assist with setup/down 2-door, built all black and tan. They 2014, able. Book a trailer bin Phone 0493021960 nium. Gen4, 6 litre 1-2 hours on 24th & 25th Feb. Also parade Friday, February З. 6 times, one will be vet checked, LOXTON today! Contact David used V8 auto. 139,750km. 4th and Saturday built. vaccinated, micro-0400576230. LOXTON owner since Registration XMHmarshals for 2-3 hours Sunday 5th, 10am -Sunday, February 5 chipped and wormed 300w solar panels, 003, \$20,000 ono. on Sat 25th Feb. 4pm. Plants. Orders 10am Fifth Sunday upon purchase. They 2 x 120amp DC bat-Email to (glenda. Phone 0439038123. now being taken for Kingson Selvaraj after Epiphany have really good cass2021@gmail.com) teries. 200L water bare-rooted deciduor text to 0457 137 594 120L fridge bloodlines for working Sunday, February 5 tanks. HOLDEN VZ wagon, SHARED Contact ous ornamental trees 12v/240v, TV, microdogs and exceptionally 2006, iconic 4WD **Rev Linda Forsyth** 10am and stone fruit trees. St Peter's ACCOMOgood natures. 7 weeks wave, slide-out stain-Adventra, top of the Phone 85841205. 0401 815 488 Concordia 10am HC old, born on Novemless steel kitchen and range LX6, midnight **Riverland Red Cross..** DATION Georg ber 28, 2022. \$500 are looking for volunteer drivers and we would BBQ, gas stove, gas RENMARK black with rare tan hot water and shower, each, located Tay Myrla & New Residence buckskin leather Sunday, February 5 love to hear from interior. Well slide-out vanity, doulorville. Breeder No. main-MOOROOK 9am - room 8.30am HC vou. Please contact (Myrla) ble bed, plenty of stor-DAC0231118. Phone 317,000km. tained. for rent. Water views. WANTED Narelle 1800 334 882 Renmark West 10am HC Lay Reading Registration age inside and out, Joe 0475436702. large house and pool. S058or search (Berri https:// TO BUY full annex and small AGP. \$7000. Phone Bookpurnong 8.30am HC All enquiries phone **Renmark Avenue** volunteering.redcross. Georg ROSES - new season 0418859500. pull-out annex, shower 0478670975. org.au.) **Rev Linda Forsyth** tent (new), annex floor roses have arrived ANTIQUE bottles and **Riverview Rest Home** Phone 0401 815 488 mat (new), 3 x spare at Brad's Roses. Flo-Wed, Feb 8 pot lids, collections or tyres, electric brakes, 10.30am HC ribunda, climbers, singles. Enamel signs, Support Your Local... 2 x gas bottles, extra standard hybrid teas. Unfortunately, until further coins, medals and Get involved and give notice only residents double solar panels, Phone 0417855014 militaria. Phone Peter WANT IT GONE? back to your community can attend - no visitors LT 4-stroke key start 13 Riverview Drive, 0428813220. by volunteering at Loxtor \$27,500. Anglican Church generator. Paringa. Lutheran Ministry Centre Red Cross Shop. Call All reasonable offers MANIFOLD - Hi-rise Phone 8584 5522 1800 833 489 or email Riverland considered. Regismanifold for small Pastor Chris Georg **TRY THE MURRAY** (savolunteer@redcross. tered til 22/4/2023. block chevy, 780 cfm, (Concordia and outlying) Sunday, February 5 **PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS** org.au.) For more information Pastor Jason Sander vacuum secondary phone 0429869430. holley carburetor also (St Peter's) 9am - Loxton \$ turbo slant plug heads. The Resurrection Ph. 8586 8000 RENMARK | PARINGA **CARAVAN** Prattline. Phone 0408835373. 9am - Renmark **Riverland Youth** E. ads@murraypioneer.com.au 17ft, with two room St Augustine's Sunday, February 5 Theatre is seeking a annexe. \$7000 ono. suitably qualified and STORAGE 24/7TRAMPOLINES 9am - Barmera Renmark 9am experienced person to fill the volunteer position Phone 0412771238. St Edmund's entry, CCTV Broken or not used keypad Paringa 10.30am HC REUSE trampolines. monitoring. square I I am - Waikerie and of Secretary on the GOAT - three quarter Phone 0427957303. St James Various REPAIR All Welcome site sizes four-member executive boar billy, approxi-Phone available. Pastor Roland Adams of the RYT Board. They Contact: RELOVE mately six months 0488050482. Ren-Phone 0460 300 492 should have some Fr. David Patterson old, ready to work. experience in meeting organisation skills, mark Central Storage. 8586 3288 Light chocolate brown, WAIKERIE very good frame and corporate governance, Sunday, February 5 administration and friendly, can be viewed Black VARIOUS an understanding at old Monash bypass Lowbank 8.45am wheelchair \$320 ono, of the not-for-profit fruit stall. Parents also Ramco 8.45am red wheelchair \$375 charitable sector on view. \$200. Phone ono, shower chair \$85 regulatory frameworks Waikerie 10am **Catholic** 0408835373. Get your news and standards. If you ono, toilet/commode All Welcome Church have an interest in chair \$100 ono. All in contributing to RYT's MERITS 4-wheel mo-Phone 8541 2689 good condition. Phone **Mass Times** wonderful work, please bility scooter. Recent 0474132451. email an expression of Our Lady major service, good condition. Suspenon the run interest to board@ryt. of the River **VINTAGE** 2023 org.au including your **Catholic Parish** sion and puncture Grapes for sale. Charrelevant qualifications proof tyres. Can carry WEEKS 1, 3 & 5 and experience. donnay - 200 tonne. . 136kg, high-back Sauvignon blanc - 50 Saturday swivel seat. Can detonne, Shiraz - 100 Morgan 6pm Une Voice liver. \$2550. Phone tonne, Merlot -100 Renmark 6.30pm It's simple. 0438253986. tonne, Gordo 100 Sunday **Loxton Show Society** tonne. All with spray One subscription gives Berri 9am Conveners needed Sunday, February 5 for the 2023 LOXTON diaries and Loxton I I am au 10am show to be trained for you access to our Phone dit papers. 0447188244. Waikerie I I am **BULK Pure** this year's Show in Loxton Senior Citizen Hall Barmera 6pm website with daily October for the following **Murray Pioneer** Chicken Manure sections: Vegetables, 25 Tobruk Terrace **WEEKS 2 & 4** news updates as well Floral Art. Amateur Log in | Subscribe (No Litter) Ps Red Elliott Saturday Winemaking & Brewing as our digital edition. 0439 507 096 Waikerie 6pm and Scarecrows \$10m³ PERSONS Please call 0497 Berri 6.30pm Ps Sheryl Giles 0423 884 002 Must Commit 147 890 for more Sunday WANTED information. to total regular Renmark 9am bulk cleanouts Morgan 9am Twice Weekly PERSON who bought -021581-V31 Barmera I I am Loxton 6pm Wilabalangaloo (Berri Branch of cleanouts F250. VIN# 6FPAAAAH Check it out now! 2JNR47547, money Commercial pending. Phone Rob-National Trust) **Ouantities** are seeking able bodied volunteers to ert 0487256986. (approx. 35m³ murraypioneer.com.au O per cleanout) help with maintaining walking trails, weed control, pest control, Automatically Seventh-day Adventist Church RESTORE Church Loaded with revegetation & other **SIGHT FOR** of Christ Conveyor Belts projects. If you enjoy the Riverland Strict Biooutdoors please contact BERRI **JUST \$25** Gordon on 0427847896 19 Sunrise Court, Berri security 025 Old Sturt Highway for more information. Bible Study 10-11am protocols apply. 4 OUT OF 5 PEOPLE WHO ARE Sunday, February 5 Murray Pioneer Worship every Saturday 10am Sales Contact (Sabbath) Now 11.15am All Welcome

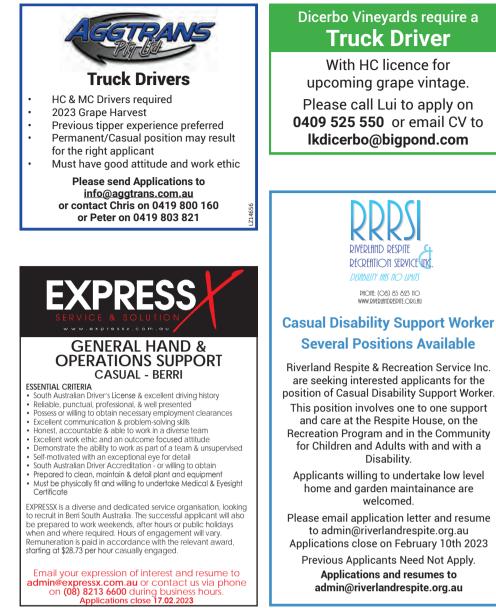
The Fred Hollows 0 8586 8000 800 352 352 office@murraypioneer.com.au

(08) 8520 2001

Leave contact

details

32 EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023





MurrayPioneer ADVERTISING SALES CONSULTANT

Permanent Part 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.

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, covering various locations in the Riverland. We have offices in Renmark, Loxton and Waikerie.

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. Flexibility with work hours would be considered for the right applicant. Sales experience highly regarded.

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





Resthaven Riverland Community Services 7 Wilson Street, Berri

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Looking for meaningful and fulfilling work?

Home Support Workers come from all walks of life - including those seeking an 'encore' career.

Support older people living in their own homes. Tasks include assistance with transport, cleaning, laundry, shopping, companionship, social support, personal care, and more.

- On the job training provided
- Weekend and after hours pay loading
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- Applications close: 20 February 2023

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www.resthaven.asn.au/current-vacancies



For a full position description please visit our website www.smgt.com.au



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South Australian Drivers Licence & excellent driving history

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Remuneration is hourly paid in accordance with the relevant award, commencing at level one, \$28.73 per hour plus any award entitlements, casually engaged. The role encompasses varied

services i.e., point to point transport, school bus & minibus transport guided & non-guided tours, corporate transfers, airport & airfield transfer, as well as professional passenger transport for special events. Chauffeur plated, Limousine, specialty vehicle & bus classe of vehicle will be driven.

Email your expression of interest and resume to admin@expressx.com.au or contact us via phone on (08) 8213 6600 during business hours. Application close 17.02.2023 www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING | NEWS 33 HALLETT SHUEARD is a former long-time Riverland resident,

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



CASUAL ALMOND HARVEST **MACHINERY OPERATOR**

Rijami Farms is a family-owned business situated 20km from Renmark on Murtho Road. It comprises 390 hectares of almonds and grapes across two properties.

We require staff for the duration of the 2023 almond harvest to operate various machinery. Almond harvest extends from mid-February for 8 to 12 weeks.

The successful applicant will have experience operating machinery and be required to work a 38 hour week as well as overtime including on weekends. Previous recent experience in the almond/orchard industry will be highly regarded. Current drivers license is a must. Payment will be under the Horticulture Award.

To apply please email admin@rijami.com.au

FREEMAN FARMING Almonds 28th St RENMARK PERMANENT ORCHARD HAND

A Fulltime or part time employee is required for 226 acres of established almonds.

Well above award rates with penalty rates on offer for a person experienced in tractor work, almond harvesting, spraying, servicing and maintenance of machinery and general orchard work. Additional skills in mechanics and welding would be advantageous. An applicant wishing to take part or full responsibility for irrigation would be considered favourably.

An opportunity to learn advanced growing techniques with limited spraying, no use of insecticides or pesticides, detailed cover cropping for reduced dust and other benefits.

Our machinery units all have efficient air conditioned cabs, except for the ATV's, used for maintenance of the permanent Nelson Rotator sprinkler system.

We are preferably looking for someone prepared to contribute ideas to a highly motivated and innovative team. Longer term permanent employees all qualify for an additional harvest bonus and company vehicles with a fuel allowance

Written applications with references closing 2nd March 2023 to pj.freeman@bigpond.com

Further Information contact Peter Freeman on 0418422684

I can work in a multi-disciplinary team which helps me to get the best results for my clients. I am part of a supportive and caring team environment, where my colleagues are my best friends. There are many opportunities to diversify my role and continually challenge myself to improve the lives of country people and their families.

