



HOME SWEET HOME: Residents who were relocated from the Renmark Paringa District Hospital are returning to their usual rooms this week as flood waters in the region continue to recede. Pictured yesterday are Ruth Menz and her daughter, Wendy Watt. PAGE 2

River rally sparks warning:

LOCALS TO IGNORE BOAT BAN

PAUL MITCHELL

RIVERLANDERS will start to defy River Murray boating restrictions en masse unless the SA Government lifts bans on leisure activities "pronto".

The prediction was made by Loxton man Ian Cass, who helped organise a successful protest rally in Berri last weekend, when 80 people and around 40 boats assembled – in stifling weather – to send a message to the State Government about its ongoing restrictions that prevent locals from using Riverland backwaters.

"If the government doesn't do something about this pronto, people are going to take this into their own hands," Mr Cass said of the ban, introduced on December 20 prior to the flood peak.

"They're just going to do it - and I know people are out there already.

"If nothing happens in the next week, I think it's going to be a free for all and people are going to say 'stuff

The SA stretch of the river has been divided into eight zones, meaning restrictions will be lifted in local stretches first.



taking down levee in 'late January'



Work begins on Lake reconnected



Back to 'business as usual' for aged care residents

RESIDENTS who were relocated at the Renmark Paringa District Hospital are returning to their usual rooms this week as flood waters in the region continue to

Throughout this week, 30 residents who were moved to higher locations within the hospital's residential aged care facility (RACF) in mid-December will be supported by Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN) staff to relocate back to their

Next week, 20 of the facility's most vulnerable residents who were moved off-site to alternative accommodation in the first phase of relocations will return to the RACF, with assistance from the SA Ambulance Service.

"With flood waters receding, we are pleased to announce it is safe for residents of Renmark Paringa District Hospital to begin the return



to their usual rooms at our nursing home and hostel," said Wayne Champion, RMCLHN CEO.

"This will take several days to complete as it involves relocation of the personal furniture and belongings as each of the 30 residents moves back into their usual

"As previously, the moves will be conducted in a very calm, orderly and supportive manner.

"We sincerely thank our residents, their families, our staff and the community for their incredible support over the past weeks."

The relocations, which were all undertaken in December, were deemed "necessary" to protect the



Ruth Menz (right), pictured with her daughter Wendy Watt, is being moved back into her usual room at the Renmark Paringa District Hospital's residential aged care facility after being relocated to higher ground as part of the hospital's flood response. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

residents who could easily slip ee's failure, SA Health said. or fall and be at risk in the "very

health and wellbeing of aged care unlikely event" of the hospital lev-

The RMCLHN will continue

to monitor water levels in case of any further requirements to change accommodation arrangements.

With flood waters receding, we are pleased to announce it is safe for residents of Renmark Paringa District Hospital to begin the return to their usual rooms...

- RMCLHN CEO Wayne Champion



Renmark Paringa Council yesterday began works to dismantle a section of the DefenCell riverfront flood barrier at the Taylor Riverfront Precinct. PHOTOS: Hugh Schuitemaker

First levee comes down as flood water recedes

A LOCAL council has taken its first steps towards recovery from the River Murray flood event by beginning to deconstruct a riverfront levee

Renmark Paringa Council yesterday began works to remove a section of the DefenCell flood barrier at the Taylor Riverfront Precinct.

Renmark Paringa Council says restoring full riverfront access for locals is a priority.

"As the peak of the River Murray Flood has been, council is beginning to turn its focus onto recovery," council said via a Facebook post.

"We are working with the State Government as to how this looks for the Renmark Paringa area, but one of the first items on our list to achieve is to reclaim our riverfront so that all can enjoy walking along it once again."

The DefenCell sandbags were last month installed along the Renmark riverfront between the Visitor Information Centre and BankSA building.

The Facebook post also advised locals a number of snakes had been seen nearby the DefenCell barrier.

It is understood council has also begun capping works at numerous sites around Renmark, in an effort to enable "safer monitoring and maintain the integrity of the levee banks for a greater period of time".

RIVERLAND WE	ATHER											
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WAIKERIE		25 °	***	26 °		28 °		32 °		33°		30°
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Rally organisers Michael Polson and Ian Cass in Berri last Saturday morning. The event was staged to protest ongoing boating and leisure activity restrictions along the Riverland stretch of the River Murray. PHOTOS: Deirdre Graham

Locals set to ignore river ban

PAUL MITCHELL

RIVERLANDERS will start to defy River Murray boating restrictions en masse unless the SA Government lifts bans on leisure activities "pronto".

The prediction was made by Loxton man Ian Cass, who helped organise a successful protest rally in Berri last weekend, when 80 people and around 40 boats assembled - in stifling weather - to send a message to the State Government about its ongoing restrictions that prevent locals from using Riverland backwaters.

"If the government doesn't do something about this pronto, people are going to take this into their own hands," Mr Cass said of the ban, introduced on December 20 prior to the flood peak.

"They're just going to do it - and I know people are out there already.

"If nothing happens in the next week, I think it's going to be a free for all and people are going to say 'stuff it'.

The SA stretch of the river has

SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER TAKEAWAY

been divided into eight zones, meaning restrictions will be lifted in local stretches first.

Loxton-based Mr Cass told Saturday's crowd that those setting the rules "don't live here, or have any idea of what happens in the Riverland".

Fellow rally organiser Michael Polson, of Renmark, also addressed the gathering and lamented the government had failed to justify the ongoing restrictions.

"The government has given no information as to what criteria has to be met to allow us back onto the water, nor have they given any quantifiable reasons why we should be banned in the first place," he said.

"People die every year fishing off the rocks near Sydney but have they banned that? No."

Mr Cass said organisers' reopening plea had already won the support of the Renmark Paringa and Berri Barmera mayors and that supporters were willing to operate under certain safety conditions when returning to the water.



Around 80 people attended the rally, coming from across the Riverland.

He said they include restricting the type of vessels allowed on the water, and establishing "no-go zones" around structures, levees and power lines.

Mr Cass again challenged Premier Peter Malinauskas to return to the Riverland and personally gauge the safety of local backwaters.

"The Premier can see for himself that these are safe waters," he said.

"The sea is 10 times more danger-

"Once the peak passed it should've been dropped immedi-

Mr Cass said people attended

Saturday's rally from across the Riverland.

"They were experienced 'boaties', who have been out there for years," he said.

"To have that many people there, on a 42 degree day, towing their boats from all over the place, sends a pretty loud message.'

Mr Polson ended his speech on Saturday with a plea: "Give us our river back. Now.'

The Murray Pioneer understands the SA Government is yet to finalise any time to implement its zone system.

PAGE 8 Minister's message

SAPOL: Impossible to pinpoint a date

SA Police says pinpointing a date for the lifting of boating and leisure activities across the eight SA River Murray zones is impossible.

Dashing hopes of an immediate lifting of restrictions - even in backwaters - as the flood waters rapidly recede across the Riverland, a police spokesperson says safety remains paramount.

"It is difficult to provide advice as to when the restrictions are able to be lifted," the spokesperson said.

"However, they will only remain in place for as long as is necessary to maintain the safety of the public.'

The spokesperson said the SA flood co-ordinator, Police Commissioner Grant Stevens, was "constantly seeking expert advice as to when it is safe to lift restrictions in the various zones along the river".

The spokesperson said the following are considered:

- The water height, speed and flow have reduced to a level that reduces the risk of serious injury or death to those entering the river.
- The water height has reduced to a level where the levees are no longer engaged or the locks/weir have returned to normal operations, noting fast flowing water at higher than normal levels in the vicinity of locks or weirs creates a risk.
- The water height has reduced to a level such that the wake of a vessel does not inundate dwellings and buildings.
- The condition of the river bank is such that reduces the risk of serious injury or death as people enter the river, or, the action of people entering the river does not cause damage to the bank.
- The amount of debris travelling in the river at speed has reduced to a level that reduces the risk of serious injury or death to people.
- Once the water level in the relevant zone recedes to a point where the levee is no longer engaged.



Pasin passionate about Aussie flag

BARKER MP Tony Pasin has launched a defence of the Australian flag, airing his views across the Riverland in the lead-up to Australia Day next week.

The Liberal politician has circulated leaflets targeting The Greens and what he describes as their "disdain for Australia, our flag and our parliamentary tradition", highlighting comments from Greens Leader Adam Bandt and Senator Lidia Thorpe.

On Channel 10's The Project, the latter recently said the Australian flag "does not represent me or my people".

"It represents the colonisation of these lands and it has no permission to be here," she said.

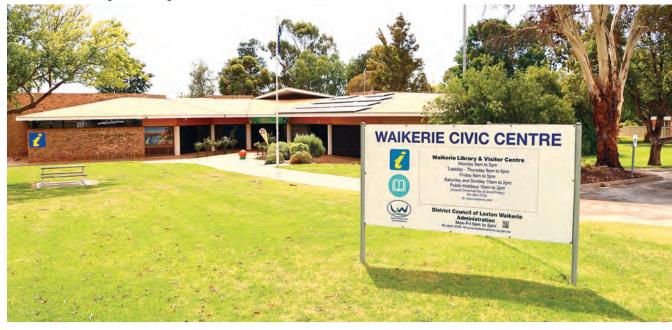
Mr Pasin said the Greens "do not accept the legitimacy of the Australian nation".

"They are ashamed of Australia and they wish to divide us and destroy the things that hold us together," he said.

"I'm proud of the Australian flag and what it represents. It's the flag the Australian Defence Force personnel serve under."

"For many new Australians it's the flag they have chosen to stand under."

Mr Pasin said to support the Australian flag he has produced 'Together Under One Flag' bumper stickers, available through his office at:



councillor Sonya Altschwager has put forward a notice of motion seeking to decrease the number of council meetings held in Waikerie from six to three. PHOTO: Paul McCormick

Loxton

Waikerie

Loxton Waikerie meeting shake up?

ALEXANDRA BULL

A LOXTON Waikerie councillor is looking to reduce the amount of council meetings held in Waikerie each year in order to address an imbalance in travel reimbursement.

Cr Sonya Altschwager put forward a notice of motion for today's council meeting that if carried would see three meetings in Waikerie per year, instead of the current six.

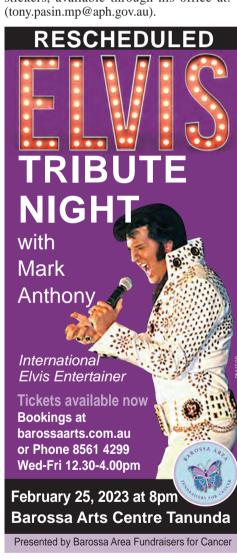
Cr Altschwager said the change would create "greater equity" for elected members, as councillors who live more than 50km from Loxton – the council's "principal office" - receive an annual allowance, unlike those who live within 50km of

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).

Currently meetings are held between Loxton and Waikerie on a rotational basis.

Loxton Waikerie council meetings changed from Friday morning to Wednesday morning after a motion was carried at the November 2022 meeting.



Waikerie Holiday Park set to reopen

THE Waikerie Holiday Park will reopen to tourist guests from Monday, January 23.

Edwards Group CEO and park owner Stephen Edwards said the facility would partially reopen to begin with to ensure guests enjoyed their stay.

"The levee around the park did its job and held but we are experiencing some minor ground water," Mr Edwards said. "While we work towards ensuring the park offers a comfortable stay for all our guests, some bookings will, unfortunately, still be impacted until we can fully reopen the park in a few weeks."

As the water level continues to recede, the park will reopen more cabins and sites to guests.

Mr Edwards said the visitor economy was important to Waikerie, so it was "imperative" that the park reopened as soon as possible and started "reigniting tourist interest in the

He said any travellers looking to visit the Riverland were encouraged to contact the park and book their accommodation for future holidays.

PAGE 19 Shack owners' wait



The Waikerie Holiday Park is set to reopen some cabins and sites for guests from Monday. A levee bank around the park has prevented damage during the Murray River flood event. PHOTO: supplied. INSET: Murray Pioneer 21/12/22

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YOU BONNEY BEAUTY: Renee Gay, Ayla Gilgen and Joey Hermanson enjoying a dip in Lake Bonney recently. SA Health has declared the lake is now safe for swimming. PHOTO: Alexandra Bull

and ready for a holiday rush

PAUL MITCHELL

NEWS that Lake Bonney is officially safe for swimming will hopefully lead to a school holiday rush, the local mayor says.

Late last month SA Health warned people against entering the lake, due to the presence of bluegreen algae, but in recent days has declared it safe for "swimming and diving to recommence".

Berri Barmera Mayor, Ella Winnall, said this week she was 'so happy to hear the news".

"There's still some school holidays left for visitors to come up to Barmera and enjoy the lake," she

"It's been pretty hot too, so it's great for our community to be able to use the lake to cool off, and be able to do some of the things they've been missing out on FLOOD EVENT

because of the boating ban.

"The boat ramp near the yacht club is still open and I'm looking forward to seeing the lake full of activity this week."

In explaining its safe/unsafe messaging on the lake over recent weeks, SA Health says the blue-green algae levels are likely to change from day to day, as blooms move around the lake "in response to changing weather conditions".

"Daily testing of blue-green algae levels is being carried out and these results are being published on the SA Health website and at sa.gov.au/floods, allowing people to determine where and when to swim," an SA Health spokesperson told The Murray Pioneer.

"People are advised to check for updates regularly, since the situation is variable and subject to change.

Regardless of published results, please do not enter the water for swimming or diving if there is visible blue-green water discoloura-

Late January forecast for inlet reopening

JOSH BRINE

THE Lake Bonney inlet is expected to be reopened in the last week of January under current river height forecasts, with Berri Barmera Council contractors ready to begin removing the levee once direction is given.

A working group, comprising council, the State Emergency Service (SES), Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and other stakeholders, determined river levels would need to recede to between 12.3m and 12.5m above the Australian Height Datum (AHD) to facilitate a safe opening of the inlet.

While initial DEW modelling predicted this would occur in early January, council CEO Dylan Strong said revised forecasting suggested the river would reach the required level later this month.

"DEW will advise of a safe reopening date range of the river

levels reaching the required height," he said.

'This could change again if river levels recede at a different rate to their modelling.

"The SES will provide the direction for reopening of the

Mr Strong said council had engaged contractors "who are ready to advance reopening" once SES direction is received, and had also commenced preparatory works while awaiting instruction on the safe reopening

"These on-ground works include working with our partners the Riverland Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation (RMMAC) in protecting important sensitive cultural sites around the lake..." he said.

"Council's engineers have advised that flow into the lake can be achieved within 24 hours of works commencing."

Council's infrastructure manager David Pluckhahn said the levee had helped protect both physical infrastructure and "culturally significant heritage sites" as identified by RMMAC.

"The levee at Nappers Bridge has done exactly what it was constructed to do, in protecting infrastructure and these critical sites, and it is vital that we ensure the inlet reopening is managed so that it doesn't undo the protection it is providing," he said.

Council's environment and regulatory services manager Tracey Alexander said the opening strategy was designed to protect cultural sites as well as providing the benefits of an influx of fresh water into the lake.

"It's important that we ensure that the undeniable environmental and ecological benefits of reopening the inlet do not cause flow-on impacts to these cultural sites," she said.

"It's important that all agencies involved in the process and the wider community understand the sensitivities and complexities involved in this project."

SA Emergency Services Minister Joe Szakacs said the inlet's reopening remained "on track", but encouraged people to visit the lake in the meantime.

"Lake Bonney does remain quite unique within the restrictions that are in place across the river, in that there is freedom, there is capacity to undertake onwater activities," he said.

As of yesterday morning, the river height at Lock 3 at nearby Overland Corner sat at 13.36m.

Meanwhile, council has commenced remediation works in the district, following the passing of peak flows in December.

Landscaping works will be undertaken on the lawn area adjacent to Riverjacks Café in Berri, with further remediation works to start in the coming weeks.

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Glossop latest fruit fly outbreak site

YET another Queensland fruit fly outbreak was declared yesterday, the 21st across the Riverland.

Fruit fly found in homegrown apricots caused the region's latest outbreak, this time in Glossop.

The newest outbreak overlaps a small part of the existing Monash B outbreak area and also takes in new parts of the Berri township. It follows new declarations in Berri and Bookpurnong last Thursday.

All properties within the new 1.5km red

outbreak area will receive outbreak quarantine information from PIRSA, detailing what they need to do to prevent fruit fly spread.

PIRSA general manager of the fruit fly response, Nick Secomb, said it was important not to move fresh home-grown fruit from your property if you live in a red fruit fly outbreak area, given how active fruit flies are at this time of year.

"Common backyard fruit trees are highly appealing to fruit fly and most current outbreaks have started from summer stone fruits like apricots, nectarines, plums and peaches," said Mr Secomb.

"If you are in a red outbreak area, as

tempting as it is please keep your fruit and vegetables on your property once picked and don't share, sell or give them away fresh.

"We all want to get back to sharing our fresh fruit with our neighbours and friends, but until that's possible a good way to use up excess backyard fruit so that they can be shared is to cook them."

PAGE 12 Outbreaks galore

OPINION



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EDITORIAL

THE YEARS GO BY

BY PETER AND CARLA MAGAREY

Some context on councillor's idea

IT'S a sad irony of modern politics and media that the term 'misinformation' is routinely used to described opinions that merely fail to match the current zeitgeist, and can themselves be true misinformation.

During certain stages of the Covid-19 pandemic any questioning of the main-stream messaging – driven relentlessly for many months – was labelled misinformation, while other legitimate public debate is often shut down in the dubious name of supressing misinformation.

Of course, the whole house of cards often falls apart when someone simply asks 'Who decides what is misinformation?'.

But on occasion, misinformation can spring from a more genuine place, where those responsible are without important relevant facts, robbing them of the opportunity to make informed judgments.

Such was the case with premature criticism of Loxton Waikerie councillor Sonya Altschwager's motion to cut the number of general meetings held at Waikerie each year from six to three.

Without any background, that proposal – to be voted on today – sounds Loxton-centric and unfair on Waikerie, home to a perfectly functional council meeting space at the town's civic centre.

Notice of Cr Altschwager's motion was posted on social media, minus supporting information contained within the same online council document, sparking predictable backlash and accompanying comments, albeit by only a relatively small number of people.

Given historical unrest about perceived inequities within Loxton Waikerie council, this only serves to further amplify division, far from ideal in a still-new council.

However, had the background behind Cr Altschwager's proposal also been made available, reaction may have been different, or at least tempered.

In fact, true inequity exists in elected members' current remuneration situation, due to the LGA's rules about council's "principal office", located in Loxton.

Essentially, the rules see Loxton-based councillors paid zip to travel to Waikerie, and Waikerie-based councillors paid the equivalent of a 12-month allowance, despite travelling to Loxton only six

Even knowing this, some people may retain the defensible opinion that regardless of remuneration, each town should host six meetings per year, and that Cr Altschwager should have addressed that

But their constructive criticism must – out of fairness – take into account the remuneration arrangement, and make a suggestion of how that imbalance could be addressed.

Without that consideration, their criticisms are just as partial as they imagined the situation to be before the full facts were revealed.

From time to time, even the most well-informed among us goes off half-cocked, particularly in the social media/clickbait age, where headlines are king and context is increasingly ignored.



Loxton community member Bronte Rayson (left), with Loxton Council's Des Schliebs, Adelaide Council's Wendy Chapman, and compere Bobby Limb: Bronte, representing the Loxton Historical Village Management Committee and Des, received the museum's State Tourism Award in 1983. A man of vision, Bronte was active in a wide array of community events and committees. In the late 1960s/early 1970s he was chairman of the Loxton Apex Club when developing the riverfront picnic area. In 1973 he was president of the Loxton Community Centre, which loaned \$600 to assist the relocation of Geranium's old Bank of Adelaide building to the Village and, simultaneously, was investigating a wildlife sanctuary near the Village as an additional tourist attraction. A foundation member of Loxton Apex and with long-time involvement with St John's Ambulance, Bronte was a popular master of ceremonies who gave "countless hours voluntary work to the community on various local committees". He was Loxton Citizen of the Year in 1983. With his family, he moved to Adelaide in 1986 and in 2020, was awarded an Order of St John Ultra-Long Service Medal for 50 years' service to St John's Ambulance. Married to Jan for 63 years, he died in January 2023, aged 86. PHOTO: Loxton News

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government bodies destroying Bonney

WHY are government bodies intent on destroying Lake Bonney?

We had a drought and they closed the lake. We have a high river they close it off again.

How can it be justified erecting a double lane bank from Nappers Bridge nearly to Cobdogla at a cost of millions of dollars?

The floodwater only reached approximately 600 metres of the 5km bank.

In erecting this 'Great Wall of China' they have destroyed the Morgan Road near Nappers Bridge and now, if rumours are correct, the bridge is showing stress fractures due to the thousands of heavily loaded trucks crossing during construction.

This unsightly bank will never be removed. Not to mention the useless DefenCell which were constructed at Nappers Bridge. The water did not come near them

The Morgan Road could have been kept open as water would never have reached the road.

Berri is no different, with unneeded DefenCells constructed at the river frontage. Now they have to be disposed of and at whose expense?

Renmark has done an excellent job and has attracted many tourists to observe the high river.

Barmera could have been the same, with some small levees to protect infrastructure. But no, it chose the easy way out by closing the lake at Nappers Bridge.

Tourists would have visited to see a full lake. Instead they saw slime and algae.

The lake is evaporating at a staggering rate but there seems no intention, despite media announcements two weeks ago, to remove the bank and allow some fresh water inflow to replace this water.

Was this announcement made to quieten the restless?

Surely no one's property is in danger now of being flooded?

I'm sorry that the people of Barmera again have been hoodwinked.

I believe some members of Berri Barmera Council have a lot to answer for – to the ratepayers of Barmera.

JOHN BANNEAR Barmera

Tim must resign over driving drama

REGARDING the story about Tim Whetstone delaying telling his boss about his driver's licence ('Why I didn't speak up any earlier', Murray Pioneer, 11/1/23), I know why didn't he speak up.

Because as far as he was concerned, he got away with it and only spoke up for fear of being outed.

Is anyone thick enough to fall for this story that he was "fulfilling" his duties?

Absolute rubbish. He has a heavy foot.

Most adults learn to use cruise control after the first time SAPOL pull them over.

In my view, Mr Whetstone set out to deceive the electorate by omission. He tried to hide it, and his explanation of why belongs on the ground in a male bovine's paddock.

Is he so convinced he has that big a hold over the electors?

How many times has his federal counterpart been caught speeding? Obviously not enough to lose his licence, so he must know where the cruise control is and how to use it.

While acting as shadow road safety minister, Mr Whetstone chose not to disclose his situation to his party or the electorate.

In my opinion, this act shows an arrogant belief that he can do as he pleases. Our expectations of our regional representative mean nothing to him.

The fact he lost his licence in September means he had been caught multiple times before then. He should have resigned that portfolio after the first time being pulled over for speeding, instead of trying to hide it.

I call for his immediate resignation. He has proven he is not suitable for office.

STEPHEN LYNCH Loveday

The Voice is just a Trojan horse

THE proposed indigenous Voice to Parliament presents a great threat to our democracy and our way of life.

It is described as "The Voice", inferring that it will be the only indigenous voice, but that is plainly wrong.

The indigenous population already has a voice to parliament through its elected representatives in the same way that all Australians have.

This voice will in effect be a second voice, restricted to a minority of the population.

I see danger on three fronts. Firstly, the voice may acquire the power to override or veto the decisions of parliament.

Nobody in their right mind would give it such powers but that is what has happened in New Zealand where a similar body exists. It began as an advisory body but has acquired power to veto the decisions of parliament.

At the Garma Festival back in July the Prime Minister said in an interview that it would be a very brave parliament that went against the wishes of the voice.

If the voice is to be purely an advisory body, as we are being led to believe, how can that be?

Here is what is likely to happen.

Parliament does not accept the recommendations of the voice. That body takes the matter to the High Court claiming racial discrimination, and with a successful outcome forces parliament to accede to its wishes, which could mean blocking developmental projects, for example.

Just think what might happen if the voice asked for payment of reparations.

In this case rule 'by the people, for the people' would give way to rule by a few unelected and un-removable judges with varied political leanings. Thus whether this body has advisory or administrative power, the outcomes would be similar if it has constitutional authority.

Secondly, who is going to comprise the voice and advance

its decisions?

No doubt there will be people with a genuine interest in indigenous welfare but there will also be activists eager to get their hands on the levers of power; over time these latter could become the majority.

The vast majority of Australians have nothing but goodwill for the indigenous population and the majority of the latter reciprocate the feelings, but there are some among them who don't.

Thirdly, once this body is set up, because it is part of the constitution there will be no way that Parliament could abolish it, as was done to ATSIC (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission) when it became corrupt and wasteful of taxpayer money.

The proposed body could not be de-funded, abolished or have its powers curtailed except by a referendum approving this.

However, if the voice is controlled by activists, obviously they will never consent to a referendum which could take away their powers.

If the government sees the need for another indigenous advisory body, it can legislate one into being at any time. This way government will have power to abolish it if need be and save tens of millions of dollars on a referendum.

In conclusion, if the referendum comes about, when you vote on this matter, be guided by the facts, not by feel-good sentiments the Federal Government is promoting.

FRANK GATHERCOLE Loxton

We need CO2

A RECENT writer to The Murray Pioneer suggests we are at war with CO2, "an invisible enemy capable of destroying the planet" ('Wealthy Australia should set an example', 11/1/23).

However, the reverse is more likely. Without any atmospheric CO2 causing some glasshouse effect, the entire earth would freeze over.

Additionally, all plant life would be destroyed and with that

"Why are government bodies intent on destroying Lake Bonney?"

- JOHN BANNEAR



murraypioneer.com.au

so would human existence.

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.

Optimum atmospheric levels of CO2 for plant life is about 1200ppm to 1600ppm. Worldwide we got as low as 380ppm before humans started to use fossil fuel to produce energy.

This human activity was a fortunate twist of fate as the continued downward trend of atmospheric CO2 was reversed. Otherwise CO2 levels may have eventually reached 140ppm to 160ppm, at which point all plant life would have been destroyed and with that life as we know it.

However, I do agree with the same writer's support for Australia to seriously consider a nuclear power industry.

It's interesting that those corporate investors supporting zero emissions do not support nuclear. Is that because they have lobbied against coal and gas, invested everything they own in wind and solar, and don't want nuclear as a competitive option? JEFF KNISPEL

Bringing honesty to men vs women

Wigley Flat

DEPRESSION is widespread in our community because we listen to too many lies about how life will be, and compare it to our own lives.

It's not just the lies by advertisers, media and politicians, but intellectual lies too.

Whole fantasy narratives such as how genders need to be equal-

The simple obvious truth is that lumping people into any two groups and trying to make them equal is lunacy.

It's fun to do it with sports teams because they have an extremely narrow focus, but shouldn't be more widely spread.

To try and group men vs women ignores math. Insurance companies don't ignore math, which is why they charge young men thousands more for car insurance.

You've gotta be joking!

Cartoon comment by Tony Hersey



Nature doesn't ignore math; men die much younger than

But anyone who believes in a gender equality policy has just thrown their math skills out the

You can do the math on any organisation to see how that goes.

Let's take Mid Murray Council.

Senior staff would be nearly all men. Indoor staff would be nearly all women. Outdoor staff would be nearly all men.

Yet the policy of the Mid Murray Council would be to have equality, even though the counting doesn't show that hap-

Any organisation would show the same results if you do a little

But everyone lies. You have to, it's a part of every job interview with these groups.

If we were a little more intellectually honest we would all be a little bit less depressed. And that's no lie.

JAKOB GAMERTSFELDER Morgan

Slaughtering roos for what reason?

THE kangaroo is at risk of annihilation.

Since European settlement, six macropodidae species have already become extinct.

The roo is an icon of Australia, emblazoned on our coat of arms, used for team insignias, and the animal that tourists hope to see when they visit.

Yet despite laws protecting native species, quotas were issued in 2022 for the commercial slaughter of 4.5 million kangaroos, wallabies and wallaroos.

Far more were killed, including joeys who are usually pulled out of their dead mothers pouches and beaten to death.

Thousands more are shot by landholders who are not bound by the poorly commercial codes of practice. Thousands are injured and left to die in agony.

The annual massacre of these peaceful herbivores is the largest slaughter of land-based wildlife on the planet.

They are being killed to stop them eating grass that graziers want for sheep and cattle, and for the profits to be made selling their skins for football boots.

To say kangaroos are damaging the land they've lived on for four million years is absurd - the real culprit behind land degradation is overgrazing by introduced sheep and cattle.

The best way to protest this disgraceful carnage is to stop buying meat, dairy, leather and wool.

DESMONDY BELLAMY Special projects co-ordinator **PETA Australia**

Green folly killing our grasslands

BLACK Aussies built our grasslands with everlasting fires,

Then squatters went one better with cooler springtime pyres.

But Greens they banned the fires and cancelled grazing passes.

Now wildfires kill the forests and weeds replace the grasses. **VIV FORBES**

Washpool, Queensland

Looking back...

10 years ago January 18, 2013



Here comes harvest



HERE COMES HARVEST: Facing the prospect of better prices and lower yields, thousands of grape growers, contractors and winery workers across the region are preparing for the industry's busiest three months of the year. CCW chairman Jim Caddy expects prices to increase by about 5 per cent on last year, however is tipping the region to harvest less grapes than 2012. "Some of the varieties look quite patchy," he said. "There are some quite good crops and others not so good, but it'll be difficult to tell until we get into them."

20 years ago January 17, 2003

The Murray Pioneer

US giant makes move on BRL



US GIANT MAKES MOVE ON BRL: BRL Hardy could form part of the world's largest wine company if a proposed merger or takeover with US company, Constellation Brands, goes ahead. A spokesperson for BRL Hardy said this week that talks between the companies are in the advanced stages and that it should be known within one to three weeks whether the merger or acquisition will go ahead. Constellation Brands is one of the world's biggest producers of wines, spirits and beers. Adding BRL to its stable would create the world's biggest wine business,

REEKSY with annual wine sales of around \$3 billion. 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

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Web: www.murraypioneer.com.au Editor: Paul Mitchell **OFFICE HOURS** Monday to Friday 8.30am-4pm

TEXT LINE

Geez, next time I get done for speeding I will blame the flood crisis, like Tim ('An explanation, but no excuse', Murray Pioneer, 11/1/23).

0439 261 337

ROB

I think most people will just say 'move on'. I'd probably do my licence too if I had to drive as many kilometres as our local member

JS

For goodness sake and so what - Tim Whetstone didn't tell his boss he lost his licence. Isn't there more important things we should be hearing in the news and concentrating on? Tim is on the road for a lot of his work, he was caught speeding, paid his fines, did his time of punishment not driving for three months while he found a way to continue his work. I say good on you, Tim, for paying the price for your speeding and continuing to do your work. It's great you are honest where it matters and have a good friend to help you out. I have read of other politicians who rack up their fines and try to get out of paying them until it's rightly bought to the public's attention. Keep up your good work. And to the public: Let's move on to more important things and leave the man you elected

alone to do his job.