Cook

Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Loxton Hospital Complex Loxton

Job Ref: 822141 www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers



Government of South Australia

SA Health

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50 years

Lake Bonney. He has provided his view of LAKE BONNEY'S history and its current state. Below is PART 1 of his two-part opinion piece. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

published author and historian who retains his love of Barmera and



The damming of Lake Bonney

AFTER quietly observing the bureaucratic folly and mismanagement of Lake Bonney over the past 12 years, I feel there are important issues that urgently need addressing.

For the sake of preventing further degradation to Lake Bonney, it is time that a community advisory council was formed, consisting of a range of responsible people experienced in water management, hydrology, ecology, environmental issues, and representative of a broad section of River Murray water users.

The SA government's decisions to dam Lake Bonney during the 2009-10 drought, then dam it again (at a rumoured cost so far of \$1.8m) during the 2022-23 flood has not assisted the ecology of lake in any way.

An apt analogy of these undertakings would be that damming the lake, in both instances, has done little else but create a huge evaporation basin.

Because of the hydrology of Lake Bonney, it does not have a natural flow-through refill/drainage system, as Lake Victoria does in NSW. Lake Victoria is supplied with fresh water upstream from the Murray via Frenchman's Creek and then exits via Rufus River back into the Murray downstream. This maintains good quality water within the lake.

Lake Bonney has only one inlet/ outlet, Chambers Creek, through which it fills and drains. The construction of Lock 3 at Overland Corner in 1925 ensured a permanent River Murray pool level for irrigation requirements (also originally for the river boat trade), while at the same time creating a stable water level in Lake Bonney.

One of the major problems with this permanent lake level is that annually, due to the warm climate, there is nearly two metres of evaporation of water from Lake Bonney. This creates a higher concentration of total dissolved solids (TDS), resulting in a drastic increase in salinity, and the higher the salinity level in water the lower the oxygen concentration.

Saline groundwater from local irrigation also seeps into the lake, adding to salinity levels. Thus it is important to develop some method of saline water removal and replacement with fresh water.

The millions of dollars spent on

damming the lake could have been more prudently used to find a solution to preventing the build-up of salinity in the lake.

Salinity in Lake Bonney can be nearly three quarters of that of seawater, which has a salinity level of 31-38 gm/kg or 3.1 per cent to 3.8 per cent.

In the 1980s when we formed the Save the Murray council, I tested water in the lake, in Chambers Creek and in various irrigation drainage outlets around Cobdogla, all of which contained extremely high salinity levels. In Lake Bonney, they varied at different points, with the water being most saline at Pelican Point (west side of lake). The highest reading in the lake was around 25gm/kg or 2.5 per cent.

The 2022-23 flood

MEDIA reports and statements from various state and local government bodies often sensationalised the 2022-23 flood, with the Emergency Services Minister stating it was possibly South Australia's most significant national disaster.

When we consider this 2022-23 flood peaked at 185 gigalitres per day and compare it to the 1974 peak of 180 gigalitres per day, decisions made by authorities in 2022-23 to mitigate flood damage along the River Murray in SA often lacked foresight and wisdom, even creating a level of hysteria among some residents of River towns.

In early 2023 there were misinformed media reports stating the 2023 flood could possibly be as high as the 1956 flood, even though flow levels upstream gave little or no indication that it would be equivalent to the high flows that occurred in 1956.

There was none of this media hype or government intervention in 1974.

Sensationalised

THE media still continues to sensationalise the flood but there is little to compare between the 2023 flood with the 1956 flood, which peaked at 341 gigalitres per day.

It is not widely known that the 1956 flood could have been a metre-plus higher if the River Darling had peaked at the same time as the Murray. That would have been disastrous.

During the 1956 flood most of us at Cobdogla Primary School found it an exciting time. Before we were finally evacuated, every day we practised evacuation drills under the guidance of the headmaster, Frank Plummer, a World War II veteran, orderly marching to a nearby channel bank that was situated higher than the expected flood level peak.

Although the floods were threatening to engulf many towns and properties, there was no hysteria among the Riverland townsfolk, even when levees broke.

Often at their own cost, community-minded people rallied to build levee banks, and shift furniture and stock to high ground, ably assisted by the army and volunteers from across the state. They also rallied around those unfortunate people who lost houses and property in the flood.

There was another interesting aspect to the construction of large levees around the Cobdogla area and other towns along the River Murray during the 1956 flood. The levees were built to not only prevent inundation of houses, buildings and infrastructure, but also to save vineyards and orchards from being flooded.

The pressure of the floodwater outside the levees forced saline groundwater up into the root zone of the protected vines and fruit trees, in many instances killing them, while paradoxically many vines and fruit trees immersed during the flood survived.

Comparison of flood levels

341 GL/day 319 GL/day 220 GL/day 185 GL/day
180 GL/day

There was an extremely high flood around 1760 with an estimated peak flow 664 gigalitres per day.

Black box gums still alive at Overland Corner, Lock 3 and Spectacle Lakes (near Loveday) indicate an extremely high flood had occurred pre-European settlement, one which reached a level approximately two metres above the 1956 flood level. Through flood modelling and research, scientists estimated it took place around 1760 with the flow of 664 gigalitres per day.



John Morena's (above) rink ran out 12-shot victors over the opposing Renmark quartet, skippered by Kym Schulz (below), as Barmera defeated Renmark in last week's round of Bowls Riverland Saturday pennants division one. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff



Top div one bowls trio continues to dominate

THE top three teams in the Bowls Riverland Saturday pennants first division furthered the gap between themselves and the rest of the competition, when all three picked up wins last Saturday.

Berri remains the team to beat after overtaking Waikerie earlier in the season.

The side has gone from strength to strength with its new-look line-up this year and won well on the weekend, with wins coming from all three rinks.

Mason Kaufer and Dennis Treloar's quartets produced comfortable victories, while Andy Hill's four narrowly defeated Peter Lawton's side to complete the sweep for Berri.

Waikerie remains in second place after it trounced Loxton by 36 shots.

Andy Fulwood's quartet was the pick of the bunch for the home side, running out 22-shot winners over Ross Coombs' rink.

Meanwhile, Barmera and Renmark contested the closest match of the round, with the latter falling short despite a strong win from Matt Rice's Renmark rink.

Barmera's remaining two fours, skippered by Christos Karantonis and John Morena, were able to overcome the deficit taken on by Ron Reynolds' quartet.

The Pelicans are now almost 100 points clear of fourth-placed The Lawns, with Loxton in fifth and Renmark at the bottom of the table in sixth.

RESULTS **DIVISION ONE**

Barmera 55 d Renmark 49.

R. Reynolds 15 lost to M. Rice 26; C. Karantonis 17 d B. Dopson 12; J. Morena 23 d K. Schulz 11. Berri 68 d The Lawns 42.

D. Treloar 23 d R. Lawton 11: M. Kaufer 26 d S. Leesue 15; A. Hill 19 d P. Lawton 16. Waikerie 68 d Loxton 32.

W. Collins 19 d B. Schubert 11; B. Burnett 21 d J. Vaughan 15; A. Fulwood 28 d R. Coombs 6. Points: Berri 333; Waikerie 270; Barmera 224; The Lawns 132: Loxton 110: Renmark 101.

DIVISION TWO

Loxton 62 d Berri Red 52. T. Thurston 29 d J. Jungfer 20; H. Appleton 19 d J. Cresp 17; W. Harrison 14 lost to S. Hall 15. Monash 74 d Barmera 44. I. Potts 23 d W. Uppington 14; M. Wood 23 d D. Mills 16; M. Kruger 28 d C. Gamble 14. Loxton RSL 78 d The Lawns Red 43. C. Inglis 23 d K. Schopp 17; S. Roberts 19 d D. Ludas 14; G. Huppatz 36 d K. Smith 12. Waikerie 77 d Renmark 37. D. Morley 29 d R. Andt 9; D. Thompson 22 d L. Warren 18; R. Davies 26 d B. Knight 10. Berri 58 d Lyrup 48. R. Kuchel 23 d S. Munro 16; B. Hollis 20 d P. Drewett 14; K. Carpenter 15 lost to J. Wrigley 18 Points: Berri 260; Waikerie 252; Monash 211; Loxton RSL 197.27; Barmera 187.45; The Lawns 166.81; The Lawns Red 139; Lyrup 137.27; Loxton 131; Renmark 116; Berri Red 63. **DIVISION THREE** Waikerie 79 d Renmark 56.

C. Davies 39 d M. Walker 7; W. Burris 22 d J. Jefferyes 19; S. Canney 18 lost to J. Thompson 30. Moorook 62 d Monash 55. M. Couzner 20 d C. Traeger 17; J. Sutherland 25 d T. Andrew 19; M. Smith 17 lost to M. Daly 19. Berri 59 d Loxton Red 49.

B. Bland 22 d R. Lee 20; K. Tanner 26 d M. Schutz 9; J. Bradford 11 lost to K. Maynard 20. Barmera 60 d Loxton White 55.

D. Uppington 19 lost to T. Altschwager 21; H. Robinson 14 lost to G. Sichler 24; T. Brown 27 d T. Victor 10.

Berri Blue 64 d The Lawns 59.

R. Grosser 20 d L. Pinyon 17; P. Ledsham 24 d P. Brown 16; G. Pahl 20 lost to M. Hudson 26. Loxton RSL d Lyrup (forfeit). Points: Waikerie 323; Berri 289; Barmera 278; Loxton Red 243; Renmark 234; Monash 195; Loxton

RSL 172; The Lawns 169; Moorook 166; Loxton White 142; Lyrup 67; Berri Blue 60. **DIVISION FOUR**

Loxton 43 d Waikerie Hornets 28.

D. Wright 19 d M. Morley 17; N. Milich 24 d E. Wyld 11.

Barmera 47 d Monash 37. T. Daelman 23 d T. Swanbury 15; K. Brown 24 d G. Voigt 22

Waikerie Regents d Moorook (forfeit). Points: Waikerie Regents 235; Monash 184; Barmera 164; Waikerie Hornets 154; Moorook 111; The Lawns 94,28: Loxton 58.

Berri bridging the gap in Wednesday pennants



BERRI inched one step closer to third spot after its win over Monash in last week's round of Bowls Riverland Wednesday pennants.

Monash remains in third place despite the loss, but Berri's win moves it to within 60 points of a podium placing.

Sandy Elsdon's rink picked up a 20-shot victory for Monash, but strong wins to Kerry Treloar and Caroline Eichenberge's fours got Berri over the line.

Top-two sides Waikerie and Barmera won well against Renmark and Loxton respectively. The Lawns triumphed over Lyrup, with the latter still in search of its second win of the season and firmly rooted to the bottom of the table.

The win saw The Lawns leapfrog Loxton into fifth spot, just one win behind Berri in fourth.

Meanwhile, division two has a new leader, with Berri Blue overtaking clubmates Berri Red.

draw against fourth-placed The Lawns, while Berri Blue managed a one-shot win over Loxton to steal first place.

RESULTS **DIVISION ONE** Barmera 70 d Loxton 34.

K. Mellon 25 d M. Schutz 11; J. Gartner 22 d B. Mattner 12; C. Shugg 23 d D. Vaughan 11. Waikerie 85 d Renmark 34. J. Morley 28 d C. Eagle 11; C. Davies 34 d J. Cooper 9; J. Strauss 23 d S. Schulz 14.

The Lawns 61 d Lyrup 51. J. Howe 20 d B. Howe 15; S. Machell 13 lost to R. Smith 21; M. Spano 28 d R. Adams 15. Berri 74 d Monash 58.

K. Treloar 25 d R. Potts 19; C. Eichenberger 38 d J. John 8; R. Butt 11 lost to S. Elsdon 31 Points: Waikerie 326; Barmera 324; Monash 269: Berri 211: The Lawns 191: Loxton 180: Renmark 125:

DIVISION TWO Waikerie 48 d Renmark 33.

N. DellaZoppa 26 d B. Cornelius 11; S. Short 22 drew with B. Warren 22. The Lawns Red 34 d Loxton RSL 32. E. Kennedy 13 lost to H. Dreschler 19; R. Christie 21 d J. Smith 13. Moorook 41 d Barmera 34. H. Smith 22 d K. Brown 15; L. Tschirpig 19 drew with M. Wade 19. The Lawns 35 drew with Berri Red

35. C. Haar 18 d J. Bradford 17; L. Pinyon 17 lost to L. Blades 18. Berri Blue 40 d Loxton 39. K. Tanner 18 lost to M. Tygh 20; M. Miller 22 d N. Milich 19. Points: Berri Blue 303; Berri Red 296; Moorook 282; The Lawns 271; Loxton 211; The Lawns Red 191; Waikerie 148; Loxton RSL 130; Barmera 64: Renmark 24

White claims surprise win

Loxton White sprung an **RESULTS** upset in last Wednesday's round of Bowls Riverland midweek triples, defeating fourth-placed Renmark Gold.

The side went into the round with just five wins to its name, but ran out 21-shot victors over the opposition.

Barmera remains the team to beat, with the Lakesiders still yet to lose this campaign following their win over Monash last week.

They sit above The Lawns Red in second place, with the latter out of action last week with a bye.

Loxton White 103 d Renmark

Gold 82. W. Harrison 20 lost to P. Amos 26; D. Wright 21 d D. Leedle 18;

T. Thurston 36 d B. Cropper 19: H. Appleton 26 d B. Dopson 19. Loxton Red 103 d Berri Blue 61. G. Schulz 34 d J. Jungfer 8; G. Cockshell 24 d K. Carpenter 14; R. Coombs 32 d N. Jenke 11; G. Sichler 13 lost to J. Centofanti 28. Barmera 99 d Monash 62. C. Healey 21 drew with W. Pahl 21; J. Morena 35 d P. Grocke 13; P. Ashton 23 d R. Jury 13; K. Carter 20 d P. Raams 15 Lyrup 101 d Barmera Pelicans 70.

P. Denton 14 lost to P. Thompson 19; P. Drewett 31 d P. Symens 22; G. Milich 32 d T. Daelman 10: L Peters 24 d H. Robinson 19. Berri Red 82 drew with Loxton

Blue 82.

J. Cresp 13 lost to P. Kimber 22: G. Elleway 17 lost to D. Kimber 29: G. Pahl 21 lost to R. Hancock 24; K. Stokes 31 d D. Schliebs 7. **Renmark Green 96 d Loxton** RSL 63.

M. Rice 31 d B. Manuel 19; S. Blee 19 d D. Drabsch 16; T. Matulick 19 d T. Wurst 17; B. Knight 27 d T. Watkins 11. Waikerie 79 d The Lawns 70. G. Lloyd 11 lost to K. Tschirpig 17; M. Morete 16 lost to K. Knight 31; N. Harcombe 34 d C. Weir 11; W. Burris 18 d K. Schlopp 11. Points: Barmera 389: The Lawns Red 342.4; Loxton Red 299; Renmark Gold 247; Renmark Green 243; Berri Blue 221; Waikerie 220; Loxton Blue 210; Lyrup 196; Berri Red 186; Loxton White 183: Loxton RSL 163; Barmera Pelicans 120: The Lawns 75; Monash 61.



NEED FOR SPEEDWAY: Riverland Speedway returns this weekend and a famous face will be in attendance, with fourtime World Cup representative Rory Schlein to hit the track. PHOTO: Facebook

WOMEN'S EIGHTBALL RESULTS

RESULTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 30 Lyrup Club Blue 8 d BBC Cue-Ts 7. Best: L Lyrup Club Blue - C. Werner, S. Binni. BBC Cue-Ts - A. Threadgold, S. Dawson. Renmark Roses 12 d Lyrup Lion Cubs 3.

Best: Renmark Roses - E. Carter, C. Knight. Lyrup Lion Cubs - S. Pedersen, S. Jansen. Bonnie Pelicans 8 d Waikerie

Club 7. Best: Bonnie Pelicans – G. Dyer, G. Lally. Waikerie Club – J. Rohde,

K. Bannister. Monash Club DV8s 11 d Lyrup Club 4.

Best: Monash Club DV8s - L. Threlfall, T. Stieler. Lyrup Club -M. Thomas, C. Munro.

Red could only muster a

Lyrup 36

Riverland side nails the three

THE Riverland women's basketball team secured an historic three-peat at last weekend's SA country championships, with a new-look squad producing the goods in Adelaide.

The Raiders prevailed over Mount Gambier by eight points in the grand final after losing just one match for the entirety of the carnival.

Coach Les Lange coached all three successes and stressed how "proud" he was of the group.

"To win three in a row at division one level is pretty rare," he said.

"It's very special. In the region we concentrate on football a lot, but this is like if our Eastern Zone team won three footy championships in a row. It's unheard of.

"I had seven of my girls from last year unavailable, including Sienna Lehmann.

"We had a completely new side that Karen Scordo picked out a couple of weeks ago and we only had three people that we had when we won last year."

The side was made up primarily of youngsters who play in the local Riverland competition.

Mr Lange heralded the efforts of senior stars Claire Schupelius, Ellee Eleftheriadis and Ashlee Wutke, and said he was "impressed" with how much the Riverland side improved throughout the competition.

"I really thought our defence was the catalyst for the whole weekend," he said.

"Offensively, as the games went on they understood that it wasn't about them scoring **BEN** LENNON sports@murrayp

the points but it was more about creating for someone else to do it.

"To have such a young group, for them to be able to adapt, it comes down to them listening and not putting themselves first.

"A lot comes down to their coaching at their clubs in the Riverland as well."

Barmera star Tahlia Dillon was named MVP of the grand final after leading all scorers with her 10 points.

"You probably could've picked from three or four but Tahlia's carnival overall was outstanding," Mr Lange said.

"If they did stats on rebounds, she would be so far out in front of the rest of the competition.

"It's hard to identify one player though because every one of those girls was fantastic and I was really proud of them.

"Karen Scordo deserves a big mention as well because until two weeks ago we didn't have a team, so for her to throw this together was great.

"Let's just hope (former professional basketballer) Nicole Seekamp doesn't have a wedding to go to next year because I'd love to see her get the chance to play out there with some of these kids.'



www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, February 1, 2023 SPORT 35

Barmera star Tahlia Dillon was named MVP of the country championships grand final.



The side was without star player Sienna Lehmann. who was recently part of a national performance camp in Canberra. PHOTO: FIBA





COUNTRY CUP REF: Riverland referee Cameron Dixon (centre) shone at the recent Country Cup national basketball carnival, taking charge of the under under 16 boys bronze medal match. PHOTO: Facebook

RIVERLAND GOLF RESULTS

Sunday, January 22. A. Ling nett 71 Wednesday, January 25 Men: C. Harman 41, A. Ling 37, J. Bentley 37, S. Mills 36. Women: M. Thomson 36, S. Pannell 36, J. Sawade 35.

Thursday, January 26

Men: A grade – K. Martin 41, R. Koch 40, D. Forbes 39, B. Proud 37. B grade - T. Sawade 40, R. Nickolls 39, H. Campbell 39, R. Gray 38, T. Arndt 38. Women: S. Grein 39, J. Bullock 35, D. Harman 33.

Saturday, January 29

Men: A grade - A. Lodge 39, S. Patching 38, D. Unferdorben 37. B grade – G. Ling 44, W. Wilson 40, D. Marsland 39.

Women: J. Ling 34, D. Harman 34, J. Patching 33 BERRI

Wednesday, January 25 Stableford: I. Bradshaw 40, W. Thiele 34, K. Wyman 34, P. Morris 34, C. Foreman 34, W. Bald 34. Thursday, January 26 Stableford: G. Harris 40 pts, J. Wrigley

38, P. Frahn 34. Saturday, January 28

Stableford: M. Gray 39 pts, M. Wilksch 39, S. Hawkins 36, K. Wyman 36, S. Schloithe 35, T. Mchugh 35. Sunday, January 29

Stableford: L. Gray 42, D. Shawyer 38, K. Wyman 38, M. Clifford 38, G. Mack 37. S. Jennings 36, I. McHugh 36, G. Tognon 34, M. Jennings 33.

Softball Association sent two sides to the state championships last weekend, with teams entered in the C grade (above) and D grade competitions. PHOTOS: Facebook



A MIX of youth and experience represented the Riverland at the senior state softball championships at West Beach last weekend.

The region sent two teams, one each into the C and D grade divisions, with the former achieving great success.

The C grade, coached by Troy Harrison and Kym Sampson, finished on top of the ladder after the minor rounds

but narrowly missed out on a championship, going down 6-3 in the final against the Gawler and Districts Softball Association.

The side won four games overall and drew

one, with its only loss coming in the grand final. Meanwhile, the D

grade side, which featured a number of Riverland youngsters, managed a fourth-place finish in the minor round.

LOXTON



Travelling clubs laud Renmark Open

BEN LENNON

THE Renmark Open continues to go from strength to strength according to visiting swimming clubs, with the 2023 edition "running like clockwork" last weekend.

Vitor Renmark Swimming Club hosted 25 clubs and 272 swimmers in total, ranging from Sunraysia and Broken Hill to regional and metropolitan South Australia

The event was well supported by neighbouring clubs at Loxton and Berri, with Vitor Renmark president Mark Riedel "proud" of how the event turned out, despite facing accommodation issues due to the closure of local caravan parks.

"It was really well accepted and any club that came assured us that they'll be back and with greater numbers," Mr Riedel said.

"If it wasn't for the issues with accommodation this year we would've had 360 people quite easily.

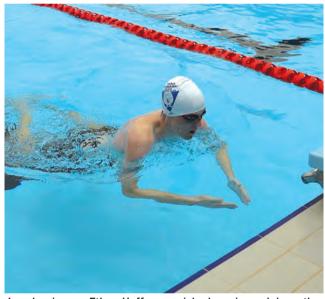
'Kent Town even told us next year they want to book out 30 cabins, so it's pretty big.

"It's become a significant meet on the SA carnival now and it's the closest thing to a championship meet outside of Adelaide – that's from the venue, to the equipment, to how well it's run...

"People are saying it's the premier regional event and it would rival any one in town.

"It's amazing for us. Every year we've got better and we ask people what more can we do, what can we do better? But the clubs just say 'I don't know that you can'."

Mr Riedel hailed the small club's group of dedicated committee members as a driving force behind the success of the Open.



Local swimmer Ethan Hoffmann picked up six medals on the weekend including four golds.

"It all runs like clockwork and we never really have any hang-ups, so for the small club that we've got, we really punch above our weight," Mr Riedel said.

"All our guys put a lot of pride into it and they want to make it the best possible event.

"I put it down to having a passionate committee that sets the standard.

"We don't want to drop it either, so we've had new people on the committee this year that have seen what we do and they're astounded and they now want to carry on the mantle."

The event sees some of the state's best swimmers take to the pool, with local kids pitted against those striving for national honours.

The flow-on effect has been an increased enthusiasm from the locals, with attendance at more major events potentially on the horizon for young Riverlanders.

"A lot of people don't want to travel and they just stick to the RASA events locally, so going to a major open like this, our kids that swam on Saturday saw 24 different clubs from all around SA so it's encouraged them to push on and do their best," Mr Riedel said.

"Some of our guys are

already talking about meets coming up, so it's encouraged them to take it seriously and go to some of these places.'

Local accommodation difficulties were offset by the contribution of neighbouring Riverland towns, with some visitors staying as far as Waikerie for the weekend.

But, Renmark remains the greatest financial beneficiary from the event, with Mr Riedel heralding the generosity of visiting clubs.

"We've got a pretty good relationship with Marion, so they ring me up and ask where to get meat, fruit and vegetables and everything from, so our sponsors see the value of it as well," Mr Riedel said.