ELLEN Berri

Tim Whetstone says the PATS (Patient Assistance Transport Scheme) increase justifies the Liberals' argument (Murray Pioneer, 11/1/23). But he didn't say why they didn't increase it when they were in government. Maybe they are just better at opposition?

LEANNE Loxton

Grant Schwartzkopff's book is a masterpiece. His photos capture the incredible acrobatics, courage, strength and fearlessness of our

finest footballers. Thorpedo, Saf, Muz, BV, Leigh and Ryan all could have and should have played AFL

How sad is it that the council has let the Lions Park surrounds in Waikerie run down so much? Rubbish bins that are only emptied when complained about, lawns not mowed for weeks, weeds everywhere, the shelter shed needing repair and maintenance, and the roads leading down to the river covered in debris. Then there's the sewerage overflow running onto the lawn.

Waikerie

Hon. Tim Whetstone MP Member for Chaffey

Chaffey Community Column

Thank you

Our local SES volunteers should be commended for their selfless efforts to assist during the flood in our region. Local members from the Chaffey units have joined emergency services personnel to protect people's homes and livelihoods. also want to shout out to our local earthmoving companies who have forged lasting legacies in our region by working together to keep our river communities safe. My deepest gratitude to all of those who have helped during these trying times and I would also like to thank the wonderful businesses and individuals from our community who are giving up time and money to help fundraise. During such times of hardship, it is wonderful to see the community rally together and look after one another.

As the flood waters start to recede, I would like to remind people that my staff and ${\rm I}$ are here to offer assistance to anyone who needs it in the recovery phase. I have worked with the State Government to have the Murray River corridor split in eight sections and I will continue to fight to have restrictions eased for recreational access.

Visit from the Governor of South Australia

Prior to Christmas, I had the pleasure of hosting Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamsor AC in the Riverland as she toured the floodimpacted areas of our region. Her Excellency was keen to get a ground-level insight into the flood preparations and speak with local community members and businesses to see what assistance will be required once the water has begun to



Community Spirit on show

Every year Australia Day Award ceremonies and events provide a wonderful reminder of the generous community spirit in the Riverland and Mallee. After a challenging 2022, these events are a great way for the community to gather and support each other. Some of the local Australia Day Events for 2023 are listed below

Event: Renmark Paringa Council's Community Breakfast and Australia Day Ceremony

Time: Breakfast will be served at 8.00am and the official Ceremony will commence at 9.00am

Location: The Renmark Club Ticket bookings required.

Event: Berri Barmera Council Community Walk,

Breakfast and Award Ceremony

Location: Barmera lakefront

Time: Walk begins at 7.30am followed by 8.00am breakfast and 9.00am ceremony

Event: Loxton Australia Day Breakfast

Time: 6pm on Saturday 28th of January

Time: 8.00am start with presentations at 8.45am Location: Loxton Club, Bookpurnong Terrace Ticket bookings required

Event: Waikerie Australia Day Spectacular

Location: Waikerie Football Oval Gold coin donation entry **Event:** Karoonda Australia Day Celebrations and

Award Ceremony Time: 11:00 am Start Location: Marama Hall

Thriving Communities Program

The Thriving Community Program is offering grants from \$20,000 to \$50,000 to eligible projects that enable community group participation, a sense of belonging and equity of access. Projects that meet the aims of the program can include infrastructure, plant and equipment, events and training. Applications are now open and close on 30 June 2023 or when funding is fully allocated. Further information is available at ww.pir.sa.gov. au/funding_and_support/funding/thriving_ regions_fund/thriving_communities_program

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E chaffey@parliament.sa.gov.au

Minister's messages on lake safety and tourism vouchers...



Murray River Trails managing director Tony Sharley, SA Tourism Minister Zoe Bettison and Boats and Bedzzz Houseboat Stays and Renmark River Villas owner Deanne Flaherty at an industry lunch held at the Renmark Club last Thursday. PHOTO: Josh Brine

pportunities abound

THE State Government has a role to play in clarifying the mixed messaging surrounding the safety of Barmera's Lake Bonney for recreation, SA's Tourism Minister says.

Tourism Minister Zoe Bettison visited Lake Bonney with Berri Barmera Mayor Ella Winnall last Thursday, before meeting with local operators and industry stakeholders in Renmark.

The lake has been impacted by algal blooms in recent weeks, with SA Health advice regarding the safety of the lake for swimming due to algae levels changing several times.

'Obviously, with SA Health we always have to listen to the advice, but there is still (tourism) opportunities there... it's just about clarifications of the message," Ms Bettison said.

"Just like before when people heard it would close, but it was the inlet that was closed, sometimes the message isn't as clear

By **JOSH**

BRINE

as we want it to be.

"Having the new CEO of the South Australian Tourism Commission Emma Terry with me, we heard those messages and we can assist in that way."

With \$3m committed for a three-round tourism voucher program and \$1.1m for a postflood marketing campaign, Ms Bettison said local stakeholders had "pretty strong views" regarding how tourism in the region should be repositioned once business-as-usual returns.

"While it's wonderful to have river time and fundamentally it's an adventure playground, there are a lot of other things to do including agritourism," she said.

"The wine is exceptional and there are lots of other experiences, food particularly, that people can have. There's an opportunity now for us to broaden the attractions around the river."

Ms Bettison said operators had a "difference in thought" about when the marketing campaign and vouchers should be

"I think for me, I need to go back and understand how many accommodation places aren't open now, and that's quite a few beds that aren't available," she

"If we were to stimulate and encourage visitors through a campaign, we want to have the maximum amount of accommodation available for people to stay.

"I think we'll find that information out in the next few weeks and have a look at those timelines and adjust ours according-

Ms Bettison said she got a "really positive feeling" from the local industry about the opportunities for the coming months of

"Obviously they are keen to look at the winter season, which is normally quiet, to be at a higher level than normal, and I'll be certainly looking to assist them with that," she said.

"Even though I had some very positive engagement looking at the next three to six months, we're very much aware that we're still in this event.

"People are still experiencing this high river, so as much as we are looking at the next step, I think we should be conscious of that.

"Within that, the question is also, once the water does subside what damage has been done?"

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FRUIT WHEN RIPE AND KEEP FRUIT TREES PRUNED.

COLLECT

FALLEN FRUIT THEN BAG AND BIN IT, DON'T COMPOST OR BURY.

CHECK

YOUR FRUIT FOR BLEMISHES AND MAGGOTS.

CALL

THE FRUIT FLY HOTLINE IF YOU SUSPECT FRUIT FLY.





Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Clare Scriven (second from left), with Central Irrigation Trust CEO Greg McCarron, Riverland Wine board member Jim Markeas, Renmark Irrigation Trust CEO Rosalie Auricht, and CCW Co-op CEO Jim Godden. PHOTO: supplied

A NEW decade-long initiative is aimed at supporting members of the Riverland wine industry struggling

with "unprecedented challenges" ahead of this year's vintage.

The State Government

today announced a 10-year industry blueprint would be developed, in conjunction with Riverland Wine, to

define "a pathway to recovery" for local grape growers and winemakers.

Riverland Wine executive officer Lyndall Rowe said a combination of losing the Chinese market, high input costs and inflationary pressure on shipping rates, plus the River Murray flood event, were having ongoing negative impacts on Riverland grape growers and winemakers.

Consequently, the State Government will provide a \$100,000 grant for development of the blueprint, with Riverland Wine also providing \$50,000.

Ms Rowe said strategic priorities to help the local industry "recover from some of the most challenging years in decades" would be identified through the initia-

"The Riverland grape growing and winemaking community welcomes the (State Government's) investment to support our industry now and into the future," Ms Rowe said.

"By working together, industry and government can help our region recover, improve productivity and most importantly, create great wine to be enjoyed around the world."

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Clare Scriven

said "supporting the region's grape growers and winemakers to get on the road to recovery" was a State Government commitment.

"The Riverland, along with the Murraylands, is home to over 60 per cent of the state's wine grape production and is the largest wine region, by volume, in Australia," Ms Scriven said.

"Now, undoubtedly, this vital region is facing one of its toughest periods in living memory.

"This blueprint will serve to bring all participants in the Riverland wine supply chain to work together, ensuring it is again a sustainable and thriving industry."



Meter readings postponed due to flood

REQUIREMENTS for local irrigators to provide water meter readings will be temporarily suspended due to the River Murray flood

The State Government last week announced an obligation to submit the latest quarterly meter reading would be lifted for Riverland water licence holders impacted by flooding.

Minister for Water Susan Close said "alternative arrangements" would be discussed with individual licence holders whose

meters were unable to be safely accessed.

"The State Government recognises this major flooding event is likely to cause added stress for people living in River Murray communities," Ms Close said.

"We want to help ease the burden for those water licensees and irrigators who are doing it tough at the moment.

"I encourage licence hold-

ers who are unable to fulfil their meter reading obligations to contact the



when practicable." The current quarterly reading is due on January 31.

Licence holders requiring assistance can contact the Department for Environment and Water by phone on 8595 2053, or by email (dew. waterlicensingberri@sa.gov.

Loxton community mourns loss

THE Loxton community is body recovered in flood waters at mourning the loss of focal man Robert Westbrook, who passed

Mr Westbrook was reported missing on Monday last week and his Loxion North the following morning

The 78-year-old was highly respected across the community, including within the local football



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Searching for Riverland's best mullet

EVA NIKOU

MONASH'S Harley Otto de Grancy believes his voluminous locks make him a worthy contender to be named 'Riverland's best mullet'.

The Murray Pioneer is currently searching for the region's best 'business up front, party down back' cut - and 20-year-old Harley reckons his mullet's length and thickness are second

"I think it's probably the most different one in the

Riverland - I haven't really seen anybody else with a similar style to mine,"

Harley says.
"I'm just used to seeing a lot of people with really thin, long mullets rather than something really thick..."

The local firefighter started growing his mullet in November 2020 and it took two years to flow well past his shoulders.

Friends and family have grown fond of the mullet, with Harley even dubbed "Bon Jovi" by his father.



"I've got to give a shoutout to my hairdresser Janine because she's done a wonderful job," he says. "I don't really care if the

trend is out of style or not; it makes me feel happy that I've got something... I haven't really seen before."

The Pioneer has extended the deadline for entries, which now close at 5pm tomorrow, January 19.

If you're a contender for the region's best mullet or know someone worthy of the title, send a photo to: ads@murraypioneer.com.

Entries are open to adults and children, with great prizes on offer.



Harley Otto de Grancy shows off his luscious mullet, a contender for The Murray Pioneer's 'Riverland's best mullet' competition. PHOTO:

Renmark fires 'a reminder' of safety

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

LOCALS have been urged to prioritise fire safety during the summer after two separate blazes broke out in a Riverland town last week.

Renmark MFS firefighters responded to reports of a vehicle fire on Meander Avenue, in Renmark, around 4.30pm on Monday, January

It is understood the fire was started when a battery box came into contact with a metal toolbox, conducting electricity and melting a rubber mat in the vehicle.

The fire caused no injuries and was put out by locals.

Firefighters then responded to reports of a house fire at a property on Goolwa Street, in Renmark North, around 12.30pm on Wednesday, January 11.

Upon arrival a "small" fire was found in the backyard of a property currently being renovated. Firefighters extinguished the blaze and no injuries were caused.

An MFS spokesperson said the incident served as "a good reminder about not burning in fire danger



Renmark MFS crews responded to reports of a vehicle fire, which had started when a battery box made contact a metal toolbox, last week. PHOTOS: supplied





Firefighters responded to the scene of a small housefire at a Renmark North property last Wednesday.

season, unless you have acquired a permit from the

"(Do not) burn within the township either," the spokesperson said.

Father Paul's final Riverland mass

FATHER Paul Bourke will deliver his final mass in the Riverland this weekend.

Fr Paul, of Our Lady of the River Parish, which encompasses all Catholic churches across the Riverland, is leaving the region for his next parish, at Port Lincoln.

"He will be missed by many across the Riverland, in the major towns and also in the more remote areas," a spokesperson for the OLOR parishioners said.

"Fr Paul has previously been in Coober Pedy and shared his rural and remote experiences with us, along with his hobby of raising turkeys. We will miss our annual gobbler nights.

"Safe travelling Fr Paul."

The Barmera mass will be held this Sunday, January 22, at 11am and be followed by a morning tea.







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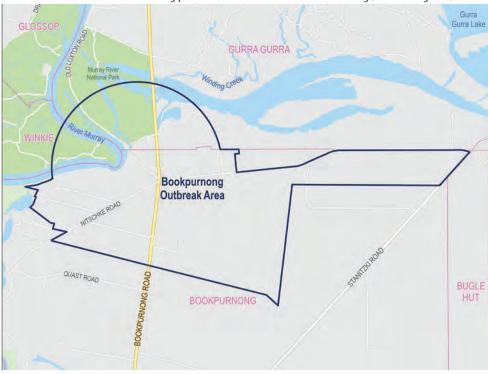


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New fruit fly outbreaks were last week declared in Berri and Bookpurnong, after maggots were detected in backyard fruit. IMAGE: supplied

Fruit fly outbreak toll hits 20

RIVERLAND home owners have been urged to continue reporting potential fruit fly risks after the region saw its 20th current outbreak

PIRSA last Thursday declared new fruit fly outbreaks in Berri and Bookpurnong following the detection of maggots in backyard apricot and plum trees.

Riverland Fruit Fly Committee chair Jason Size said warmer conditions would likely result in increased detections of the pest.

"From experience, we are aware that at this time of year there are more fruit fly outbreaks," Mr Size said.

"It is good to see the community reporting suspected cases and PIRSA quickly reacting with eradication.

"As the outbreak numbers increase over the summer period the community is encouraged to keep reporting so we can respond as quickly as possible."

Fruit fly response general manager Nick Secomb said PIRSA officers would visit properties in the outbreak areas to apply bait and check for signs of fruit fly.

"Everyone needs to play their part in not letting fruit fly under the radar – it's really important everyone with a fruit tree follows

the four simple steps," Mr Secomb said. "Pick ripe fruit promptly, collect fallen fruit off the ground, check your fruit for signs of fruit fly (and) call the Fruit Fly

Hotline... if you suspect anything." Mr Size advised participation from local growers in PIRSA's self-baiting program would "greatly help our chances of stopping new hotspots from occurring".

"If you're a grower in a red outbreak area, please contact PIRSA to register your interest," Mr Size said.

Primary producers impacted by current fruit fly outbreaks are encouraged to contact the free Family and Business support program by visiting the website (pir.sa.gov.au/

Further information regarding Riverland fruit fly outbreaks is available by visiting the PIRSA website (https://www.fruitfly.sa.gov.

196. Truck driver arrested after drink driving at

AN interstate truck driver has been charged with numerous road offences after being found drink driving in the Riverland.

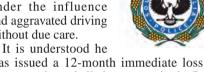
Police were called to the Sturt Highway around 2.10pm on Thursday, January 12, after reports that a B-double truck was swerving across the road into oncoming traffic as it travelled towards Barmera.

About 10 minutes later, officers spotted the B-double – which was seen colliding with concrete bollards on the side of the road - driving erratically at Monash and attempted to stop the vehicle.

The driver initially failed to stop for police and continued driving east but was eventually stopped on the Sturt Highway, where he allegedly returned a positive alcohol reading of 0.196.