"That's just Marion, so with people coming from everywhere and spending money at different places, it's big for the town and the region."

North, Demons on the winners' list **Cows claim T20 title** BROWN'S Well has

RENMARK North continued its winning streak in last Saturday's round of Riverland Turf A grade cricket, with its victory against Berri Colts the side's sixth consecutive win in the competition.

The Bluetongues travelled to Berri and lost the toss, fielding first in humid conditions on Saturday afternoon.

The top order of the Colts provided some early resistance, with opening pair Peter Efthimiou and Sam Andrenacci hanging around without doing too much damage on the scoreboard.

Zakk Gallo continued his hot form from the week prior and bowled well without reward, while Liam Jackson's off-spin claimed the wicket of Andrenacci to get the Bluetongues started.

Reece Lehmann came to the crease and hit the ball well for his 19, while Deakin Aston and Colin Packer bowled well in the middle overs to help restrict the Colts' scoring opportunities.

Aaron Nobile and Mitch Cawse freed their arms at the end of the innings to help the Colts to 92, but North was able to make light work of the run chase.

Packer and Harding got the travelling side off to a strong start and the Bluetongues were able to pass the score two wickets down in the 21st over.

Meanwhile, Berri's A grade side claimed a much-needed win over Loxton, with youngster Evan Gregoric returning to the region to represent the Demons for the weekend.

Waikerie Ramco continued its perfect season in the under 16s, registering another win in its so-far unbeaten season over Loxton, while Renmark North fell 34 runs short in its pursuit of Berri.



RESULTS A grade

Renmark North 2/94 (C. Packer 35no, D. Harding 21; B. Henderson 11; L. Jackson 10no, A. Peltz 1/10, R. Lehmann 1/14) d Berri Colts 7/92 (R. Lehmann 19, A. Nobile 14no, R. Kubsch 13, M. Cawse 12no, P. Efthimiou 12, A. Peltz 11, D. Aston 2/15, B. Williss 2/17, L. Jackson

1/8, B. Lennon 1/8). Berri d Loxton Under 16

Berri 8/173 (A. Peltz 55no, P. Dale 39. Y. Exarbeas 12. K. Shergill 11. T. Johnson 1/7, A. Cartwright 1/14, L.

Efthimiou was solid in defence at the top of the Berri Colts order. **PHOTO: Grant** Schwartzkopff

Foley 1/15, A. Singh-Dhillon 1/16, N. Warner 1/18, H. Papageorgios 1/20) d Renmark North 139 (L. Folev 48. H. Papageorgios 31, T. Johnson 22, B. Shergill 2/4, A. Nobile 2/7, Y. Exarheas 2/24, S. Andrenacci 1/6, A. Peltz 1/12, P. Dale 1/16, K. Shergill 1/24).

Waikerie Ramco 6/109 (J. Coombe 40no, T. Waanders 17, F. Andrew 15, C. Kerr 2/15, D. Zdanowicz 2/19) d Loxton 99 (D. Zdanowicz 55no, R. Montgomery 13, J. Coombe 3/12, F. Andrew 1/1, C. Werner 1/3, J. Sparrow 1/7, R. Waanders 1/21).

emerged with the first piece of Riverland cricketing silverware this season after it was crowned B grade T20 champions last Saturday.

The Cows won every game in the group stages of the competition throughout January while North qualified for the final due to its superior net run rate over Waikerie Ramco.

Playing at home, Brown's Well stormed to victory over Renmark North, dismissing the visitors for just 40 runs after posting 125 in the first

innings. Brad Hoffmann top scored for the eventual premiers, hitting his way to 35 before he was run out.

David Ireland and Matt Hampel also scored starts, but it was Lachlan Patterson that was the star of the show during the Renmark North chase.

Patterson finished with figures of 4/6 after he and Adam Cunnah ripped through the Renmark North top order, leaving the travelling side teetering at 4/9.

North limped its way to 40 before the tenth wicket was taken, 85 runs short of its target. RESILT

Brown's Well 6/125 (B. Hoffmann 35, D. Ireland 21, M. Hampel 18, L. Patterson 17, M. Cartwright 1/8, D. Hill 1/12, T. Coombs 1/15, L. Foley 1/17) d Renmark North 40 (T. Coombs 9, L. Patterson 4/6. A. Cunnah 3/12, C. Patterson 2/7, D. Rothe 1/6).

A murder of Crows heading our way next week...



Adelaide Crows player Jordan Dawson with Riverland school students during a players trip to the Riverland late last year. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

15 Crows players to descend on Waikerie

ELYSE ARMANINI

WAIKERIE will host 15 players, plus officials and sponsors of the Adelaide Football Club on Monday night in a local supporters group's first community dinner in 12 months.

Twelve AFL and three ALFW players, plus Adelaide Football Club chairman John Olsen AO, CEO Tim Silvers and engagement executive Sam Jacobs, will attend the dinner, at the Waikerie Community Club from 6pm.

Riverland Adelaide Crows Supporters Group member Gwen Webber said while visiting player names were being kept under wraps, the group was rapt with the size of the travelling contingent.

"To have 15 players in total is amazing - it's just unbelievable," she said.

"We are just so grateful. It's 12 months in March since we had a dinner and gave out life memberships to some of our supporters who have been there since the group started.

"John Olsen, Tim Silvers and Sam Jacobs were the ones that came to that night."

Several Crows players, including Jordan Dawson, Jordon Butts and Lachlan Sholl, made their way to the Riverland late last year, visiting Hungry Jacks Renmark, Renmark High School and Waikerie High School to provide support amid the flood event.

Mrs Webber said she suspected the Adelaide Football Club was doing its best to help the local economy, severely impacted by the flood in recent months.

"We are just so amazed that they have asked to have this dinner on Monday night and I feel they're doing it to help the local economy, I really do," she said.

"Only at the weekend, we were told another 45 people including players and sponsors were coming to the dinner.

"The Adelaide Football Club are giving their sponsors in the Riverland an invitation to this dinner. It's a total Riverland thing, from the (local) car companies to the food outlets that



Adelaide Football Club chairman John Olsen AO will be in attendance at the community dinner being held in Waikerie next Monday night. PHOTO: AFC

sponsor the Crows – all the people who

work for them are invited. "I'm just overwhelmed. Our whole committee gives thanks to all of the Adelaide Football Club people for coming and they'll be in the Riverland the next day as well ...

"We are just appreciative of them supporting the region because we need the support."

Fans and interested community members are welcome to join the group's committee members at the event, which will include a question and answer session, and discussion time.

We haven't had many locals book in for the night, I think we're up to about 50," Ms Webber said.

"We had over 80 two years ago. The cut-off was yesterday, but I'm seeing the Waikerie Community Club today to take the final figures to them.

"If people contact us ASAP they might get to see them."

Contact Jenny Webber (0407 641 932) or Gwen Webber (0408 609 304) today to see if spaces are still available for Monday's dinner.

Tickets cost \$28 per person and include a two-course dinner.

Assistance with transport to Waikerie can be arranged by contacting Peter (0428 898 770) or Jenny.



Family and friends of the late Josh Williss gathered on the Berri river front last week, with 'Lefty' on hand to serve kebabs in his honour. Pictured are Josh's parents Andrew and Liz Williss and his brother Riley. PHOTO: Ben Lennon Kebabs for a cause

BEN LENNON

AN idea that came from nothing has helped bring the Berri community together in support of the late Josh Williss, who passed away on March 9, 2022 after an 11-month battle with non-Hodgkin's T-cell lymphoma.

Josh's father, Andrew, decided it would be fitting to celebrate Josh's life and memory by hosting a kebab day on the Berri river front on January 26, the day Josh would have turned 26.

"Its been overwhelming, the support that he's had," Mr Williss said.

"There was actually really no goal. I just thought it would be a nice gesture because it was his favourite food, whether it was an AB, a yiros or a kebab.

"He loved to eat them, so we thought we'd have a kebab day for Josh. I put it up as a Facebook event and it just snowballed from there."

Berri-based café River Jacks was quick to show its support, adding yiros to the menu for the day.

Local businessman and current Loxton North A grade football coach Terry Eleftheriadis quickly jumped on board, along with the rest of his crew at Lefty's Greek Street Eatz.

"Terry's got a good connection with him too. He coached him during footy for a couple of years and one of Josh's best mates was Terry's lad, so they've known each other for years," Mr Williss said.

"Josh was very much loved many people loved him."

in the community between football, cricket, basketball, soccer. He was right into his sport."

Through the help of Lefty's' food truck and a donation tin, the community was able to raise just shy of \$700 for the Leukaemia Foundation.

Mr Williss believes his son's friendly nature is a major reason behind the success of the event, which aims to be back next year, potentially hosted at the Berri Football Club.

"Josh had a lot of friends and knew a lot of people," Mr Williss said.

"He was very easy to get along with and just a beautiful kid.

"He was a top kid without an enemy in the world and so

Homecoming for Harkins

BERRI has welcomed home one of its most promising juniors in recent memory, with the signing of 20-year-old midfielder Kade Harkins for the 2023 season.

Harkins began his footballing career at Berri Oval, representing the Demons from Auskick through to A grade, winning a number of junior premierships along the way.

As a junior, Harkings was named best and fairest in both the RFL under 15s and under 18s competition for Berri.

His hot form as a youngster saw him selected in a number of West Adelaide squads, with the dynamic midfielder representing the Bloods on eight occasions at under 18 level.

Harkins recently moved back to the Riverland and looks set to add to his 16-game Berri A grade career in 2023.

He spent the majority of 2022 playing in the reserves for PHOS Camden in the SAAFL second division, where he kicked 24 goals and was named in the side's best players on seven occasions.



Kade Harkins (right) will line up alongside captain Evan Penaluna for Berri this year. PHOTO: Facebook

Senior Swan signs on as coach

PARINGA stalwart Chris Gardner has signed on to coach the Swans in 2023, as the club enters a new era in the freshlyformed Murray Valley Football Netball League.

The Swans moved

faces stiff competithe new league.

in the Riverland football community.

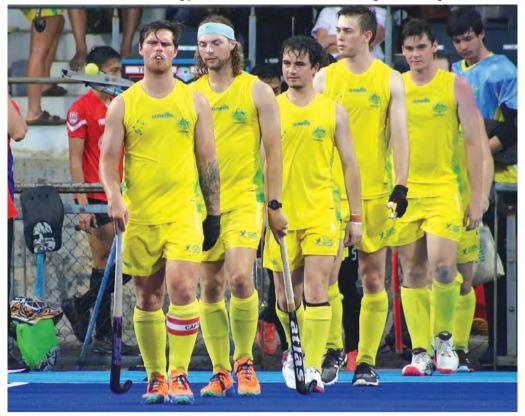
Last season saw the veteran kick 12 goals in his 15 games for the Swans. He was also named in the side's best players on nine occasions.

quickly to replace outgoing coach Max Blanck, who accepted the club's top job late last year before pulling out of the role earlier this month.

Paringa finished outside of the top four last season and

tion in 2023, with Murrayville joining the previous six Independent clubs in

Gardner has donned the red and white on over 130 occasions and is well-regarded



Riley Burgess (third from left) recently returned from Indonesia where he represented Australia as part of the under 21 men's country side. PHOTOS: supplied



Burgess back and keen to stick with it

BERRI hockey star Riley Burgess has returned from his trip to Indonesia with the Australian country under 21 side full of motivation to further his already impressive career.

The 18-year-old travelled alongside two family members and the rest of the squad to Indonesia earlier this month, where his side faced off against some of the nation's best.

The tour saw the Aussie youngsters take on the Indonesian national side four times, plus four warm-up matches against the Jakarta and Bandung state teams.

"It was such a great experience. We had some amazing players on our team and it was so good to learn all of their styles of hockey as well as playing Indonesia – they're so experienced as an international team," Burgess said.

"It was great to take them on and see how they play."

The Australian side enjoyed success on the tour, managing four draws and an impressive 10-0 victory in their eight contests.