The 61-year-old man, from New South Wales, was arrested and charged with

exceeding the prescribed concentration of alcohol, driving under the influence and aggravated driving without due care.



was issued a 12-month immediate loss of licence and was bailed to appear in the Berri Magistrates Court on February 27.

Endangered whipbird found in enviro park

AN endangered bird species native to South Australia has been recorded for the first time in nine years at a local environmental site.

The State Government last week announced the endangered white-bellied whipbird, which was thought to have been extinct, had been rediscovered at the Ngarkat Conservation Park, outside of Pinnaroo.

A recording of the bird was made during a survey being conducted through the Threatened Mallee Birds project, being run by the Mallee Bird Conservation Action Planning Committee and BirdLife Australia.

Minister for Environment Susan Close said supporting conservation efforts sur-



rounding native species was

"The State Government is so grateful to the research-

ers and volunteers that have helped to make this discovery and who are working to preserve and restore biodiversity in our state," Ms Close said.

"This discovery will help inform conservation efforts going forward, which is a great result for the whitebellied whipbird and for conservation in South Australia."

Bushfires across the region in 2014 were believed to have led to the bird's near extinction.

National Parks and Wildlife Service conservation ecologist Chris Hedger said data from the survey would "directly inform future management efforts to protect and recover these threatened species".





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Local driver blows .215 with child in vehicle

TWO locals have lost their licence after being caught driving while more than four times over the legal alcohol limit last week.

A white Ford sedan was stopped by police on the Old Sturt Highway, at Berri, around 9am on Friday, January 13, with the driver returning an alcohol reading of 0.215 when breath tested.

It is understood the man also had a child in the car at the time.

The 23-year-old Renmark man was issued with a 12-month instant loss of licence and was bailed to appear in the Berri Magistrates Court on February 21.

Police then stopped a Toyota ute driving on Gilbert Street, in Berri, just after 5.30pm on Saturday, January 14, with the 44-year-

old male driver producing a positive alcohol reading of 0.255.

Police also allege the man refused a breath test and resisted arrest.

The man was issued a 12-month immediate loss of licence and bailed to appear in the Berri magistrates Court on February 27.



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Future flood mitigation a recovery focus

THE State Government is "very keen" to be involved with futureproofing the Riverland against inundation as major flooding becomes more frequent due to climate change, SA's Primary Industries Minister says.

With local producers beginning to recover following the passing of peak flows through the region, Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven said her department was working closely with industry associations and peak bodies on the recovery phase and how the impact of future floods can be mitigated.

"One of the people I was speaking with said it was probably about four weeks until they look seriously at that recovery action plan and that's something that everyone is turning their minds to," Ms Scriven said during a visit to the region last

"Seeing the strength of communities along the river is very inspiring in many ways because



everyone knows how difficult it

"Something communities and governments will be turning their minds to is how we can futureproof our communities along the

"We're used to seeing floods of this sort being once every 50 years or so, but with the changes in the climate we're likely to see them being more frequent.

"It really does need that longterm view which government is very keen to be involved in."

Despite vintage being just weeks away for Riverland grape growers, Ms Scriven said it was still "early days in terms of thinking about what needs to be done in four weeks, six weeks or six months", but admitted "a number of challenges" were ahead for the local wine industry.



SA Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven met with local stakeholders during a visit to the region last week to discuss the ongoing impacts of, and recovery from, flooding. PHOTO: Josh Brine

"A related matter - one of the challenges they were facing before the floods – was in regards to the oversupply of red wines," she said.

federal level there are movements very beneficial for the wine grow-

towards a better relationship with our major trading partners for wine, which had been China in the

"If those trade routes are able to "We're really pleased that on a be re-established, that's going to be

ers and particularly the red wine

'On a state basis, we are keen to be working very closely with Riverland wine growers...

"We'll have some more to say in the near future.'

We're used to seeing floods of this sort being once every 50 years or so, but with the changes in the climate we're likely to see them being more frequent...

- SA Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven

'Strong uptake' for primary producer grants

JOSH BRINE

DOZENS of flood-impacted primary producers have accessed thousands of dollars in State Government grants, with more applications expected to be lodged as recovery efforts begin.

During a visit to the Riverland last week, SA Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven said a number of inquiries had been made into ongoing grant programs, particularly primary production irrigation grants announced last year.

'That was for farmers to be able to move their irrigation infrastructure to have



assistance, for example, for commercial generators," she

"The announcement of the up to \$75,000 grants that are co-funded between the federal and state governments particularly for cleanup and recovery (has had) some early interest and some applications.

"Of course, that will be taken up more and more as we get into the recovery phase.

"Having been here in the

Riverland where the peak has passed, people are starting to talk about recovery, but that's still got quite a long way to go.'

Ms Scriven said a "strong uptake" of about 35 producers had applied for irrigation grants across flood-impacted areas.

Up to \$3m was made available to meet the costs of relocating or re-establishing pumping and generator infrastructure for irrigators impacted by the floods.

About six applications had been lodged for the joint-funded grants worth up to \$75,000 for clean-up and reinstatement of primary producer businesses.



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Riverland's Fair Work farm fines hit \$23,000

hit with almost \$23,000 in fines for breaching pay slip and record-keeping laws over a 12-month period as part of a Fair Work crackdown on the agriculture industry.

Ten infringement notices were issued in the Riverland totalling \$22,644 since December 2021, with 34 businesses investigated by Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) inspectors.

Four compliance notices were also issued, with 13 investigations still ongoing.

Fair Work investigations found there was "less compliance in the Riverland compared to other regions across the country, with some employers found to be "not making and keeping the required records for piece-

Some employers were also reported to be



Fair Work Ombudsman Sandra Parker

using piecework agreements that referenced old award clauses and wrongly stated a piece worker would not be guaranteed a minimum rate of pay, while some workers were illegally being paid group piecework rates.

Fair Work Ombudsman Sandra Parker said employers were expected to apply the rules correctly.

'Record-keeping is the bedrock of compliance," she said.

"Employers who fail to meet these obligations are more likely to be underpaying, whether intentionally or not.

"Fair Work inspectors will continue their site inspections in various hotspots throughout 2023, and any employers who need assistance meeting their obligations should refer to our free resources, and contact the FWO directly if they need help.

New State Goverment grants will allow Canoe the Riverland to upgrade its Captain's Cottage accommodation (top), including adding a solar power system, while Paringa-based accommodation provider The Frames (bottom) will purchase equipment and develop marketing for a luxury camping experience focused on Aboriginal

cultural tourism.





Grants unlock Riverland nature tourism projects

TWO Riverland tourism operators have received more than \$30,000 between them to help undertake projects to expand the region's ecotourism offerings, thanks to a new State Government grant program.

Paringa accommodation provider The Frames has received \$20,000 through the South Australian Tourism Commission's Experience Nature Tourism Fund for a \$30,052 project to purchase equipment and develop marketing for a luxury camping experience in the Murray River National Park and Chowilla Game Reserve focused on Aboriginal cultural tourism.

Canoe the Riverland will complete a \$12,555 upgrade of its Captain's Cottage accommodation, including adding a solar power system, thanks to a \$10,044 grant.

Canoe the Riverland owner and operator Ruth Roberts said she was "delighted" to receive the grant for the cottage's restora-

"As a kayak tourism business, we spent three years restoring our lovely Captain's Cottage into quality accommodation to share the Murray River's beauty with guests who love nature," she said.

"We are delighted to receive this timely grant which allows us to restore the cottage's amenities to the same standard, in time to help us recover from the effects of the recent flood."

Across the state nearly \$486,000 in grants has been allocated to unlock more than \$824,000 in combined project value.

A total of \$2m will be made available through the fund over four financial years.

SA Tourism Minister Zoe Bettison said the funding would deliver a "key boost for tourism" to start the new year, particularly in flood-impacted regions like the Riverland.

"These new tourism experiences will highlight the important natural and cultural assets that are our state's national parks and will enable operators to attract visitors from interstate and overseas, as we support the industry to recover from the impacts of the pandemic," she said.

"Importantly, the fund is also supporting operators along the Murray River, who will benefit greatly when their new and improved tourism products are complete.

"With more reasons for tourists to visit the river, to stay longer and spend more, it will boost businesses across the region and help drive recovery."

With more reasons for tourists to visit the river, to stay longer and spend more, it will boost businesses across the region and help drive recovery...

- SA Tourism Minister Zoe Bettison

AUSTRALIA DAY 2023



AUSTRALIA Day events will be held across the Riverland on Thursday next week, with free breakfasts and citizenship ceremonies planned for every coun-

Renmark Paringa Council will host its Australia Day community breakfast, award presentations and citizenship ceremony at the Renmark Club.

The morning begins with a hearty breakfast – an 'Aussie' option of eggs, bacon, and tomato on toast, or a vegetarian option of tomato, mushroom and avocado on toast - served at 8am.

Complimentary tea, coffee and orange juice will be on offer, with barista-made

year Awards

coffee and fruit salad cups available for purchase.

The official proceedings will follow from 9am, including a citizenship ceremony and award presentations for Citizen of the Year, Community Event of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year.

Tickets are limited. Bookings can be made by visiting Eventbrite (rpcausday2023.eventbrite.com.au).

Berri Barmera Council's Australia Day celebrations will begin with a community walk along the Barmera lakefront at 7.30am, followed by breakfast at 8am and civic ceremony at 9am.



AUSTRALIA DAY 2023





Berri Barmera Citizen of the Year **Glenys Matthews**

Awards will be presented The breakfast menu will for Citizen of the Year, Young consist of bacon, fried eggs, Citizen of the Year. Event of sausage, tomato and toast, the Year, and Building a Better with complimentary tea and Community Award. coffee available and baristamade coffees available to Loxton's free Australia Day

order. community breakfast will be To book a seat, visit held at the Loxton Club from the event webpage on 8am, the award presentation Eventbrite (eventbrite.com. will begin at 8.45am and a citau/e/490315816807). izenship ceremony will follow.



Loxton Citizen of the Year **Bert Haslam**

Waikerie will come to life with its Netafim-sponsored Australia Day event on Saturday, January 28. The fully catered and

licensed night, starting from 6pm, will feature live music by band GenX, a firework display from Ballistic Fireworks, community award presentations, and children's entertainment from Jump Ride & Slide.

Carmel Wuttke



Renmark Paringa Citizen of the Year Ian Tolley

A gold coin donation is needed for entry, however tables of eight can be booked for \$40 by visiting Eventbrite and searching Waikerie Australia Day Extravaganza or using cash at Sutton Ford.

More information on the Netafim Waikerie Australia Day event will be published in next week's Murray Pioneer.



from 8am (doors open 7.45am), followed by awards presentation and citizenship ceremony from 9am.

BERRI BARMERA:

Community walk along Lake Bonney at 7.30am, free breakfast at 8am, plus awards presentation and citizenship ceremony from 9am.

LOXTON:

Free community breakfast followed by Citizen of the Year award presentation and citizenship ceremony at the Loxton Club from 8am.

WAIKERIE:

Netafim Waikerie Australia Day event at the Waikerie Football Oval on Saturday, January 28, from 6pm.

To all Riverland and Mallee recipients of Australia Day awards, well done and congratulations.







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SA Water incidents mainly on decline

THE number of recorded water main incidents across regional South Australia in 2022 dipped to its lowest figure in the past decade, SA Water says.

A wetter-than-average end to 2022, combined with SA Water's investment in maintaining the state's water network, underpinned the lowest number of water main leaks and breaks recorded across the utility's statewide network since 2017.

A total of 3532 water main leaks and breaks were reported in 2022 across SA Water's 27,000km network, compared to 3782 in 2021, with last year also below the annual average for the past 10 years.

This included 1688 water main incidents across regional areas in 2022 – the lowest rate in the past decade.

SA Water said the figures include everything from major breaks to minor pipe leaks, damp patches and trickles on the road

SA Water's senior manager of capital delivery, Peter Seltsikas, said historically the number one cause of water main leaks and breaks was the impact of weather on reactive clay soils and therefore underground pressurised water pipes, particularly during the transition between hot and cool seasons.

"Above-average rainfall which the state experienced throughout spring last year was crucial in maintaining soil moisture and helping to reduce stress on the water main network, and this is likely to be the driving factor behind a continued decrease in network faults," Mr Seltsikas said.



Renmark **High School** graduate Ava Lodge (front, right) received the Berri **Lions Terry** Kearney Scholarship, funded by the sales of the Images of the Riverland calendar. Ava is pictured with **Berri Lions** members Rob Sully (back, left), Christine McKinlay, **Pete Stuffers** and Allan Dand (front, left), plus Allan's dog Beau. РНОТО: Elyse Armanini

Lions help Ava lay down the law

ELYSE ARMANINI

A RENMARK High School graduate has received a \$5000 scholarship from a local Lions Club to help with her university studies.

Ava Lodge was chosen out of six applicants – three from Berri Regional Secondary College and three

from Renmark High School – for the Terry Kearney Scholarship.

The scholarship is funded through the sales of the Images of the Riverland calendar, which is now in its 15th year and has raised over \$375,000.

Ava's application was supported by a letter by the Renmark High School principal and year 12 co-ordinator, before Berri Lions members judged and subsequently chose her as the scholarship recipient.

Ava will go on to study a five-year Bachelor of Law degree at the University of Adelaide this year, after finding out she was successful in the first round of undergraduate offers last Thursday morning.

"The money will help out considerably," Ava said.

"I felt that my strengths best matched a career in law, and it's always something I have been interested in: helping other people and finding justices in the community."

In her application, Ava said she wants to change the face of women's rights in legislature and the prolonged inequality of women in countries around the world.

She said her passion for studying law arose from helping others, fighting against injustice and defending innocent individuals.

A spokesperson for Berri Lions said all six applicants were "outstanding young people".

"As judges we were very encouraged to see our young people wanting to be the change they desire to see in the world," they said.

"Ava is extremely passion-

ate about precedent issues faced by society and takes immense pride in her academics.

"Her passion and interest in this field of study has cultivated a desire to pursue law at a tertiary education level, and then use her education to help the less fortunate in our local Riverland community.

"Coming from Aboriginal descent, she has cultivated a strong passion towards cultural inequalities and fostering acceptance and reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous people.

"Ava is very proud of her indigenous heritage and strongly believes that law and legislation have the power to shape communities and change societal perception on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – especially in the Riverland."

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First round of uni offers sent out

THE nervous wait is over for many young Riverlanders hoping to go to university this year, with the first round of undergraduate offers sent out late last week.

More than 12,200 students across the state

received their offers on Thursday, bringing the total number of undergraduate courses offered in SA to more than 16,000 for 2023.

The South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) will make a second round of offers next Wednesday, subject to course availability.

Students can check if they have been offered a place via the SATAC website and successful applicants will also be emailed the details of their course.

South Australian deputy premier and Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Susan Close, commended the hard work of 2022 year 12 students and encouraged those who missed out on first round offers to not be disheartened.

"Congratulations to all students who've just completed year 12 and have applied for university and TAFE places, as well as those going straight into employment," she said.

"For those students that didn't get offered the place they wanted, be assured there are many pathways into study and employment, and I encourage you to keep pursuing the career or vocation you want."

Meanwhile the SA government's feefree TAFE initiative has been deemed a success, with a record-breaking 9100 South Australian students receiving SATAC offers from TAFE SA early last week.





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Speed limit reduced along Loxton road

ALEXANDRA BULL

THE Loxton Waikerie council is cutting the speed limit along a 250m stretch of road in Loxton.

A section of Bookpurnong Road entering Loxton will be changed from 80km/h to 60 km/h - from the 'Welcome to Loxton' sign through to the tennis courts - after a review by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) found the extension was warranted.

As well as this, 50km/h speed limit signs will be installed on the Karoonda Highway Service Road and Pioneer Landing Drive, and current 10km/h speed signs on the unsealed portion of Pioneer Landing Drive will remain, as they are not on road reserve.

"60km/h from the start of the town entrance makes sense, given the high traffic use of heavy vehicles in the busy, built-up area, as was brought up by the public as a necessity," said Loxton Waikerie council road construction and capital projects co-ordinator, Domenic Perre.

"50km/h road lim-

are also a necessity, and the law, given the number of houses on Pioneer Landing Drive and Karoonda Highway

Access Road." Mr Perre said Pioneer Landing Drive had become a populated, built-up residential area, necessitating a reduction to 50km/h, given the residential traffic and footpaths, which connect to the Karoonda Highway.

"This is the same with Karoonda Highway Access Road," he said.

"The impact will result in safer measures for traffic and pedestrians in these areas."

Council also requested a review of the Karoonda Highway speed limit, with the suggestion to change the 110km/h speed limit coming out of Loxton to 80km/h.

"However, the Karoonda Highway speed limit, will not be changed, as per DIT's response," Mr Perre said.

Speed limits in South Australia are determined and applied in accordance with the requirements and criteria set out in the Speed Limit Guideline for South Australia.

Hemp the headline act in Loxton

THE "amazing opportunities" offered by industrial hemp will be outlined tomorrow when Loxton hosts one of a series of field days being staged around

Loxton is among nine industrial hemp varietal trial (IHVT) sites, which are designed to capture key data, including yield and quality, for different hemp varieties under different sowing times and conditions.

"This is a great opportunity for farmers, processors, food retailers and commercial investors to learn more about industrial hemp and the amazing opportunities it offers Australian agriculture," said Loxton-based Mark Skewes, the IHVT national co-ordinator.

Mr Skews, of SARDI (SA Research and Development Institute), said providing a co-ordinated approach across trials in different regions of Australia and access to comparable data would "enable growers to make informed decisions on-

Industrial hemp, which must be grown under state government permits, has low tetrahydrocannabinol content (THC), but is high in protein and healthy fats, and since 2017 it has been legal to sell industrial hemp seed for human consumption.

The IHVT is aligned with the recent announcement of a \$2.5m investment by AgriFutures Australia to grow the industry, which aims to exceed \$10m in production at farmgate by 2026.

The global industrial hemp market was valued at \$4.9bn in 2019, but is projected to reach \$18.6bn by 2027 and AgriFutures Australia's Dr Olivia Reynolds said hemp represented "a huge opportunity for Australian agriculture to produce an environmentally sustainable, multi-purpose crop that can be used for



Industrial hemp varietal trial national co-ordinator, local man Mark Skewes (left). inspects a trial site in Loxton with agronomist John Muir. PHOTO: supplied

everything from food to fabric and even building materials".

The need for a trial like IHVT was identified in the Australian Industrial Hemp Strategic RD&E Plan (2022-2027), which was developed by AgriFutures Australia and sets out a pathway to grow the industry.

The plan's major objectives focus on growing the crop, products produced from the crop, the sustainability of hemp,

and the regulatory environment.

Tomorrow's event will be held at the Loxton Research Centre from 10am to

Registration will be free and on site. People interested in attending should email Mark Skewes (mark.skewes@ sa.gov.au).

Loxton is hosting the first of the field days, which wind up in the Northern Territory in early June.

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Morgan camping site out for Easter

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

A MORGAN camping and recreation ground is unlikely to be open in time for Easter due to the damage caused by River Murray floodwaters.

Almost two weeks ago the flood peaked at Morgan, reaching 9.62m Australian Height Datum (AHD), which was more than the 1931 flood level.

The river level has been gradually dropping, and this Monday was 9.20m AHD.



Cordola Camping and Recreation ground manager Di Hausler said plenty of work needed to be done before it could reopen.

The camping ground has been closed since late October when heavy rain flooded the area, and connected it to the rising river.

"The rain met the river that was

Mrs Hausler said it would take some time for the flood waters to recede at the camping grounds and for the area to "dry out".

us," she said.

She said all the infrastructure at the grounds would also have to be returned.

coming up and that was the end for

The Hauslers also grow 30 hectares of citrus and wine grapes on their 450-hectare property.

Mrs Hausler's husband Leigh and two sons spent two days prior to Christmas installing a levee at the bottom of their yard to protect their horticultural crops.

"If we hadn't have done that the water would have ended up inside our shed, where we store fruit, etc.," she said.

Some of the citrus and vines are still flooded and Mrs Hausler said it was unclear how the flood had affected their plantings.

She said the flood's financial impact on her family's tourism business and horticultural property was hard to quantify.

"It will be huge," she said.

"Devastating to not only us, but anybody in the area that has been affected by the flood.

"The unfortunate thing is that I have no work and I haven't been able to work in our tourism business since October.



The Hausler family installed a levee on their property at Morgan to protect their citrus trees and vines from flood waters. PHOTOS: supplied



The flooded Cordola Camping and Recreation ground. This photo was taken when the river height peaked at Morgan during the first week of January.

"We also have a part-time employee who hasn't been able to work either."

Mrs Hausler said although the floods had brought some tourists to the Morgan CBD to look at the high river, accommodation facilities were forced to close.

"From Christmas through to the end of January we would have usually had about 250 vehicles camping," she said.

Mrs Hausler and her family are now investigating what grants to apply for from the \$126m disaster assistance package on offer to SA's flood affected River Murray communities.

"It is a matter of sifting through the information and going in the right direction to sort out what is suitable," she said.



Some of the Hauslers' young citrus trees and vines were inundated with water during the flood.

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Silo art carpark a temporary RV park

LOXTON Waikerie council has opened up the Waikerie Silo Art carpark to selfcontained RV vehicles.

The area on Ian Oliver Drive has become a temporary RV park due to the high river event.

Council said those staying at the park could only stay for a maximum of seven nights. The nearest dump point is located at 33 Civic Avenue.

The Waikerie Holiday Park has been closed since Christmas due to the River Murray flood.

Acting infrastructure services director Dominic Perre said due to the high river event, the area had been



The Waikerie Silo Art carpark on Ian Oliver Drive have been temporarily transformed into a RV park.

PHOTO: Christine Webster

FLOOD EVENT

opened up to provide more accommodation to tourists visiting the Riverland West area. He said with the River Murray in flood it was "an absolutely awesome time" to be near the river.

"It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Mr Perre said.

- CHRISTINE WEBSTER



Shack owners' nervous wait

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

FLOOD-affected Blanchetown property owners are waiting for the River Murray waters to recede to assess the damage to their shacks and other property.

Blanchetown Shack Owners' Association president Wayne Tredrea and his wife Heather were among 40 people who attended a community meeting on Friday to discuss the flood recovery process.

Mr Tredrea said many shack owners were shocked that the river rose to such a high level that water inundated the top floor of their two-storey buildings.

The flood level at Lock 1 at Blanchetown peaked on January 5, reaching 7.54 metres Australian Height Datum (AHD), which exceeded the 1931 flood level of 7.32 metres AHD.

Mr Tredrea said most of the

shacks in the area were built above the 1974 flood level.

"A lot of us moved belongings into our top storeys thinking it would be okay," he said.

"But there ended up being a lot of us who moved our furniture into the top storey that have become inundated."

Mr Tredrea said it was unclear if he and his wife would have to rebuild their shack, which is their primary residence and was part of their retirement plan.

He said they were waiting for the flood waters to drop to enable a proper assessment of the damage and to obtain advice from their insurer.

"We think it will take about six to eight weeks before we can do any cleaning up," Mr Tredrea

The Tredreas welcomed the disaster relief support being offered by the state and federal govern-



The flood waters inundated the Tredreas' shack at Blanchetown right up to the top storey. INSET: The Tredreas' shack prior to the River Murray flood. PHOTOS: supplied

ments and visited the flood relief centre at Mannum on Saturday, registering for the structural assessment and clean up assistance pro-

Mrs Tredrea said the free ini-

tiative involved contractors visiting properties damaged by the flood and assessing the damage and help with the external clean-up.

"They will structurally assess and tell you if there are any hazards and advise if demolition is needed," Mrs Tredrea said.

River Murray property owners impacted by the flood can phone 1800 302 787 to register for the assistance program.

Mighty Maratala enlisted to protect Murray pipeline

JUST before Christmas, SA Water's River Murray working barge, the MV Maratala, made the lengthy journey from Berri to Murray Bridge to help protect the utility's underwater recycled water pipeline from potential flood impacts.

Together with contractor McConnell Dowell Diona, the barge vessel has helped to reinforce the structural integrity of the underwater pipe using innovative concrete

Stretching along the floor of the River Murray from Murray Bridge to the eastern side of the river, the pipeline delivers cleaned and highly treated recycled water to two large customers from SA Water's recently constructed wastewater treatment facility in Brinkley.

SA Water's general manager of operations Chris Young said the important work was completed ahead of the rise in flows.

"We identified this recycled water pipeline as one of our priority sites that could

FLOOD EVENT

be impacted by floods, and... spent weeks undertaking comprehensive assessments and bathymetry surveys to investigate how we can best maintain the pipe's operation for our customers," Mr Young said.

'Harnessing its brand new 30-tonne crane, our MV Maratala has carefully placed a series of large concrete mats across sections of the re-use pipeline, protecting its structural integrity from an increase in debris and water velocity...

"Each concrete support has been laid atop the pipeline with the assistance of commercial divers well-versed in working in low visibility environments like the River Murray.

"The turnaround of just under a week to commence this work ahead of the... high flow peaks is a credit to our team for work-



The MV Maratala left Berri last month to help with the flood effort in Murray Bridge. SA Water chief executive David Ryan (left) is pictured with crew members. PHOTO: supplied

ing to safely and efficiently complete these important works for the benefit of our customers and the wider community.'

For the safety of construction crews and divers completing the work, river users were recently advised to avoid travelling close to SA Water's work site near Long Island

Reserve, with speed restrictions and buoy lines in place.

Complete with an on-board workshop, sleeping quarters and kitchen, the 33-metrelong MV Maratala is used to complete vital maintenance to locks, weirs and other structures along the River Murray.







OUT & ABOUT



HAVE SOME SOCIAL PICTURES TO SHARE?

Send your photos with captions to: editor@murraypioneer.com.au and we'll feature them on this page



OUR TOWN FLOODFEST: Enjoying the Our Town Berri FloodFest event in Vaughan Terrace last week, with balloons made by Kiwi the Clown, were Maddison Kenefick, 3, of Berri, Ollie McDonald, 3, and Keilan McDonald, 5, both of Barmera. **PHOTOS: Elyse Armanini**

Issy, 13, and Maddy Green, 10, of Mount Gambier. took part in the FloodFest activities which included rock painting, beading, and access to a free

library





Paige Green, 5, of Mount Gambier, and Rylee Sharpe, 4, of Adelaide, with their balloon flowers and swords made by Kiwi the Clown.

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.

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 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

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

WEEKLY

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

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

Loxton Historical Village is closed until further notice. Apologies for any inconvenience.

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

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.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18 Loxton Charity for All Bingo are holding their AGM at the Loxton Club at 3pm. All welcome, we would love your

support. **THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 Loxton Charity for All Bingo** raising funds for future bingo nights. Eyes down at 7pm. Supper and raffles available.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 U3A Riverland registration of activities and membership and enrolment day held in the clubrooms on Strawbridge Street, Berri between 9.30am and 12 noon. Nomination forms for election on the U3A management committee for

2023 available for collection. **SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

Free Pondi workshop with Elders and artists at **Riverland Youth Theatre**, 4pm-6pm for First Nation children aged 8-16.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23 Riverland Stamp Club meet-

ing, 10am at the Berri Library. **TUESDAY, JANUARY 24** Waikerie and District Ladies Probus Club meeting at the

Waikerie bowling club, 10am. **TUESDAY, JANUARY 24**

Final Lord of the Rings big screen watch party at **Riverland Youth Theatre,** 5pm-8pm. Cost \$5 or \$15 for a family, BYO food and drink. All ages welcome.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 Loxton Mardi Gras committee together with Charity for All Bingo at the Loxton Club. Raising funds towards running the 2023 66th Family Festival. Eyes down at 7 pm,

so don't be late to join in the **SATURDAY, JANUARY 28**

Free **Our Town Berri** FloodFest and Wellbeing SA comedy night with Marc Ryan and Joshua Warrior at Berri Hotel, 7.30pm. Tickets from wellbeing centre in Vaughan Terrace, Berri, or email (ourtownberri@ gmail.com).



Historian Stephen Heyes, based at Port Rickaby, Yorke Peninsula, has compiled the following history of the life and Riverland death of Mounted Police Constable WILLIAM WICKHAM. Wickham and partner Constable John Carter were the FIRST POLICE TO DIE IN SOUTH AUSTRALA WHILE ON DUTY...

Family connection to historic Riverland police death

ON the evening of May 7, 1847 Mounted Police Constable William Wickham, drowned while attempting to cross the Murray River near Overland Corner, accompanied by his partner Constable John Carter.

This brief but important story about the deaths is emphasised by the fact that they were the first police to die in South Australia while on duty.

There are many questions that when answered add much more.

To begin with, why am I concentrating on William Wickham?

It was completely by chance that I discovered a family link when reading through some family historical information gathered by my late aunt, Claire Heyes.

Claire was an avid collector of family memorabilia and in her journals and the family bible was a lifetime's work that detailed a multitude of connections describing the family tree.

It was in this document that I found her links to the Wickham family and in particular a notation that William had drowned.

She had a direct connection to William's father via her great-great grandfather, also William.

Claire's meticulous information has enabled an understanding of the history of the Wickhams to be determined and as a result, how our William Wickham ended up in South Australia.

William, was the eldest child of 10 children and was born in Blessington, County Wicklow, in 1822. With little opportunity for them in Ireland, William Sr, his wife Sarah and their children set sail for Adelaide aboard the Baboo, and arrived in Port Adelaide on March 11, 1840. What an adventure that must have been for all the family, but how stressful for the parents?

The Colony by this time had a population of around 30,000 people (settlers) and boundless opportunities for employment.

WILLIAM Senior gained employment with the colonial government and by 1847 was noted in the South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register as "a keeper of the public offices an old and faithful servant of the Government".

Perhaps it was his father's sense



The plaque commemorating the duo. PHOTO: supplied

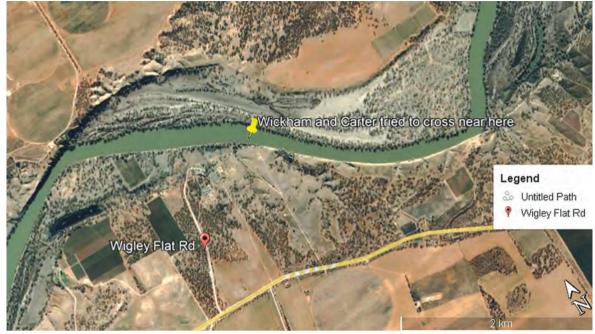
of commitment that led young William to enlist in the small contingent of police, on January 4, 1845 aged 22. With some irony and a connection to the Riverland's prime industry of grape production and wine producing, it was also the same month when wine (then referred to as 'hock') was exported for the first time to England.

By 1847 William had been posted, along with his friend and partner John Carter (they had enlisted together) to Moorunde, then an area with a large Aboriginal population, and the chosen location for a permanent police presence, accompanied on occasions by a military contingent.