But, it was far from smooth sailing for the Riverland youngster, who battled against unfamiliar conditions and an injury scare across the two-week trip.

After adjusting well in the opening two matches of the tour, Burgess succumbed to injury in the third match, after tweaking his hamstring.

"I had to sit out and miss the next four games, but was able to come back and play the last two," he said.

"We had a team physio every day and he said ideally I'd spend three weeks out, but because I was doing my acupuncture and he was tending to it three times a day, it ended up being pretty quick.

"Even if I wasn't allowed to play I was going to find a way back out there



for the last game or two.

"The whole experience was very different. I'm not used to playing in warm, humid weather because we play in winter here."

Not only did Burgess gain experience on the field, he was also able to take in some of what Indonesia had to offer outside of the playing arena.

"It was so cool and the facilities are so different to what we've got here. It's a really high standard up there and it was good to get the experience of playing in another country," he said.

"We had four rest days as well, so we got to do some travelling and sightseeing, so I saw a few volcanoes and went to some markets.

"Mum and her partner were there and they got to be a part of it as well."

With Indonesia now in the rear-view mirror, Burgess has his sights set on further national honours, with a number of international tours potentially on the horizon for the reigning Riverland Junior Sports Star of the Year.

"I'm back in the Riverland doing some training now, but I want to keep working and improving so I can make the Kookaburras under 21 side," he said.

"They go to New Zealand and a few different places, but I'd also like to make this country under 21 side again because they go to Malaysia later this year.

"I wasn't too keen on continuing to play hockey but after doing this tour, I'm keen to get back out there and do more stuff and try to improve just to see where I can go."

Renmark regains second spot in top tennis div

RENMARK'S victory over Berri Blue in last week's round of Riverland division one tennis propelled the side back into the top two.

Dave Strongman continued his hot run of form in doubles competition, pairing with Dean 'Dingo' Schumann and Warren Hill respectively to secure two wins, while also managing a victory in singles action against Eddie Day.

Honours were evenly split across the singles matches, with both sides managing three wins, while Renmark held the advantage in the doubles rubbers 4-2.

Perennial powerhouse Cobdogla remains undefeated this season, with its latest win coming against the previously secondplace Loxton White.

Cobby duo Cohen Battams and Sam Butterworth suffered a rare loss in doubles competition against Jordan and Phil Smith, but both were able to win their singles rubbers and their secondround doubles match.

The side sits on top of the tree with its 4-0 record, while Renmark now occupies second spot after

improving its record to 2-2. **RESULTS**

DIVISION ONE Cobdogla 7-64 d Loxton White

Doubles: S. Butterworth/C. Battams lost to J. Smith/P. Smith 5-9; T. Nettle/N. Battams d C. Kruger/L. Kruger 9-1; S. Nettle/L. Nettle d T. Smith/N. Kruger 9-2; S. Butterworth/ C. Battams d J. Smith/C. Kruger 6-0; N. Battams/E. Carter lost to P. Smith/T. Smith 3-6; J. Inglis/H. Drogemuller lost to L. Kruger/N. Kruger 4-6. Singles: S. Butterworth d J. Smith 6-1; C. Battams d P. Smith 6-3; T. Nettle d C. Kruger 6-1; J. Inglis lost to L. Kruger 3-6; S. Nettle d T. Smith 7-6; E. Carter lost to N. Kruger 0-6. Renmark 7-64 d Berri Blue

Doubles: D. Strongman/D. Schumann d E. Day/P. Cresp 9-2; W. Hill/C. Cornelius lost to S. Vallelonga/B. Rogers 5-9; H. Poulish/C. Martin d G. Tzanavaras/K. Hayes 9-7; D. Strongman/W. Hill d E. Day/S. Vallelonga 7-6; H. Poulish/D. Schumann lost to P. Cresp/G. Tzanavaras 2-6; J. Pick/C. Martin d K. Hayes/B. Rogers

6-4. Singles: D. Strongman d E. Day 7-6; W. Hill lost to P. Cresp 6-7; D. Schumann d S. Vallelonga 6-0; E. Sleep lost to B. Rogers 1-6; H. Poulish lost to G. Tzanavaras 0-6; C. Martin d K.

Hayes 6-3. DIVISION TWO

Jericho d M. Roberts/N.

Barmera Hall of Framers 11-77 d Loxton Yellow 1-35 Doubles: M. Jericho/M. Henwood d B. Reichelt/T. Griffin 9-4: L. Marks/S



Renmark's Dave Strongman was in top form last weekend, emerging victorious from all three of his contests against Berri Blue. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

Gibbs 9-7; S. Albrecht/K. Bannear d J. Pearn/D. Gibbs 9-3; M. Jericho/S. Jericho d B. Reichelt/N. Gibbs 6-4; J. Bannear/S. Albrecht d J. Pearn/M. Roberts 6-1; M. Henwood/K. Bannear d D. Gibbs/J. Rubarth 6-2. Singles: M. Jericho d B. Reichelt 6-1; L. Marks d T. Griffin 6-4; M. Henwood lost to M. Roberts 2-6; S. Jericho d J. Rubarth 6-1; S. Albrecht d J. Pearn 6-2; K. Bannear d D. Gibbs 6-0. Berri Red 11-76 d Loxton Black 1-41 Doubles: S. Macpherson/ R. Mason d C. Wall/J. Loxton 9-4; R. Cresp/C. Staehr d T. Jachmann/R. Loxton 9-1; J. Fullham/E. Mathews d H. Pluckhahn/unspecified player 9-7; S. Macpherson/R. Mason d C. Wall/R. Loxton 6-1; J. Fulham/R. Cresp d T. Jachmann/unspecified player 6-4; E. Mathews/ C. Staehr d G. Amaechi/H. Pluckhahn 7-5. Singles: S. Macpherson d C. Wall 6-1; R. Mason d T. Jachmann 6-3; R. Cresp lost to G. Amaechi 0-6; C. Staehr d R. Loxton 6-4; J. Fulham d unspecified player 6-4; E. Mathews d H. Pluckhahn 6-1.

DIVISION THREE

Cobdogla (3) 8-54 d Renmark Dolphins 2-25; Renmark Sharks 10-60 d Berri "Work In Progress" 0-12; Cobby Crushers 10-61 d Loxton Bashers 0-26; Moorook 6-52 d Cobdogla (2) 4-38; Barmera All About That Ace 7-57 d Barmera Ace Ace Baby 3-37.

Whillas Medallist Crate now an OAM

WHILLAS Medallist and former RFL A grade coach Paul Crate was among those recognised in this year's Australia Day Honours List.

Crate was bestowed the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his services to Aussie rules football.

An electrifying midfielder and half forward, flame-haired Crate spent just five years in the Riverland but left an indelible mark on the two Loxton clubs.

A school teacher, he joined the Tigers from the Southern Football League in 1983 and won the Whillas Medal, the league's highest individual honour, that same year, polling 23 votes – eight clear of runner-up, Renmark's Dean Dunhill.

Crate was named in the centre for The Murray Pioneer's Team of the Year and won the Pioneer's prestigious Writers' Trophy.

He was playing coach of Loxton in 1985, before taking on the same role at cross-town rivals Loxton North in 1986 and 1987. Crate's time in the Riverland coincided with Barmera-Monash's dominance of the RFL and he was involved in two losing grand finals against the Roos, in 1984 (Loxton) and 1986 (Loxton North).

After leaving the Riverland, Crate continued his Aussie rules association as a player and later umpire with several SA football clubs.

Renmark's comeback kid and then won my heat

BEN LENNON

A RIVERLAND youngster has overcome the odds to achieve success at an athletics meet in Adelaide, and his eyes are now firmly fixed on one of the nation's most famous events.

which was good.

and my form was.

and competing getting

because I've been out

with injuries for a few

fractures in my hip and

Word on the street.

"I had four stress

years," Otero said.

major fractures.

podium."

process.

Angelo Otero had to do it the hard way on his road to recovery, sustaining multiple hip injuries which kept him away from doing what he loves for over two years.

Recently, he completed another step on his comeback trail, winning the 120m under 18 boys race at the Reynella Gift carnival.

"We left early in the morning to head down there because, being from Renmark, it's a decent-sized trip down to Reynella," Otero said. "I warmed up about

half an hour beforehand



Angelo Otero (right) and Adelaide-based coach Paul Sutcliffe following Otero's comeback win.

him over the line during pretty tough and obvia "tough" rehabilitation ously I did it once and then did it again, so I "I was pretty stoked had to go through it all and I haven't won a over again. race like this for a while

"It's just my love for sport really. It's everything I know and that gets me going every morning. "I play footy as well.

two of those turned into I played a few years The rehab has been down at West Adelaide

and up here at Rovers as well. I skipped last year because of the injuries, but I'll be playing this year again."

The 17-year-old, who ran the 120m race in 13.045 seconds, now turns his attention to the Stawell Gift, with his preparation set to ramp

"I'm doing running

pretty much full-time in Adelaide now," he said. "Racing in the Stawell Gift is one of

my goals. Racing in the 120m men and winning that would be amazing. "For now I'll keep in

contact with my coach because he's based in Adelaide. "I usually train at

the footy oval or the

Angelo Otero (centre) bounced back from a long injury layoff to run out winner of the 120m under 18 boys race in Reynella last fortnight. PHOTOS: supplied

high school by myself. Sometimes my brother comes and pushes me along, but really, I just need to stay consistent with my training and go

from there. "The big goal obviously is Stawell which is late in April, but I've got some smaller meets in Adelaide coming up.'



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AFTER being successfully staged for the first time in May last year, the Russell Ebert tribute match will make its return to Loxton

West Adelaide and Port Adelaide will again do battle for SANFL points at Loxton Oval on Sunday, April 30, with footy fans again given the chance to honour one of South Australian football's most famous names.

Last year's inaugural edition saw Port Adelaide take the points in an entertaining contest, with AFLlisted star Xavier Duursma named as the first ever Russell Ebert Medallist for best-on-ground after his impressive outing. Onlookers were treated

to two curtain-raiser contests featuring plenty of Riverlanders as Loxton took on Waikerie and the Riverland Superdogs faced off against the Peninsula Magpies.



This year's match is one of four regional SANFL games scheduled this season, with fellow Riverland-born legend Neil Kerley to be honoured in a tribute match at Murray Bridge after his passing last year.

Loxton will again take on Waikerie in a curtainraiser match prior to the SANFL contest, giving tourists a taste of RFL action.

YEARS

VEARS



Hill, Tahlia Dillon, Lacey Hill, Ellee Eleftheriadis, Claire Schupelius and Karen Scordo (team manager). Front: Summer Smith, Bailey Hahn, Chelsea Wutke and Ashlee Wutke. PHOTO: Facebook

Riverland nails the three how "proud" he was of the

BEN LENNON

THE Riverland women's basketball team secured an historic three-peat at last weekend's SA country championships, with a newlook squad producing the goods in Adelaide.

Les Lange coached all three successes and stressed

group. "To win three in a row at division one level is pretty rare," he said.