Moorunde, south of Blanchetown, was a site originally chosen by Edward John Eyre to establish a sheep station. For William and John this was simply a location to perform their duty and follow orders; they were not there to question why in a district devoid of settlers did they need to be there.

However, they surely knew that conflict between settlers and Aboriginal people was the reason they were there. This conflict was not new, beginning in 1836, and followed a predictable pattern as pastoralism spread across the colony.

As this occurred, Aboriginal



A map showing where Mounted Police Constable William Wickham and his partner, Constable John Carter, drowned near Overland Corner. IMAGE: supplied

people retaliated and suffered the consequences.

WILLIAM and John were drawn into this and were given orders on May 6, 1847, to go and investigate incidents that were occurring between the Meru – this was and still is their country – and settlers near Lake Bonney.

Sadly, for William and John they did not reach their destination. Having ridden for a day, following the course of the Murray, they reached a site (see map reference) opposite a hut owned by Thomas Wigley.

Wigley had been the first to take up a lease on land connected to the overland traffic of stock from New South Wales, and a plaque is erected on Wigley Road to commemorate this.

William and John called out to Wigley and sought a boat to make the crossing. Both men had the newly issued police uniforms and kit, which they were expected to

Wigley called back to say he had no boat but would collect them by using an Aboriginal canoe. He then paddled across and collected Carter. It was possibly on Carter's insistence that he paddled back to collect William.

Although he successfully returned to the other side Carter

was unfamiliar with such an unwieldy object. When Charles Sturt on an expedition to the interior, passed this way only two weeks after the deaths, he noted how large and numerous these canoes were and capable of holding 18 men.

With little practical knowledge and darkness imminent, they were eager to cross. Wigley, who had returned to his hut, heard their screams and cries for help, but by the time he arrived at the river's edge the cries had subsided.

With their heavy tunics and sabres, no amount of swimming prowess could save them.

Their horses still tied to the trees, would have to wait to be released.

The next day Wigley sought to recover the bodies and ironically it was the Meru who found them and dragged them onto the bank, before covering their bodies with sticks and branches.

Wigley wrote to E. B. Scott about the incident:

"I write to inform you of a most painful accident that happened at my place yesterday evening. The two policemen from Moorunde, whilst crossing the river to the station in a native canoe, were upset. They came to the station at seven o'clock, and I crossed one (Carter) who went back to fetch the other. I returned to the hut about ten minutes after I heard a shriek and a splash in the water. I rushed out, but neither see nor hear anything

WHEN news arrived back in Adelaide, William and John's colleagues quickly gathered contributions for a dray to be sent to recover their bodies and return them to Adelaide for burial.

Both men were buried together in the West Terrace Cemetery and a headstone erected (see photo), Plan 3, Row 8, Site 158.

On Police Remembrance Day these men are acknowledged and recently a plaque commemorating them was erected near Banrock Station.

For William it was a twist of fate that his brother, Thomas Richard Wickham, enlisted as a Mounted Police Constable on April 2, 1847, just over four weeks before his brother's death and was included in the recovery party of his brother's body.

Having given William's story more depth, I shared this information with my cousin Ronald, Claire's son, for I believe it would have been Claire's wishes.

I also hold out hope that this story will encourage others to pursue family links.





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Sparkies keen to help CHRISTINE WEBSTER

ABOUT 260 electricians have so far expressed an interest in being part of the SA government's initiative to safely restore power to flood-affected River Murray properties.

The government said every building that had been inundated would require a qualified electrician to conduct electrical safety inspections, possible rewiring and switchboard repairs, and replacements.

It said it was working with many stakeholder groups including SA Power Networks, Insurance Council of Australia, the Local Government Association, the National Electrical and Communications Association and Master Electricians Australia (MEA).

A government spokesperson said it needed to "map out the next steps once water

levels receded and access to inundated properties was safe", with details made public as soon as possible.

"In the meantime, the state government is strongly urging inundated or impacted households to register for a free waste clean-up assessment," the spokesperson

This initiative is covered by funding made available by the SA and federal governments to assist flood-affected communities.

To register call the flood relief information line on 1800 302 787 or (visit sa.gov. au/floods) for more information.

WELL, here we are already in mid-January - how time flies in our beautiful Riverland. There was a busy time on Monday as community groups picked up their decorative trees from the Christmas Tree Trail. Thanks again to those who have participated in the event. Let's hope that more groups or individuals will join in next Christmas for the display.

There has been a change of venue - it's back to the Waikerie oval for the Netafim Australia Day celebrations on Saturday, January 28, from 6pm. We all look forward to this fully licensed event, which features an excellent selection of food stalls (no BYO drinks or food permitted). The event will include lots of children's entertainment, while popular band GenX will play.

Congratulations to Carmel Wuttke on being named Waikerie Citizen of the Year for 2022. Carmel is a most worthy recipient, due to her commitment and care to our community, her valued service to others and her church involvement. The Event of the Year award went to the Waikerie Ladies Hospital Guild's centenary celebrations. These prestigious awards will be presented to the recipients at Australia Day celebrations. Table bookings are available. Check out the Facebook page or Sutton Ford. Entry to the event is gold coin donation.

The new exhibition at Waikerie's Rain Moth Gallery opens on Friday, February 3, at 7pm: local artist Renee Bell's debut solo exhibition titled Seen, Remembered, Imagined. This is a diverse collection of both rendered and abstracted landscaped paintings that are explorations of the rural South Australian landscape. Each example in this collection is like a visual diary entry, recording Renee's travels and experiences throughout the past few years of living, working and exploring remote SA. These paintings explore memories and experiences in connection to the land. This collection began in the Riverland in 2020 at a time when Renee was interested in subjects like drought and rain, and physically embedding the landscape into her work. The early paintings are more abstract, imagined landscapes that were not meant to depict a real place, but to illustrate a shared experience about celebrating rain. Renee has begun to travel more throughout SA





gwenwebber21@gmail.com

and became interested in recording her travels and the feeling of experiencing a

As an extra for those at the opening, former resident and cricket star Rick Darling's recently released book, Bush to Buckingham Palace, will also be launched.

I had mentioned it earlier but have you booked your tickets for the Adelaide Crows community dinner at Waikerie on Monday, February 6? Check out the Crows corner message this week.

The Waikerie community sends sincere condolences to Mary Bruno, Angela, Rosamarie, and their loved ones upon the passing of Tony, a much-loved and admired gentleman.

I am a person who looks to the positive in all things and it is sad when some people destroy what is there for the community to see and be proud of. I feel for the hours of commitment that volunteers give to beautify and enhance our streets, so to see them broken is hard to accept. As we begin this new year I trust we will see less damage in our beautiful town.

There are times when I don't know what to say, and yes there was another time at the weekend. I was given a few instructions where to meet with family, before I had a day I will never forget one of the most memorable in my life. I was a passenger in a helicopter that flew from Waikerie airport to Loxton, Berri, Renmark, Lake Bonney, Waikerie, Ramco, Morgan, Blanchetown, Lyndoch and all in between. The service was first class, cameras were clicking non-stop and there was an incredible excess of water throughout the journey to see.

Thought for the week:

"Happiness is contagious. Start an epidemic today."

- Maria Fontaine

Moorook General Store clarification:

A QUOTE within a story that appeared in last week's Murray Pioneer was incorrect.

The story, headed 'Kingston Road's costly closure' featured quotes from Moorook General Store owner Satish Tati. One of the quotes was: "I am not getting any trade

However, Mr Tati said the store was in fact getting "limited trade locally".

"The town people have still been supporting us and we rely on that support," Mr Tati said this week.

"We're very grateful for that support from Moorook.

ABC





6:00 Today; 9:30 Australian Open Ten-

WIN

6:30 The Project
7:30 The Bachelors Australia
8:45 Fire Country

Colbert 1:30 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings

8:30 Law & Order 10:30 NCIS

1:30 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings

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8:30 Entertainment Tonight Encore; 9:00 Judge Judy; 9:30 The Bold & The Beautiful Encore; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil;

2:00 The Bachelors Australia Encore; 3:15 Entertainment Tonight; 3:30 Judge Judy; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 Ambulance Australia

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2:05 rage

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10:55 Death In Paradise
11:55 Killing Eve
12:40 The Trip To Greece
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1:15 ABC TV Plus Programs Resume At 6:30pm

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Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 Big Bash League Cricket 10:30 Ambulance

2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise

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11:30 2023 Santos Tour Down Under 12:30 The Good Doctor 1:30 RSPCA Animal Rescue

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Journeys; 4:00 Who Do You Think You Journeys; 4:00 Who Do You Trink You Are?; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:35 World's Most Scenic Railway

Journeys 8:30 Our Law 9:40 War Of The Worlds 10:35 SBS World News Late 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen 11:05 L'Opera 12:05 The Victim

5:00 World News; 9:00 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 9:05 Peer To Peer; 10:05 Beyond The Beaten Path; 11:00 Great Canal Journeys; 12:00 BBC News at Ten; 12:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 1:00 PBS NewsHour; 2:00 Great House Revival; 3:00 NITV News; 3:30 Where Are You Really From?; 4:00 Who Do You Think You Are?; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 Supertrains - The Race For Speed 8:30 Inside Central Station 9:25 How To Build A Nuclear Power Station

12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil; 2:00 Jamie's Ultimate Veg; 3:00 Entertainment Tonight; 3:30 Judge Judy; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 The Graham Norton Show 9:30 Kitty Flanagan 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert Station 10:35 SBS World News Late 11:05 Gomorrah

6:00 Reel Action; 6:30 Leading The Way With Dr. MichaelYoussef; 7:00 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohey; 7:30 Escape Fishing With ET; 8:00 Exploring Off The Grid; 8:30 What's Up Down Under; 9:00 Everyday Gourmet 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 Planet Shapers; 3:30 Cook It With Luke; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 Taste Of Australia With Hayden Quinn; 5:00 10 News First 6:00 Bondi Rescue 6:30 Jamie Oliver 7:30 NCIS 8:30 FBI 10:30 NCIS 12:30 Home Shopping 6:00 Reel Action; 6:30 Leading The 5:00 World News; 9:00 Destination Fla-5:00 World News; 9:00 Destination Flavour China Bitesize; 9:10 Blue Water Safari; 10:05 Love Your Garden; 11:00 Paul O'grady For The Love Of Dogs; 12:00 BBC News at Ten; 12:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 1:00 PBS NewsHour; 2:00 ISU Figure Skating Highlights; 4:00 Fading Sands; 4:40 The World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys; 5:30 WWII 6:30 SBS World News 7:35 Extreme Railway Journeys

7:35 Extreme Railway Journeys 8:30 Legendary Castles 9:30 Britain By Beach 10:25 Great Escapes With Morgan 10:25 GIBA Lescapes 111:15 Freeman 11:15 Four Lives 2:30 Dallas Buyers Club 4:30 Destination Flavour China

6:00 Mass For You At Home; 6:30 Turning Point With David Jeremia; 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 Dessert; 1:00 Studio 10; 12:00 The Bachelors Australia Encore; 1:15 My Market Kitchen; 1:30 Luxury Escapes; 2:00 Waltzing Jimeoin; 2:30 Exploring Off The Grid; 3:00 Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures; 4:00 All 4 Adventure; 5:00 10 News First

5:00 World News; 9:00 Destination Flavour China Bitesize; 9:10 Blue Water Safari; 10:10 Love Your Garden; 11:05 Paul O'grady For The Love Of Animals; 12:00 APAC Weekly; 12:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 2:00 Speedweek; 3:00 ISU Figure Skating Highlights; 4:30 Lucknow; 4:40 Secrets of The Tower Of London; 5:30 WWII 6:30 SBS World News 7:35 Great Wall Of China 8:30 Attila's Forbidden Tomb 10:10 Lost Cities Of The Trojans 11:40 Hungry Ghosts 3:45 Destination Flavour China 4:45 Bamay

4:45 Bamay

5:00 World News; 9:10 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 9:15 Craft It Yourself; 10:15 Beyond The Beaten Path; 11:10 Great Canal Journeys; 12:05 BBC Weekend News; 12:30 ABC World News Tonight with David Muir; 1:00 Al Jazeera News Hour; 2:00 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 2:05 Great House Revival; 3:05 Portillo's Greatest Railway Journeys; 4:00 Who Do You Think You Are? Todd McKenney; 5:05 Jeopardyl; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 6:30 SBS World News

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 Beautiful Encore; 10:00 Studio 10; 12:00 10 News First; 1:00 Dr Phil; 2:00 The Bachelors Australia Encore; 3:10 Entertainment Tonight; 3:30 Judge Judy; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 The Bachelors Australia 8:45 Ghosts cey Bus Roadtrip
8:30 Heritage Rescue
9:25 Secrets Of Playboy
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5:00 World News; 9:00 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 9:05 Craft It Yourself; 10:05 Beyond The Beaten Path; 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 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 2:10 Great House Revival; 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 7:30 Who Do You Think You Are Smokey Robinson 5:00 World News; 9:00 Cook Up With

Smokey Robinson 8:30 U.S. And The Holocaust 10:50 SBS World News Late 11:20 Cheyenne & Lola 12:25 Unit One

6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Kurt Fearnley's One Plus One; 10:30 Everyone's A Critic; 11:05 Aussie Inventions That Changed the World; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Father Brown; 1:45 Call The Midwife; 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 7.30

Sauce 11:15 ABC Late News 11:35 The Accident 12:20 Everyone's A Critic

1:05 Auschwitz Untold 2:10 ABC News Update 5:05 Tik Tak; 5:10 Clangers; 5:20 Buddi; 5:25 Children's Programs; 5:00 Peppa Pig; 5:10 Octonauts; 5:20 Hey Duggee; 5:30 Ginger And The Vegesaurs; 5:35 Do, Re & Mi; 5:45 Kiri and Lou; 5:55 Kangaroo Beach 6:20 Bluev 6:20 Bluey 6:30 Spicks And Specks 7:30 Would I Lie To You? 8:30 The Trip To Greece 8:55 Bliss

Animais
8:30 Long Lost Family
9:15 George Clarke's Amazing
Christmas Spaces
10:05 Australia Remastered

11:05 TBA 11:05 TBA 11:55 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 12:20 Veneno

6:05 The Adventures Of Paddington 9:25 Fleabag 9:25 Fleadag 9:50 QI 10:25 Friday Night Dinner 10:50 Everything's Gonna Be Okay 11:10 Black Comedy 11:40 Penn And Teller 12:20 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 12:40 ABC News Update

6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 The Chase; 1:00 T20I International Wom-en's Cricket; 4:30 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 Big Bash League Cricket 10:30 Death Row - Countdown To Execution Execution
11:30 Motorway Patrol
12:00 The Good Doctor Unsaid
1:00 World's Deadliest Whatchamacallits
2:00 TBA
4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise

6:00 Nine News 7:00 Australian Open Tennis 11:30 New Amsterdam 1:30 New Amistration
1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping
4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory
4:30 Nine News Early Edition
5:00 Today

Word search

How many words can you find?

ACIDS
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BROWN
CARBON
CIRCUMSTANCES
DEGREE
DOMES

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REIGN

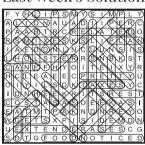
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Last Week's Solution



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- Severe trial 11. About
- 12. Lessens 15. Emblem 18. Arras
- Repose Wine and honey drink
- Town in New Jersey, U.S.A. 27. Wandered
- Genus of plants of the mallow family
- Consume 32. Soft drink Turkish coin
- Comers Muse of lyric poetry Loss of progress
- 42. Plant having showy flowers

DOWN

- Wedge Abrade
- Lineage
- Legendary gigantic bird 6. Dull 7. Infre
- Infrequently Colour
- Barium sulphate Having left a will 16. Making amends

Hand-thrown explosive Upright, angular form

32

- of script 20. Still Nomenclature of
- 26. Moray Long slender sword Rapids
- 33. 34. Morning song Glacial ridge

diseases

- 35. Spindle
- Harvest Cereal

13

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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Join our Buddy Bunyip Birthday List **Teagan Holmes - 19/1/2012** Mitchell Dymmott - 21/1/2013 Simply contact the Murry Pioneer Office to sign up! Eligible for kids up to 12 years of age 8586 8000 | office@murrypioneer.com.au 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®

January 2022 Horoscopes: week 3

ARIES (March 21st - April 20th)

A get-together with friends will help you to relax after a stressful week. You have a lot on your mind at the moment, and need a chance to take things easy. Romance. A recent frustration may make you reluctant to get involved more closely with a recent admirer.

TAURUS (April 21st - May 21st)

You might be feeling a little nervous because the people around you are not quite as "hyped" as you are at the moment. It will be up to you to motivate them. Romance. This would be an excellent time for a romantic evening. You will be in the best of moods, and will enjoy being made a fuss of.

GEMINI (May 22nd - June 21st)

A companion animal will be able to pick up your feelings and will want to help you. Romance. You will be extremely sensitive to changes in your partner's emotional state. A favourable aspect to Venus will help to strengthen communications between you. Be careful of arguments over money, however.

CANCER (June 22nd - July 23rd)

A friend whom you haven't seen for a long time may try to contact you. This person has some advice which might seem strange at first. Take advantage of this person's experiences and do what they suggest. Romance. You will be very good at picking up other people's feelings at the moment.

LEO (July 24th - August 23rd)

A problem in your working environment will need to be resolved soon. You may feel that the people around you are a little inflexible at times. Romance. A meeting later in the week will help to get your love-life back on track. Don't be afraid to let your hair down and relax: this new friend will not do you any harm.

VIRGO (August 24th - September 23rd)

You are being too conscientious at the moment. Be careful not to let other people to push you into doing work which they should be doing themselves. Romance. Don't intervene in a family dispute which involves your partner unless you are certain that this input will be welcome.

LIBRA (September 24th - October 23rd)

Stop thinking about about a mistake which happened in the past. You feel that this mistake could easily have been prevented; however nobody is perfect and you should not be so hard on yourself. Romance. A quiet evening at home may turn out to be more romantic than you expect.

SCORPIO (October 24th - November 22nd)

A new friend may be harder to get to know than you expect. If you have the patience to persist you won't be disappointed, but you may be in for a long wait. Romance. A powerful aspect to Venus later in the week will help a gettogether go better than you expect.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23rd - December 21st)

Don't retreat from a recent problem. Deal with it head-on, and use all your energy to get it out of the way. A meeting later in the week will help you to sort out the best strategy. Romance. Your partner may seem a little difficult to pin down at the moment.

CAPRICORN (December 22nd - January 20th)

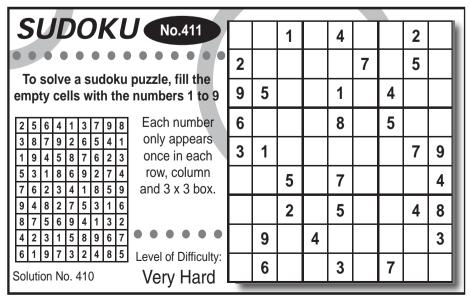
A difficult aspect to Pluto may bring some secrets out of the closet. Don't be surprised if your friends know much more about recent events than they have admitted! Romance. A telephone call which comes from out of the blue will help to put your social life back on track. A long-term admirer will soon be re-appearing on the scene.

AQUARIUS (January 21st - February 19th)

You may need to find a way of making your feelings known without upsetting the other person. A direct approach could backfire: you would be better off being more subtle. Don't play all your cards at once. Romance. It won't be long before your love-life picks up steam.

PISCES (February 20th - March 20th)

A colleague at work who understands both your strengths and your weaknesses will be able to advise you intelligently. You might not like what this person has to say, but you would do well not to ignore their advice. Romance. A colleague whom you have known for some time may surprise you this week.



FLOOD EVENT

New flood rules for Paringa Bridge

POTENTIAL River Murray users will need to avoid a local bridge under new safety directives surrounding flood conditions.

People able to operate vessels on the river must remain under four knots when within 250m of a dwelling or building that is partially or wholly submerged.

But in addition, human-powered vessels can also no longer be operated within 250m upstream of, or under, the Paringa Bridge, while motorised vehicles are unable to be operated within 50m upstream of the bridge.

The changes, which apply to all zones along the river, were outlined in the Emergency Management (River Murray) Direction 2 2022 and came into effect on January 12.

Full details regarding current restrictions can be found by visiting the SAPOL website.

Crisis?

First award announced before country music's golden night

CASEY Barnes is the recipient of the Top Selling Australian Country Album of the Year Golden Guitar for Light It Up, and will be presented with it this Saturday night.

Presented by Tamworth Regional Council and the Country Music Association of Australia (CMAA), The Toyota Golden Guitar Awards are the nation's longest-running music awards concert.

Last year we lost Victorian entertainer Ian Castles, on October 16, but I haven't been able to write about him

until now.

Ian was one of the few artists I class as a fair-dinkum professional singer, one who was always immaculately dressed, and a perfect gentleman at all times. And what a moving yodeller he

He was a very good friend to **Viv** and **Rocky Page** and their family, pulling him out of trouble numerous times over the years.

At the young age of seven, Ian made his debut public performance singing on 3UZ, then became a choir boy at the Christ Church, Yarra, along with **Ernie Sigley**.

Luckily for us, in 1951 he joined the Victorian Banjo Club, which was run by the legendary **Tex Banes**. Here he learnt guitar, singing his first country song, *Your Cheating Heart*.

This led to him winning numerous talent quests around Victoria, and he became a member of the original Trailblazers with the **Hawking Brothers**.

At 20 Ian did his first recording. He had already been working as a professional performer for four years when he joined the **Rocky Page** Show, touring in Victoria, before touring Australia with **Chief Little Wolf**'s Rodeo Show, and the **Buddy Williams** Show.

By ROBYN MCINTOSH



MY KIND OF COUNTRY

After this he took a break so he could concentrate on his business. His guitar laid idle until 1983 when he recorded that beautiful album, *Mansion On The Hill*, and in 1985 he was inducted into Rocky Page's Hall of Fame and Avenue of Honour at the Page property just outside Barmera.

Encouraged by his loving wife **Helen** and the **Howie Brothers**, he returned to singing and was inducted into the national Hands of Fame at Tamworth in 1987. From then until 2014 he recorded albums, *One and One Made Three*, *August Mood*, *Ian Castles Sings At Warrook*, and *One Pair of Hands* (the title track being one of those he sang at **Viv Page**'s private funeral service by request).

Not only involved in music, Ian and Helen were involved in the road transport industry, especially through their very successful business, Truck Bits, in Dandenong, They were inducted into the National Transport Hall of Fame at Alice Springs in 2005.

While compiling this column news came though that **Slim Newton** had left us on January 8.

Ralph Ernest Newton was born in Perth on October 22, 1932, and began playing ukulele and Hawaiian guitar with Frank Tozer in 1945, before touring in his home state with Tim McNamara in 1954.

The following year he took his own road show from Perth, through WA, NT, and Queensland to Brisbane, before joining **Jack Gill**'s Rodeo for a short tour in 1956, with a move to Punchbowl in Sydney.

While there he won two talent quests run by **Reg Lindsay**, and this earned him appearances on the popular Reg Lindsay Show, where this led to radio interviews then shows at pubs and other live yenues.

After marrying in 1958, Slim and wife, **Fay**, moved back to WA where their first four children, **Eric**, **Stephen**, **Lisa**, and **Linda** were born, and following a move to Tamworth in 1971 there fifth child, **Jodi** was born.

In 1971 Slim recorded that amazing song *Redback On The Toilet Seat* at **Eric Scott**'s Hadley Records. Who could have thought that the EP passed the 100,000 sales before being deleted. Another recording, *How Did The Redback Die?*, was pressed, in which he recorded two different versions of the demise of his creepy crawly friend, and this one sold 17,000 copies.

Redback On The Toilet Seat won him Top Selling Record of the Year at the inaugural Golden Guitar Awards in 1973, and still holds the accreditation for the only song recorded in Tamworth to achieve gold record status. As a bonus it has reached that status three times over.

Although Redback On The Toilet Seat was the song that Slim Newton is most known for, some of his other songs include For Old Time's Sake, There Are False Teeth In the Toilet (Where The Redback Used To Be), I'm A Nine Stone Cowboy, It Came From The Heart When He Sang, I Guess That's The Devil In Me, I'm An Articulator Manipulater, Bazza, and The Waterbed Song.

Gifted musician **Eric Newton**, the eldest of Slim's two sons, was killed in a car accident as he was returning to Tamworth after a gig and this led to **Stephen Newton** co-founding ENREC Studios in Eric's memory.

Steve produced his father's next



Slim Newton.



album, *Momma Your Guitar's Come Back Home*, at ENREC and released on the Larrikin label through Festival Records, on CD and cassette.

Among the acknowledgments Slim has received were the Tamworth Songwriters Association SA Songmaker Award, Induction into Rocky's Hands of Fame at Barmera, inducted into the National Australian Country Music Hall of Fame at Tamworth, the Living Legend Award at the Kempsey Country Music Festival, the National Tribute Award at Hexam Bowling Club, and in 2009 he was elevated to the Roll of Renown at Tamworth.

Mary Holdom was Slim's partner for many years. As Slim's health declined, they decided that Slim would relocate to a nursing home nearby, where Slim died at the age of 90.

the 1/Z





2.	A titi is what type of animal?
3.	'Songs My Mother Taught Me' is a 1995 autobiography by which US actor?
4.	Bati beer is brewed in which African country?

Who was US President during the Cuban Missile

- 4. Bati beer is brewed in which African country?

 5. The Golden Cage is an annual award given to the best goalkeeper in football in which European country?
- 7. In which decade of the 20th Century did Edmond Hillary reach the summit of Mount Everest?

.....

Lappi is what type of foodstuff?

- 8. June 1998 saw the Centennial Celebration of Independence of The Philippines from which European country?
 - Which country is bordered by the Gaza Strip, Israel, Libya and Sudan?
- 10. A bergamot is known as what type of fruit?
- 11. Which US aviator, inventor and explorer was nicknamed 'Lucky Lindy'?
- 12. Which is the only planet in our solar system to have water in three states of matter. solid, liquid and gas?
- 13. Malia and Natasha are the daughters of which US President?

- 14. Gimpo International Airport is located in which Asian city?
- 15. In the 2002 FIFA World Cup, which national football team became the first team in the Asian Football Confederation to reach the World Cup semi-finals?
- 16. British actress Audrey Kathleen Ruston was better known by what name?
- 17. Which is the largest city in Scotland by population?
- 18. In the US television series, what type of car did Starsky and Hutch drive?
- 19. What replaced the iron in the board game Monopoly?
- 20. Which US President is depicted on the Purple Heart military decoration?

BONUS QUESTION:

Trinidad lies off the coast of which South American country? Answer in next week's

Answers on page 28

QUIZ MASTER
TOM TRIFONOFF

.....

Yabby thieves just shelfish

EVA NIKOU

LOCAL river lovers in Renmark North are "annoyed" with thieves who continue to steal yabbies, currently in plentiful supply across local flood waters.

Renmark locals Donna and Daniel Kraatz have had their yabby nets emptied on three separate occasions in the past week.

"I thought at first maybe the yabbies crawled out," Mr Kraatz said.

"But they end up setting it up so I could see if someone has moved them or touched them, and they have every time.

"It's just disrespectful."

According to Mr Kraatz, the thieves have set their targets wide, with many locals also experiencing empty nets in the area.

Mr Kraatz said locals were dumbfounded about the thefts.

"I don't know why they are (being stolen)," he said.

"The only thing you do see is people selling them or people wanting to buy them. So I'm gathering that maybe (the thieves) are selling them.

"I don't really understand

because there's just an absolute influx of yabbies; you can get them absolutely everywhere, basically by your back door nearly with the floods."

Mr Kraatz says the offence was also "odd" considering the low cost of purchasing a yabby net. He believes the culprits are targeting people who leave their yabby nets overnight.

- ADVERTISEMENT

by Loxton Garden Club

The Loxton Garden Club hold monthly meetings on the 4th Sunday of the month. The next meeting will be in February held at The Loxton Club – Woolshed Room at 2pm. For further information contact Jacque Schulz 0402 158 759 or Ian Cass 0428 876 220. Email: loxtongardenclub@gmail.com



Wasps

Over the festive break I saw an article about a children's book called 'Wonderful Wasps'. This has been published by the CSIRO. Arthur is Katrina Germein and beautifully illustrated by Suzanne Houghton.

As all of us know wasps generally have a bad reputation. In Australia this status is largely based on an introduced species, the European wasp, which is a nasty pest, and certainly knows how to ruin a good picnic or barbecue.

Did you know that Australia is also home to more than 12,000 native wasp species? And just like bees and butterflies, they are important pollinators that play a critical role in our environment as both predator and prey.

Wasps may not be considered delicious or even edible by humans, but for countless other animals they are an important food source. Birds, reptiles and other animals all love to chow down on a juicy wasp.

Australian native wasps also play an important role in helping control insect and spider populations. Paper wasps live in colonies, and often build nests in carports, sheds and around houses. If left alone, paper wasps help you control pests in your garden - finding aphids, flies and other bugs for their larvae to eat.

The mother wasp finds a spider to sting and paralyse, lays an egg in the spider's abdomen and then closes the nest with mud or dirt. When the wasp larva hatches, it feeds on the spider's insides. This lovely book is also available as an e-book or hard copy from about \$21.00 to \$26.00 and I recommend it as a great read for children.

Quote of the month

'Laws are like cobwebs, which may catch small flies, but let wasps and hornets break through' -





Our Town Berri core members Kiralee Jury, Donna Safralidis and Julie Ahrens at the FloodFest wellbeing centre in Vaughan Terrace last week, where they were preparing 250 tickets for the free comedy night at Berri Hotel on Saturday, January 28. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

Community positivity focus with Our Town Berri's FloodFest

ELYSE ARMANINI

A MONTH-long community initiative has continued to bring morale and positivity to Berri and its surrounds in the wake of the flood event.

Our Town Berri's FloodFest opened in Vaughan Terrace on January 4 and has provided activities for children and adults alike, including a free library in the wellbeing centre, Jamming with Joey, clowns, Ngarrindjeri art and crafts, Disney princess day and rhythmic drumming.

Our Town Berri core member Julie Ahrens said the group was "looking for an opportunity to do something positive in the community" to help improve wellbeing for those affected by the floods.

"Our Town Berri is a wellbeing organisation and we've been thinking about ways to support our broader community," she said.

"We were fortunate to have some funding from Wellbeing SA so we used that to activate that idea: to find ways to lift morale and positivity during tough times."

Ms Ahrens said the feedback from the range of activities so far has been "very positive", with many people grateful and thankful for the opportunities.

"Some have said it's great to have something to do while they couldn't take their children on their normal boating activities they're missing being able to be on the river so it was nice to have other things to do," she

"We had some really good feedback about supporting local artists who might have lost income due to Covid and the flood with lost tourism opportunities.

"(The community is) just really positive about the opportunity to connect. It's just a lovely place to come and chat and be together as a community."