Barmera's Tahlia Dillon was named MVP of the grand final after a 10-point performance. PAGE 35 STORY





*Based on sample vehicle tested in accordance with ADR 81/02. Actual results will vary. Lithium-ion cells degrade over time, and any decrease in battery capacity will reduce electric range. *Up to 10 years from the date of first registration or 200,000km New Vehicle Warranty (whichever comes first) when all regular services are completed within the specified service intervals at a MItsubishi Dealership. Otherwise, 5 years from the date of first registration or 100,000km New Vehicle Warranty (whichever comes first) applies. Excludes Plug-in Hybrid EV drive batteries which are warranted for 8 years / 160,000km from the date of first registration or 100,000km stopic 10 years of 150,000km for the varianty (whichever comes first) applies. Excludes Plug-in Hybrid EV drive batteries which are warranted for 8 years / 160,000km form the date of first registration or 100,000km stopic 10 years of 150,000km form the date of first registration or 100,000km stopic 10 years of 150,000km form the date of first registration or 100,000km stopic 10 years of 150,000km form apply in Hybrid EV drive batteries which are warranted for 8 years / 160,000km form the date of first registration or 100,000km stopic 10 years of 150,000km form apply in the stopic in the first 0 regular services (at a data interval). Covers and and "Regular Service Table" for normal operation of none and Naintenance Schedule on the Neisherike duret the stopic inspection and Maintenance Schedule of Capped Price Servicing costs are set for a model year, they are not changed for the life of the model. Terms and conditions apply. Excludes Government, Retal and Neisherike sustained is sustained. Second wave sustained is sustained and second and wave sustained is sustained and second and wave sustained and second and wave sustained and second and second and second and and second and

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2022 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards Categories

Industry Awards:

Automotive Industry Award **Building and Construction Industry Award** Food Processing Industry Award **Engineering Industry Award** Air Conditioning / Electrical Industry Award Hairdressing Industry Award

Major Awards:

Apprentice of the Year Trainee of the Year Vocational Education & Training Student of the Year Australian School Based Apprentice of the Year Australian School Based Trainee of the Year



Would like to thank the following people:

Committee: Vicky Andriske **Karen Inglis Kerry Woolston Bruce Richardson**

Apprenticeship & Traineeship Judges: Julie Robertson Annie Payne **David Crouch**

School Based Apprenticeship, **Traineeship & Vocational Education & Training Judges:**

> **Michael Pater** Jarra Gibbs

- 4 SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICE
- 4 **ENCOURAGING BRIGHT FUTURES**
- 5 SCHOOL-BASED TRAINEE 5 VET
- STUDENTS
- 6 2021 **APPRENTICES** OF THE YEAR
- 7 APPRENTICE
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- SKILLING OUR 11 FUTURE
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- 12 TRAINEE
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- 14 CELEBRATING THE **RIVERLAND'S** BEST
- 14 MESSAGE FROM TONY PASIN 15
 - PAST WINNERS

Vocational

ELYSE ARMANINI

A YOUNG Riverlander is a new face in the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards judging panel for school-based and VET awards this year.

Last year's VET Student of the Year, Jarra Gibbs, said it was "quite special" to be invited to judge finalists for this year's awards, to be held at the Berri Hotel on Friday, February 10.

"I feel like I was able to give back to the Rotary Club and show my support and appreciation for their programs and their encouragement to young Riverlanders," Jarra said. "I felt quite privileged that the judges

believed I had the maturity and responsibility required to assist and take part in the judging panel this year."

For students considering a career pathway not focused on university study, Jarra said she "could not recommend school-based training enough" and said she experienced the pressures of being told to choose university throughout her high school experience.

"Whether it is just a stepping stone to future career options and pathways, or the direct foundation of someone's desired career ... " she said.

"The skills, values and confidence young individuals are able to develop in these training environments can set them up for great success in the industry and huge growth within themselves as young adults.

"It is an excellent opportunity for those who may not wish to move to the city and study at university. It is (also) a great way to stay local and in the regional areas of our country.

"I think it is important for high school students to know that university isn't everything and that you don't need to go to university to be successful and earn a high income.

"You can do anything to be successful throughout your life, whether it's starting a business or working in the trade industry. That's where school-based training and education is an amazing opportunity that doesn't involve university."

As a first-time judge, Jarra said she was pleased to see the Riverland had some "hardworking young adults who are excited about their futures".

"Each individual finalist was different and unique in their own way and shared a range of different stories with the judges.

'Each individual and category showed strengths and weaknesses, but the finalists chosen were all extremely dedicated and passionate in their chosen industry which

With a wide range of courses and industry connections, you can graduate with a competitive edge and the skills employers value.



2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

Kymette Dixon

FO22472

awards 'inspire generations', says Jarra



Jarra Gibbs (right) accepting her VET Student of the Year award at last year's Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

was... humbling to see," she said.

With school-based trainee and apprenticeship, and VET student numbers slowing in recent years, Jarra said it was important for young Riverlanders to consider a course which could lead them to their future career.

"The insight into industry and work life soon allows you to figure out whether the pathway is for you," she said.

"But most importantly the skills and knowledge you acquire are not only fieldrelated but real-world and interpersonal skills that develop you as an individual.

"And like me, you meet people who inspire you to be better, reach for the most amazing opportunities, and set goals for your own future."

The inclusion of categories such as School-Based Trainee of the Year, School-Based Apprentice of the Year and VET Student of the Year enable a "sense of self-drive and achievement while giving people exposure to excel in their future careers", according to Jarra.

"These awards may inspire younger generations to work hard and follow the paths of other hard-working dedicated individuals," she said.

"They allow young adults to be acknowledged and rewarded for their chosen career or pathway and show them that

their hard work does really pay off." Jarra thanked the Rotary Club of Berri members for their support "personally and, importantly, their appreciation and encouragement of young adults and their hard work".

"Finally, and most importantly, don't be afraid to kick-start your future," she said.

"There are so many amazing opportunities out there you just have to work hard and they will come to you." Congratulations to all apprentice, trainee and vocational education nominees in the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

2022 Riverland and Mallee VOCATIONAL AWARDS

TIM WHETSTONE MP Member for Chaffey

p: (08) 8582 4230 | f: (08) 8582 4231 PO Box 959, Berri SA 5343 | chaffey@parliament.sa.gov.au | www.timwhetstone.com.au

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FINALISTS

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE 2022 RIVERLAND & MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Murray Pioneer

🐝 Rivehland and Mallee SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICE



SHELLEY PRIEST School: Berri Regional

Secondary College Industry: Building and Construction Services

Course: Certificate III in Painting and Decorating Employer:

GJ Gardner Homes Riverland RTO: TAFE SA

Shelley commenced an ASBA with GJ Gardner Homes, Riverland in 2021, undertaking studies in Cert III in Painting and Decorating. Now working full time, Shelley valued the opportunity she was given to work in a trade she enjoys while completing her schooling. Shelley has developed a clear career path to achieve her goal of self-employment.



CONNOR ROSS

School: Berri Regional Secondary College Industry: Hospitality Services Course: Certificate III in Commercial Cookery

Employer: Barmera Hotel RTO: TAFE SA

Connor completed a Cert II in Kitchen Operation and when signed up as an ASBA by the Barmera Hotel in 2022 he commenced a Cert III in Commercial Cookery. Connor values the feedback he receives on his performance and the opportunity to learn from experienced chefs. He is considered a "standout student" by his TAFE lecturer, "with a natural aptitude for cookery".





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Cobdogla Primary School Proudly Congratulates

Ellie Ambaras

a finalist in the Trainee of the Year Awards for 2022 We are very proud of your achievement and wish you all the best

> Dolan St, Cobdogla 85887131 www.cobdoglaps.sa.edu.au dl.0721.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Encouraging bright futures for Riverlanders

Hosting the annual Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards is important for the region's future, according to the Rotary Club of Berri's Bruce Richardson.

"A lot of work goes into staging the night but in the end it's worth it," Mr Richardson said. "The buzz in the room when each finalist is announced, and then seeing the response and the

response and the faces of the finalists when they are recognised is really special.

"Some of the skills that these young people have are just amazing and it's important to recognise the contributions they make not only in the different work environments but also the community." Mr Richardson said the award night was an encouraging experience for the region's

an encouraging experi- "W ence for the region's winne young apprentices and other

trainees. "The ceremony is a great confidence boost for the young people of our region and something great to add to a resume," he said.

"We've had past winners go on to win other awards and excel in their chosen career path and it's just really nice to see."



Congratulations on your nomination in the Vocational Awards Will Holmes, William Stockman and Shelley Priest and good luck.

G.J. Gardner. HOMES



+ 2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

2022 *Rivehland and Mallee* **vocational awards**

🐼 Rivehland and Mallee SCHOOL-BASED TRAINEE



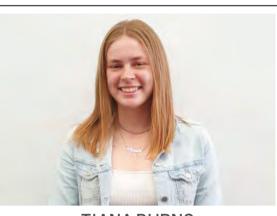
ELLIE AMBARAS School: Berri Regional Secondary College Industry: Educational Services Course: Certificate III in Education Support Employer: Cobdogla Primary School RTO: MADEC Australia

Ellie's mature, co-operative, reliable, and supportive attitude assisted her in gaining a School Based Traineeship in Cert III in Education Support at Cobdogla Primary School in 2022. Critical and creative thinking, communication and fostering strong relationships with children and staff were skills she further developed. Her career path to be a teacher is clearly set.



CHARLOTTE ZIMMERMAN School: Loxton High School Industry: Animal Care and Veterinary Services Course: Certificate III in Companion Animal Service Employer: Riverland Veterinary Practice RTO: TAFE SA

As a School Based Trainee, Charlotte completed a Cert III in Companion Animal Services in 2022. Her employer, Riverland Veterinary Practice, was so impressed with her performance that she was offered a Traineeship in Cert IV - Veterinary Nursing in 2023. Her enthusiasm, great work ethic and passion for animals and their welfare makes her a worthy finalist.



TIANA BURNS School: Waikerie High School Industry: Educational Services Course: Certificate III in Education Support Employer: Waikerie Lutheran Primary RTO: MADEC Australia

Tiana said that completing her School Based Traineeship at Waikerie Lutheran Primary School in 2022 helped her to identify her future career path as an Occupational Therapy Assistant. Completing a Cert III in Education Support gave her the opportunity to work with children where she learnt techniques and strategies to aid their learning.



Riverland and Mallee VET STUDENT



ELLA BRITTEN School: Loxton High School Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care RTO: MADEC Australia

Completing Yr 11 while in the VET in Schools Program in 2022, allowed Ella to continue her educational journey for a career with children. Ella completed Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care, where she gained important theoretical knowledge, and improved her time management and organisational skills. She plans to complete her Diploma in Year 12, then a degree in ECEC at uni and graduate to work as a preschool teacher.



JACK CAMPAIN School: Berri Regional Secondary College Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing)

RTO: MADEC Australia Jack completed his Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care in 2022. His trainer and supervising staff at Berri OSHC and Berri Childcare Centre were impressed with his work ethic, his natural rapport with children, and concern for their emotional wellbeing. Jack plans to complete his Diploma in ECEC in Year 12, at Berri Regional Secondary College in 2023, before continuing tertiary studies to become a primary school teacher.



MIKAYLA WARNER School: Renmark High School Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care RTO: MADEC Australia

Completing year 11 while in the VET in Schools Program in 2022 allowed Ella to continue her educational journey for a career with children. Ella completed Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care, where she gained important theoretical knowledge, and improved her time management and organisational skills. She plans to complete her Diploma in Year 12, then a degree in ECEC at Uni and graduate to work as a preschool teacher.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Congratulations to all award nominees









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2022 Riverland and Mallee vocational awards

2021 Apprentices of the Year, one year on

FOR a second consecutive year, the 2021 Apprentice of the Year award was shared by two worthy recipients.

Murray Pioneer journalist Elyse Armanini caught up with the joint winners, Riley Thompson and Kelsey Wade, to talk about the benefits of the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards and how the past year has looked for them after their win.

How did it feel to be acknowledged as winner of the 2021 Apprentice of the Year?

R: The feeling is indescribable, especially on the night of the awards, because it was certainly a surprise. I got to take a minute to reflect on the night and the past few years, and I found it really satisfying to be recognised for doing something I love.

K: It's a nerve-wrecking situation where you're either going to get exciting or devastating news and you don't know how to prepare. It's a comforting feeling to be commended and recognised as someone of worth, in amongst category finalists of as-much capacity and hard-earned achievement as myself.

Thinking back over the year since you won, has the award impacted you in the workplace (positively or negatively)? Did it give you more confidence?

R: This award definitely gives you more confidence, not only in the workplace but in your day-to-day life as well. You have the chance to speak with many people over the process and you learn really quickly how important the people around you are to your success.



2020 Apprentice of the Year winner, Madison Lailey (centre), presented Renmarkbased graphic designer Kelsey Wade (left) and Loxton-based electrician Riley Thomson with the trophy at the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards last year. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

K: When you receive recognition for your dedication and practice of skill, you feel more confident in that skill and in yourself as an achiever. For me, winning the Apprentice of the Year blessed me with a pride in my own capabilities and gave me focus to strive even further. So, now I'm reaching out to new corners of the world and stretching my legs.

What have you been up to work-wise since winning the award?

R: I was lucky enough to go qualified only a couple months after the awards



Congratulations to all award recipients

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night which then led to me having one of the busiest and best years so far. I got to take on a lot more responsibility and was able to do more training to better myself in the industry.

K: I've taken a dive into a couple different roles with different industries since winning the Apprentice of the Year. In March 2022, I left my graphic design role with Print DNA to pursue a personal development path, starting a job in a WA gas mine doing FIFO work as a camp attendant. I did this for two months before deciding it wasn't for me, only to start a new role with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) Riverland Fruit Fly Eradication Program.

Why do you think the awards are important for Riverland apprentices and trainees?

R: I don't think I realised how locally recognised the awards are, as nearly every local business I went into had seen it in the paper or heard on the radio. So, for young people getting into something they love it's a fantastic way to get your name out there because you never know who will take notice.

K: I believe the awards help highlight the triumphs and passion of vocational students who may otherwise go unnoticed to prospective employers and future stakeholders of opportunity. Not only does it benefit the recipients and commended finalists in a heart-warming sense, but it provides an opportunity for the region to showcase its empowering educational roots. Would you encourage other apprentices and trainees to put themselves forward for nomination?

R: I would certainly encourage all apprentices and trainees to have a crack at the awards because I think you learn a lot about yourself and why you're in the trade. One of my favourite parts of the process is the application and being able to read what your boss has to say because you can then back yourself in knowing you're in the right place.

K: Every trainee and apprentice should nominate for their award category. The biggest doubt I ever had when nominating for an award was the niggling anxiety of 'I'm not as good as my competition', only to realise my competition was going through the exact same thought process.

What advice would you give them?

R: At first I wasn't sure about even starting the application, but someone close to me said, 'What have you got to lose?', so I took that and ran with it. The outcome was way more than I could have imagined. So, my advice is to just have a crack because you never know what the outcome may be.

K: My advice to our local vocational students is to put yourself out there. It will reinforce within you an opportunistic mindset and you will forever be chasing new ideas and gathering different skillsets to hone yourself as a worker and an individual. Even if you don't get into the shortlist, it's not the end of the road. Opportunity is everywhere and is not limited to one point of your life.

mteSA would like to congratulate our nominated Vocational Award finalists, Apprentice Connor Ross and Trainee Ellie Ambaras

mtest

It has been a pleasure to work with our Apprentices, Trainees, Hosts, educators and stakeholders in 2022. We look forward to continuing this work in 2023.



Contact mteSA and let us help you find your next award-winning Apprentice or Trainee!

> JESS LINSELL 0458 053 331 | jess@mtesa.com.au

2022 Rivelland and Mallee vocational awards

Rivehland and Mallee APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



JORDAN BURGESS **Occupation:** Refrigeration Mechanic Age: 21 Industry: Electrotechnology Training Year: Third

Employer: Devilees Air Conditioning & Refrigeration RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to

become an apprentice?: I had always wanted to take up a career in the trade industry. I was keen to start work straight out of school and pick up some valuable life skills that will follow me around forever.



JOSH PAUL Occupation: Electrician Age: 20 Industry: Electrical **Training Year:** Fourth **Employer:** YES Group RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice?:

I wanted to become an apprentice electrician because of the endless pathways available to me once qualified.

JARAH JACKSON

Occupation: Cabinet Maker Age: 21

Industry: Cabinet Making

Training Year: Fourth

Employer: Prestige Kitchens



WILL HOLMES Occupation: Carpenter Age: 20 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth **Employer:** G.J. Gardner Homes RTO: North East Vocational College Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: The reason I became an apprentice

is because I enjoyed the hands-on work and have always had a passion for carpentry.



and Cabinets RTO: North East Vocational College Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: I have always loved building things, working with my hands and testing my skills. In year 10 I did work experience with Prestige Kitchens, I loved every minute of it and knew from then this was the place I wanted to work.

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Congratulations Megan on your nomination

2022 Rivelland and Mallee VOCATIONAL AWARDS

🐝 Riverland and Mallee APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



HUGO KREGAR Occupation: Carpenter

Age: 20 Industry: Construction Training Year: Third Employer: Michael Kregar Building Pty Ltd

RTO: Adelaide Training & Employment Center (ATEC) Why did you decide to become an apprentice?:

An apprenticeship is a great pathway in the construction industry. Over the past three years I have learnt so much, especially working alongside skilled tradesmen.



WILLIAM STOCKMAN Occupation: Carpenter

Age: 21 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth Employer: Rockford Homes RTO: North East Vocational College Why did you decide to

become an apprentice?: I have always been interested in the building industry and knew it was what I wanted to pursue as it is a physical job full of many different tasks and challenges.



ZACK VAUSE Occupation: Carpenter Age: 20 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth Employer: Rockford Homes RTO: North East Vocational College Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: I started an apprenticeship as I have always enjoyed building and creating things. Being a carpenter allowed me

to do that every day.



JAMES BANNEAR

Occupation: Mechanical Engineer Age: 21 Industry: Engineering Training Year: Fourth Employer: Woolston Engineering RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: Becoming an apprentice has allowed me to gain valuable skills and also given me the opportunity to gain first-hand



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MKB are proud to have Hugo Kregar as a finalist!

Congratulations and best wishes.



Big River Toyota



2022 *Rivehland and Mallee* **VOCATIONAL AWARDS**

🐼 Riverland and Mallee APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



DAMIEN VANDERGIESSEN

Occupation: Mechanical Engineer Age: 31 Industry: Engineering Training Year: Fourth Employer: Vall's Styrene Packaging Co. P/L RTO: Mas National Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: Engineering is a passion of mine. Undertaking an apprenticeship has allowed me to broaden my knowledge and skills to obtain a recognised trade qualification as a fitter and turner.



TY GLASSEY

Occupation: Light Vehicle Mechanic Age: 21 Industry: Automotive Training Year: Fourth Employer: Big River Toyota RTO: Toyota Network Training

and TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: To gain the experience and qualification I needed to work in the automotive industry. I was interested in doing an apprenticeship early on in high school, and was lucky enough for Toyota to give me the opportunity.



MAX PANNELL Occupation: Mechanic

Age: 32 Industry: Automotive Training Year: Fourth Employer: River Murray Auto Wreckers RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: Its always good to get more qualifications, do better work for the boss and improve the workplace. I started liking cars at 13 when my step-dad was rebuilding a vintage car. It was just good fun.



LIAM MILTON Occupation: Butcher Age: 20 Industry: Meat industry Training Year: Third Employer: Koch's Foodland Loxton RTO: William Angliss Institute Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: I prefer hands-on studying and I thought, 'Why not help out with the community?' while still learning and getting paid. I plan on going to Socoh Salon and doing a hair apprenticeship. I want to learn and bring to the

community as much as I can.

Riverland Secondary

SCHOOLS ALLIANCE Strong public education for all

The Riverland Secondary Schools Alliance is a partnership between the 5 Riverland Public Secondary Education sites including: Berri Regional Secondary College, Loxton High School, Renmark High School, Swan Reach Area School and Waikerie High School.

The Riverland Secondary Schools Alliance would like to specifically thank our local employers for their ongoing support of students in Apprenticeships and Traineeships. This valuable partnership allows students to engage in industry while completing their South Australian Certificate of Education and remaining connected to school.

2022 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards

The Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards aims to promote and reward the most outstanding Apprentices, Trainees and Vocational Education and Training Students in our region. The Riverland Secondary Schools Alliance has a proud history of providing successful vocational education pathways.

School Based Apprentice

A School Based Apprentice allows senior secondary students to begin an apprenticeship as a part of their SACE. Through this students start vocational training, earn a wage and get hands on experience while finishing school.

Finalists

Shelley Priest (BRSC) Connor Ross (BRSC)

We congratulate our nominees and finalists for the 2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

School Based Trainee

A School Based Trainee allows senior secondary students to begin a traineeship as a part of their SACE. Through this students start vocational training, earning a wage and getting hands on experience while finishing school.

Finalists

Ellie Ambaras (BRSC) Charlotte Zimmerman (LHS) Tiana Burns (WHS)

Nominees

Aizaz Irfan (BRSC)

VET Student

Vocational Education & Training (VET) students complete training with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Students undertaking a VET course gain industry specific skills that allow them to perform tasks in the workplace.

Finalists

Ella Britten (LHS) Jack Campain (BRSC) Mikayla Warner (RHS)

Nominees

Amie Kokegei (WHS) Mitchell Werner (WHS) Khushneet Kaur (RHS)



2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

2022 Rivelland and Mallee VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Riverland and Mallee APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



ABBEY KLIX

Occupation: Hairdresser Age: 21 Industry: Hairdressing **Training Year:** Third Employer: Socoh Salon RTO: Clip Joint Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: I was not interested in university and I liked the thought of making people feel good. My mum is a hairdresser, so I grew up in it I guess.



SARAH KASSEBAUM

Occupation: Hairdresser Age: 18 Industry: Hairdressing Training Year: Third Employer: Socoh Salon RTO: Clip Joint Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: It is what I needed to do for my industry and I knew that I wanted to do hairdressing so it was a requirement of that. I knew from when I was really

KIMBERLEY RAPSON

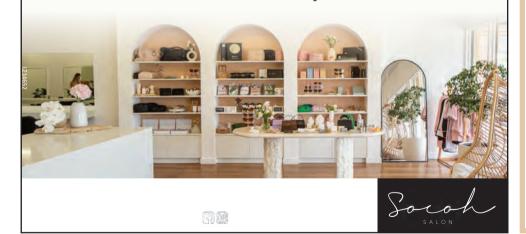
Occupation: Hairdresser Age: 20 Industry: Hairdressing Training Year: Third Employer: Honey Honey Salon RTO: Clip Joint Education Why did you decide to become an apprentice?:

Hairdressing has been my passion since I was about five, and I knew the only way I could get into it was to do an apprenticeship. In year 10, I started thinking about where I could go. It was just a matter of getting one.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Sarah Kassebaum and Abbey Klix on their nominations for the 2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational awards.

And the best of luck to you both!



BROOKE WILKSCH Occupation: Hairdresser

so as soon as I could I did.

Age: 23 Industry: Hairdressing Training Year: Third Employer: Hair Factor RTO: Mas National Why did you decide to become an apprentice?: I liked the thought of getting paid while working, and having something to fall back on later if you want to try new things. I generally liked hairdressing... having someone different every day, different people.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO JORDAN BURGESS ON HIS NOMINATION FOR APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AT THE 2022 RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS.

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2022 Riverland and Mallee vocational awards

Skilling our future

Training the future workforce of the Riverland is vital to our region's economy and prosperity. For our young adults, our employers and our economy, the benefits of high-performing apprenticeship systems are substantial.

Well-trained and efficient employees are more important than ever for business success and the lure of working for a small business, undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship, is often the difference between the younger generation pursuing a career in the region or seeking employment opportunities elsewhere.

Vocational training offer opportunities for young people to pursue careers in their home towns, allowing the region to maintain a young workforce and support local businesses. It is vital that we improve our trainee and apprentice completion rates if we are to make sure our region has the skilled workers and high productivity it requires.

To achieve higher completion rates and deliver greater economic prosperity, we must nurture and encourage trainees and apprentices to complete their training. The Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards play an important role in encouraging and recognising trainees and apprentices for their hard work and passion. For over 30 years, the Awards have been highly respected, acknowledging the hard work and commitment of our budding vocational workforce. It's not just the vocational education students who are recognised through the awards but our outstanding local businesses that provide them with high-quality supervision and support.

The coming together of our community and businesses industries to applaud our passionate apprentices and trainees for the awards is a proud moment every year. The legacy in the careers of the individuals involved in these awards is certainly a measure of success. As a young man, I completed an apprenticeship as a toolmaker at General Motors Holden which has set me in good stead for the rest of my working life.

I am a passionate advocate for continued assistance to our young workers who have committed to their careers through traineeships and apprenticeships. It is these apprentices who will contribute to our small businesses and give back to the local economy.

I would like to congratulate all involved in the awards, the fantastic judging panel and particularly the Rotary Club of Berri, whose volunteers put in outstanding effort every year to make the awards a success.

I look forward to being in attendance to see our hard-working apprentices, trainees and vocational students recognised once again. To be named an award winner at the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards is a true reflection of work ethic and dedication. **#RiverlandProud**

> Tim Whetstone MP Member for Chaffey

A message from Berri Rotary's president

Apprenticeships and traineeships are vital to any community and by providing apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities, local businesses not only ensure their own survival into the future, but also help our community keep some of its best talent at home.

The Riverland and Mallee has more than 500 apprentices and trainees currently in training. This includes apprentices in traditional trades as well as those undertaking traineeships in horticulture, agriculture, retail, clerical, health care, childcare, transport, hospitality, information technology, management, wine production, fitness, food processing, animal care, beauty and real estate.

In recent years, financial support from both Federal and State Governments have enabled local businesses to up-skill and train many of their employees. This has provided opportunities for all Australians to not only achieve nationally recognised qualifications in their industry, but also to be recognised for skills they have developed during their entire working life.

Apprenticeships and traineeships continue to be the major form of vocational training in Australia, and it is our privilege through the Rotary Club of Berri to be able to support and encourage young people starting off on their lifelong career paths.

I would like to thank Kerry Woolston, Bruce Richardson, Vicky Andriske and Karen Inglis, members of the awards committee, for their work in organising the event.

Thanks also to the judging panels and the emcee, Trevor Scott, for their contribution to making these awards a successful event.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Berri, I would like to wish each finalist the best of luck in their chosen career, and good luck in this year's awards.

- Peter Jarvis



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All new apprentices receive a **\$500** incentive payment which is paid once when you have completed your probationary period.

You will also receive a further **\$1,000** payment when you complete the first year of your training contract.



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Our **\$500** work equipment allowance helps apprentices to purchase personal protective equipment, workwear, tools, or other work items for their trade.



Apprenticeship Training Support Up to \$11,200 over 4 years to assist with the cost of on and off the job training.

Mature Age Supplement Up to \$5,500 over two years paid to offset the mature apprentice costs.

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School Based Apprentice Subsidy Additional **\$2,500** paid to support completion of SACE.

CITB Subsidies are paid in addition to State and Federal Incentives. Eligibility criteria applies.



Proudly supporting the 2022 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

2022 *Rivehland and Mallee* **VOCATIONAL AWARDS**

Riverland and Mallee TRAINEE OF THE YEAR



MEGAN BANNEAR

Age: 18 Industry: Dentistry Training Year: First Employer: Tankard Dental Riverland RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee?:

At school I dreamt of a career in dentistry. This traineeship has provided me with outstanding dentistry knowledge, plus many opportunities to extend my qualifications as a dental assistant. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity.



CAMERON DIXON

Age: 18 Industry: Digital Media & Publications/Information Technology Training Year: First Employer: Berri Regional Secondary College (Department for Education) RTO: Integrity Business College

> Why did you decide to become a trainee?:

In becoming a trainee, I wanted to give back to the school community that gave so much for me. I was excited by the opportunity to upskill in the new Berri Regional Secondary College workplace, plus it's an amazing work environment.



Age: 22 Industry: Community Services Training Year: First Employer: ac.care

RTO: Celtic Training Why did you decide to become an apprentice?:

I wanted to experience working with local communities by recognising where issues might occur and why. I've always had a passion for working within the community service sector and wanted to apply my motivation into helping people around me.



Youth success in the spotlight

SUPPORTING a diverse range of skills among Riverland youth is a key part of a local Rotary club's work, says the award's chairperson.

Rotary Club of Berri Awards chairperson, Bruce Richardson said developing leadership abilities in young people was vital to the survival of Riverland industries.

"It's really important to invest in the Riverland's youth, because they are our future," Mr Richardson said.

"If we can keep our youth in the region and promote their skills, it ensures a future for the Riverland. Unless we keep people in those industries they will disappear, (so) it's very important we keep those people we need to maintain businesses in the area.

"Rotary is very much about looking after the junior members of our community (and) we run programs that focus on leadership training, such as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards for 18 to 25-year-olds, and Rotary Youth Programs of Enrichment for 14 to 17-year-olds.

These programs complement the Apprentice and Traineeships by developing skills in leadership, communication and problem solving "

Mr Richardson said the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards celebrated the importance of trainees and apprentices to local businesses. "It's a great opportunity to bring those young people in the community together to recognise success," he said.

"Any kind of reward for success is always a boost for the confidence and the knowledge you're doing the right thing.

"Our club is always on the lookout for interested persons to become involved in supporting the youth programs in the Berri area. If you are interested, please contact the secretary of the Rotary club, details of which are on the club website, www.rotaryberri.org.au"



It's really important to invest in the Riverland's youth, because they are our future.



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2022 *Riverland and Mallee* **vocational awards**

From runner-up to guest speaker

ELYSE ARMANINI

A PREVIOUS Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards finalist and runner-up will take the stage as guest speaker at the awards night next week.

Sakina Qambari, a Renmark High School year 12 student, will tell her story to a room full of finalists, employers, sponsors and members of the community at the Berri Hotel on Friday, February 10.

She plans to tell her audience about where she came from, her beginnings as a school-based trainee, to where she is now, and what she hopes for her future.

When she was asked by the Rotary Club of Berri to be this year's guest speaker, she was taken aback.

"I was quite surprised at the beginning. It was just an honour because I was there as a finalist last year and now I'm going back there as a guest speaker," she said.

"I remember last year sitting as a finalist thinking about how inspirational the guest speaker was. Their talk was amazing and their story was really good.

"Guest speakers talk about something inspirational that happened to them, and to know that I will be someone who will be inspiring other young people to be achieving greatness and good things, it really just made me happy and made everything so far worth it."

The 16-year-old was runner-up in the School-Based Trainee of the Year category at last year's awards night and completed her Certificate III in Hospitality through TAFE SA in Berri last year.

She has since gone on to win the School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year award at both the state and national level in the 2022 Training Awards.

"Even though I didn't win (last year), I was still very thrilled to be a runner-up in the Riverland," Sakina said.

"I was very happy, because it was a very exciting moment for me to be like, 'Wow I just came second as a school-based trainee in the Riverland'. That was probably the starting point of me realising that there were probably other things I could go on to achieve and other awards I could apply for.

"Apprenticeship and traineeship awards nights, especially the Riverland and Mallee one, are really important because it gives recognition, not just for those who are finalists, but also to the businesses that hire them."

Sakina said having apprentices and trainees was important "especially with skill shortages nowadays".

"It's good for the apprentices and trainees because it gives them employment, training and everything that they need to be successful within the job," she said.

"But it also allows the businesses to hear, 'Hey, you're doing a really good job, and you deserve recognition within the community for your hard work and support'." Sakina offered some last<complex-block>

Sakina Qambari accepting her Australian School-Based Trainee of the Year award from Taylor Group Media managing director Ben Taylor at last year's Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

minute tips for finalists on the night of the awards, who will be sitting, waiting to hear if their name is called.

"Just enjoy the night. You have already done all the hard work – the interview, all the applications – everything is done," she said. "Live in the moment and enjoy the moment because at the end of the day, whether you come a runner-up, a winner or just a finalist, know that you are a winner at the end of the day because there are endless opportunities out there for you to grab."



Celebrating the Riverland's best

ALEXANDRA BULL

A DIVERSE range of apprentices and trainees are headlining this year's Riverland and Mallee Vocational awards.

Celebrating the best of the Riverland's apprentices and trainees, the awards will be held at the Berri Hotel on Friday, February 10.

Judge Julie Robertson from Calperum Station said all the judges were looking forward to seeing the apprentices and trainees on the night.

"They are always such an inspiration to us each year that we do this process," she said.

"Being able to see them with their peers, their workmates, their employers and their families at the table is really cool.

"This is something that needs to be celebrated by everyone, and everyone has a part to play in developing these young people into their apprenticeships and traineeships."

With the Riverland home to a wide variety of industries, there are a number of different sectors featured in this year's awards including electrical, hairdressing, construction and carpentry.

"I think from a regional perspective we have got a broad range of areas for people to go int an apprenticeship," Ms Robertson said.

"The Riverland does have a lot to offer in the way of training young people into whatever career they chose to go into."

Ms Robertson said the judges are looking for a winner who will represent the VET sector as a whole.

"There was again a really high quality of young people, and it is so great to see so many of them have a real career vision and ambition to progress in their careers," she said.

"We are looking for that commitment the young person has to their training, and also the commitment of the employer to that young person's development as well. It's a bit of a team thing.

"We absolutely need people in trades; that's what supports regional development and the economy in the region."

Ms Robertson added that there are a lot of apprenticeships and traineeships out there, and encouraged anyone thinking of going into one to look into it.

"Anyone that is sort of thinking maybe university might not be the right thing for them, have a look for an apprenticeship and traineeship, you will definitely find one," she said.

"One thing we did notice this year is that a lot of people moved into an apprenticeship



Around 200 people enjoyed the night at the 2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards last March, including Norma Allen (left), Sally Vasey, both of Loxton, Helen Markeas, of Renmark, and Marian Woodberry, of Loxton. PHOTOS: Elyse Armanini

after doing work experience in the business, so I would suggest to seek out an employer and offer to do some work experience for them.

'We have got a really high

quality and well-trained base of skills. It's important to get good people to underpin the businesses in the industry, as without them we are not going to progress."



Sakina Qambari, of Renmark, and Bianca Halliday, of Paringa, at last year's awards night. Sakina will attend this year's awards as guest speaker.



Jarrad Cranmer (left), Jeremy Pippos, both of Loxton, Ashley Polst, Stacey Polst, both of Berri, Heidi Crawford, Abby Casey and Nathan Casey, all of Barmera.



2020 Apprentice of the Year Madison Lailey and Angel Hockey, both of Barmera, at last



NATURAL FRACTIONS IS A PROUD SUPPORTER **OF THE VOCATIONAL** AWARDS.



2022 - Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards CONGRATULATIONS to all the nominees of the Riverland and Mallee Vocational

Awards. The Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards are the largest of their kind in regional Australia, which underscores not only the hard work of the apprentices,

trainees and students, but also the dedication of members of the Rotary Club of Berri and the quality of the training experience offered by employers in the Riverland and Mallee.

Apprenticeships and traineeships are a highly effective way to skill Australians to



Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253 🔇 8531 2466 🚾 tony.pasin.mp@aph.gov.au 👔 tonypasin.com 두 TonyPasinMP Authorised by T.Pasin MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253.

be part of the modern, rapidly changing workforce. Apprentices and trainees also gain valuable skills which project them onto lucrative career pathways. In short, vocational training is good for the individual and good for the nation.

Congratulations to the nominees in the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards. I am so pleased that the hard work and dedication you have shown to your profession has been recognised in this important wav.

A special thanks must also go to employers in the region, who not only contribute to their profession and the local economy by employing a trainee or apprentice, but also provide important guidance, education and training to the young people they employ, ensure the future of their industry and the strength of local community.



- Tony Pasin MP

I am so pleased that the hard work and dedication you have shown to your profession has been recognised in this important way.

year's awards night.

PAST WINNERS



Apprentice of the Year Joint winners Kelsey Wade and Riley Thompson Trainee of the Year William Gillett



2022 Riverland and Mallee vocational awards

School-Based Apprentice of the Year Callam Irlam School Based Trainee of the Year Ceobahn Webber VET Student of the Year Jarra Gibbs



2020

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Congratulations to James Bannear on being nominated as a finalist for Mechanical Engineering in 2022



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Apprentice of the Year Joint winners Jakob Johinke-Milich and Madison Lailey Trainee of the Year Bianca Shephard





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