Support from local businesses, including Berri Barmera Council, and community members has been "very important" for the FloodFest event throughout January, according to Ms Ahrens.

"It was a big challenge for a small community group to take on, so we wouldn't have been able to do it without wider support," she said.

"We're very grateful to council for providing the building and some of the government information around risk management and that kind of thing.

"We're very grateful to the Rotary Club of Berri, who have provided their time for free to come and cook the sausage sizzles and connect with the community. To Woolworths and also to Drew Nelsson from the Berri Newsagents - they've all come forth and donated things so we can do this as a community.

"Also to our volunteers. Not only our core volunteers from Our Town Berri, but other people who have asked what they can do to help. People have just wanted to contribute and be part of it. "I think it's really nice to see different people recognising this as a positive thing to do and finding ways to support it."

An adults-only comedy night featuring Marc Ryan and Joshua Warrior at Berri

Hotel will top off the month of FloodFest activities on Saturday, January 28 at 7.30pm.

"They've been really wonderful in fitting us in as an extra show to support the flood community," Ms Ahrens said.

'Marc Ryan has worked with Breakthrough Mental Health and Wellbeing SA before, so it's a bit about his story and about being resilient and working through

"The Berri Hotel has been terrific in short notice, coming on board and providing us the venue for the comedy show. As a community hotel they see it is important to support things that might lift the morale."

The Suicide Prevention Network will hold a free supper after the show.

Tickets are free and available to collect from the wellbeing centre on Vaughan Terrace Tuesday to Friday, from 11am to 3pm. Those unable to collect tickets during these times can contact the Our Town Berri Facebook page or email (ourtownberri@ gmail.com) to arrange a collection time.

FloodFest Pop-Up Wellbeing Hub



OPEN

ALL OF JANUARY

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

11am - 3pm

Join Our Town Berri in connecting our community with free activities throughout January while the River is closed.

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES INCLUDE:

Ngarrindjeri Arts **Board Games Rhythmic Drumming Disney Princesses** Children's Playspace







, Fay Fuller

Vaughan Terrace, Berri

Check Our Town Berri's Facebook page for more information and upcoming activities

gillainey hand-picked south australian fruit

PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Gillainey Citrus Growing and Packing are cur-

rently seeking Production Personnel to join our team for the upcoming 2023 citrus season.

Gillainey Citrus Growing and Packing is a family

growing and packing enterprise situated in Par-

We require people who are team performers,

with a good work ethic and are safety con-

scious. Previous experience will be well regard-

There are multiple roles available including,

Packers, Machine Operators, Sorters, Quality

Control and Floor Supervisors. These roles are

Please apply by sending your resume to

accounts@gillainey.com.au or visit the

Gillainey office at 162 Murtho Road, Paringa.

inga, South Australia.

ed, but not essential.

offered on a seasonal contract.



Australia Day Function -Mannum

The Mid Murray Council in conjunction with the Lions Club of Mannum will be sponsoring Australia Day "Breakfast at the Oval" at the Mannum Town Oval, North Terrace, on Thursday, 26 January, 2023, commencing at 7.00 am.

Council and the Lions Club will make the following presentations commencing at approx 9.00 am -

- Lions Youth Achievement Awards
- Community Event of the Year Award - awarded to the Mannum Progress Association - "SA Truck & Ute Show 12 June 2022"
- Citizen of the Year Award awarded to Angela Lukacs

The public are invited to attend the above Australia Day event.

Ben Scales CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST

POSITION VACANCY IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE WORKER

The Renmark Irrigation Trust has a long and proud history of underpinning the wealth and wellbeing of the Renmark area by providing irrigation water and drainage services. The Trust is also committed to restoring local floodplains and is the first irrigation entity in Australia to receive the Alliance for Water Stewardship Platinum Certification, confirming the Trust's status as a leader in water related practices.

The Trust is seeking an enthusiastic and flexible Irrigation Maintenance Worker. This position is a full-time position. You will enjoy maintaining and managing the day to day water delivery and drainage system infrastructure in Renmark.

Further information, including a Position Description, may be obtained by emailing: jobs@rit.org.au

Applications close Monday 30 January 2

PUBLIC NOTICES

RIVERLAND PEST MANAGEMENT

Our growing family business is currently seeking

enthusiastic and dedicated full time and part time employees to add to our professional team The positions exist for positive, well organised team

members who are able to work unsupervised or as

A current driver's licence and DCSI clearance are

If you would like the opportunity to become part of a close team working in an expanding industry both domestically and commercially, please reply including resume to:

info@riverlandpestmanagement.com.au

Director PO BOX 486, **BERRI SA 5343**

Applications close 25 January, 2023

Seasonal Harvest Staff

Century Orchards is an Almond Farm located 8km from Loxton township. We are currently looking to fill a number of Harvest roles beginning late February working through until late April/early May.

ABOUT THE ROLES:

The roles entail Harvest duties such as;

- **Machinery Work**
- (shaking, sweeping, harvesting) **Tractor Duties**
- Sanitation tasks

Generally 6 days a week with Sundays off, 10-12hr days Above award rates and penalty rates. Driv-

ers license a must. Please email through resume or any queries

to the manager; scott@centuryorchards. com.au

Office Number: 8584 4777 Applications close: 31st January

RENMARK **IRRIGATION TRUST**

POSITION VACANCY MAINTENANCE FITTER

The Renmark Irrigation Trust (the Trust) has a long and proud history of underpinning the wealth and wellbeing of the Renmark area by providing irrigation water and drainage services. The Trust is also committed to restoring local floodplains and is the first irrigation entity in Australia to receive the Alliance for Water Stewardship Platinum Certification, confirming the Trust's status as a leader in water related practices.

The Trust is seeking an enthusiastic and flexible Maintenance Fitter to join our team. This position requires Fitter and Turner trade level qualifications. You will enjoy working with and maintaining machinery with responsibility for the Trust's plant, machinery, vehicles, and equipment. This position is a full-time role.

Further information, including a Position Description, may be obtained by emailing: apply@rit.org.au

Applications close Monday 6 Feburary

☆PPHS 9 1A Pinkerton Rd, Naracoorte

🌭 08 8762 3055

pphs.com.au

FOR SALE

400 Merino lambs, 36.5 kgs, October shorn \$110 + GST

Lupins \$380/t

Oaten hay \$150/t

Contact: Paul Kinnaird 0431 537 631 Jason Berger 0488 584 889

Properties, are selling strongly. WE HAVE A REGISTER OF PROSPECTIVE BUYERS. IF YOU ARE THINKING OF

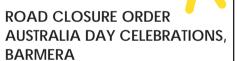
SELLING YOUR PROPERTY, TALK TO ONE OF OUR REAL ESTATE REPRESENTATIVES.

answers

1. John F Kennedy 2. Monkey 3. Marlon Brando 4.Ethiopia 5.Denmark 6.Cheese 7.1950s (1953) 8. Spain 9. Egypt 10. Orange 11. Charles Lindbergh 12. Earth 13. Barack Obama 14. Seoul 15. South Korea 16. Audrey Hepburn 17. Glasgow 18. Gran Torino 19. Cat **20.**George Washington

BONUS QUESTION ANSWER

(from last week): The major British newspaper which closed down for almost a year in 1978 was The Times.



The Berri Barmera Council exercise power delegated to it by the Minister for Transport under Section 11 of the Road Traffic Act and through the Instrument of General Approval, part 1, Clause F: Delegation of Power to Close Roads and Grant Exemptions for Road Events

- (a) Declare the Australia Day celebrations to be held on Dean Drive. Barmera, as an event to which Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act applies.
- (b) Hereby make an order -

Berri Barmera

COUNCIL

To close the Road specified in the Schedule (below) to vehicles as provided in Section 33 (1) (a) of the Road Traffic Act

THE SCHEDULE

Location	From	То
Dean Drive.	Thursday	Thursday
Barmera, between	26 January	26 January
Whitmore Avenue	2023	2023
and Barmera Monash	7.00am	11.30am
Football Club		

Exempt persons in these areas when they are closed to vehicular traffic from Road Rules 230 (crossing a road) and 238 (pedestrians travelling along the road).

For further information please contact Andrew Haigh on 8582 1922 or bbc@berribarmera.sa.gov.au

DYLAN STRONG CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Building a better community berribarmera.sa.gov.au





Irrigation Assistant

Century Orchards is an Almond Farm located 8km from Loxton township. We are currently looking to add an Irrigation assistant to our team.

ABOUT THE ROLE:

The role entails General Irrigation duties

- Irrigation Maintenance
- **Fertiliser Applications**
- Checking and fixing of irrigation svstems Other roles including harvest and
- tractor work when required You will be working as part of great team

with plenty of on farm training with opportunity to complete offsite training as the role

Above award rates and penalty rates, rostered weekend work throughout peak irrigation/harvest season. Drivers license a

> Please email through resume or any queries to the manager; scott@centuryorchards.com.au Office Number: 8584 4777 Applications close; 31st January



The 24 Seven Shell **Roadhouse Blanchetown** are expanding their team!

Roadhouse Attendant

We are looking for Roadhouse Attendant's who are responsible, honest, reliable and have the flexibility to work a range of shifts including night shift. If you love providing fantastic customer service, we want to hear

Responsibilities include:

- Providing fantastic customer service to our large range of customers who visit the store daily.
- Short order cooking and basic food preparation.
- Working collectively within a team and showcasing successful communication
- Creating barista-made coffee.
- General cleaning of the store.
- Stock control where required.

This role offers on-the-job training with flexible casual hours. We welcome all ages and experiences to apply.

> Please email your resume to jobs@24sevengroup.com.au

WZ10484

TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

February 2023 Start

in Riverland towns.

Approximately 10 weeks work transporting grapes to local wineries. HC licence and limited experience necessary. Good equipment and good pay rates. Travelling people welcome. Please call 0407 609 400.



CELLAR HAND

The management at Ral Ral Creek Wines are, at present, looking for a casual, grade 2+ cellar hand for unloading / loading tankers and other cellar work at a family-owned winery located in Monash.

> Email resumes and cover letter to admin@ralralcreekwines.com.au attention Julie.



Truck Drivers

- HC & MC Drivers required
- 2023 Grape Harvest
- Previous tipper experience preferred
- Permanent/Casual position may result for the right applicant
- Must have good attitude and work ethic

Please send Applications to info@aggtrans.com.au or contact Chris on 0419 800 160 or Peter on 0419 803 821



Wunkar Football and Netball Club Inc A Grade football umpire wanted for the 2023 season

Generous remuneration offered for successful application Contributions to travel expenses can be negotiable

FREE WOOD OVEN PIZZA FOR EVERY HOME GAME

Please contact Brenton Henschke 0402 808 925



RIVERLAND

South Australian Driver Accreditation - or willing to obtain

· Experienced with customer contact & customer service Possess or willing to obtain necessary employment clearances

Honest, accountable & able to work in a diverse team

Remuneration is hourly paid in accordance with the relevant

entitlements, casually engaged. The role encompasses varied

Prepared to work over a seven-day rostering arrangement, or as required. School Run only positions are available.

award, commencing at level one, \$28.73 per hour plus any award

services i.e., point to point transport, school bus & minibus transport

Reliable, punctual, professional, & well presented

· Excellent communication & problem-solving skills

GENERAL HAND & ESSENTIAL CRITERIA South Australian Drivers Licence & excellent driving history

OPERATIONS SUPPORT CASUAL - BERRI

EXPRESS

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- South Australian Driver's License & excellent driving history
 Reliable, punctual, professional, & well presented
 Possess or willing to obtain necessary employment clearances
 Excellent communication & problem-solving skills
 Honest, accountable & able to work in a diverse team
 Excellent work ethic and an outcome focused attitude

- Excellent work einic and an outcome focused attitude
 Demonstrate the ability to work as part of a team & unsupervised
 Self-motivated with an exceptional eye for detail
 South Australian Driver Accreditation or willing to obtain
 Prepored to clean, mointain & detail plant and equipment
 Must be physically fit and willing to undertake Medical & Eyesight

EXPRESSX is a diverse and dedicated service organisation, looking to recruit in Berif South Australia. The successful applicant will also be prepared to work weekends, after hours or public holidays when and where required. Hours of engagement will vary. Remuneration is paid in accordance with the relevant award, storting at \$28.73 per hour casually engaged.

Email your expression of interest and resume to admin@expressx.com.au or contact us via phone on (08) 8213 6600 during business hours. Applications close 01.02.2023



Logistics Support Officer

Wishart Contractors are seeking applications for a Logistics Support Officer on a full-time basis, working from Loxton SA 5333.

Responsibilities will include:

- Assist with Planning schedules for up to 20 trucks
- Organise & Direct trucks daily
- Understand and assist with OH & S / Chain of responsibility / Duty of Care
- Assist with NHVAS Accreditation Computer Literate in Excel, word, and
- email
- Liaise with clients and sub-contractors
- Must be able to adapt to changing schedules when it arises last minute

Some overtime may be required through busy periods Grain Harvest / Vintage

Training will be provided for Haul Data and MYOB software packages that we currently utilize.

Applications to: trucks@wishartcontractors.com.au attention Max

Phone Enquiries Max: 08 8584 1248



I can develop a wide range of skills across business services which contribute to great outcomes in the health system. I can gain experience across all areas of health, furthering my knowledge each and every day. I enjoy a diverse and varied career path within one organisation, knowing I am making a real and valued contribution.

Medical Records Officer

Ongoing Full Time Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Community Health Services Berri

Job Ref: 818664





Position Vacant Diesel Mechanic

Due to increased demand Max's Mechanical Workshop & Repairs require a Diesel Mechanic.

Applicant must be competent in most aspects of Heavy Truck and Trailer repairs.

Immediate start.

Resumes to workshop@maxsmechanicalrepairs.com.au

For inquiries phone Max 0418 890 392 or Ryan 0409 873 418



Truck Drivers Required

- HC License required (MC Preferred)
- Must have good attitude and work ethic
- Must be a motivated team player Previous tipper work experience
- preferred
- İmmediate start
- Permanent work may result for the right applicant

Apply by sending resume to: trucks@wishartcontractors.com.au or phone Max: 08 8584 1248

YATE: Admin Position

approx. 15 Hours per week Casual

- **Excellent skills in MYOB & Accounting** Must be highly motivated to work both
- as part of the team & unsupervised High level of organisation & attention to detail
- Punctual, well presented & reliable
- **Excellent customer service & phone**

Main duties include:

Entering financial data, Payroll, BAS, Workcover, EOFY preparation & reconciliations working directly with our accountants, payments, banking, bank reconciliations, petty cash, filing, and other office duties.

> Please hand deliver applications to: 127 Murray Ave, Renmark

I can develop a wide range of skills

contribute to great outcomes in the

across business services which

RZ1194

health system. I can gain experience across all areas of health, furthering my knowledge each and every day. I enjoy a diverse and varied career path within one organisation, knowing I am making a real and valued contribution. Administration Officer Casual Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Loxton Hospital Complex Job Ref: 818516 www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers can ...choose one employer for a variety of career directions SA Health

We're Hiring!

TRAINEE CLERICAL PROCESSING

Are you looking for a unique training and employment opportunity?

Applications are invited for a full-time trainee vacancy in the Berri based Chaffey Electorate Office of Tim Whetstone MP, Member for Chaffey.

Duties of the 12-month position include greeting members of the public, mail- outs, filing, word-processing, photocopying, answering the phone and general administrative tasks.

Administrative TAFE study will be included in the traineeship.

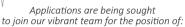
To apply for this position, you must be aged 17-24 or 17-30 in special circumstances.

Applications can be submitted from Friday January 20th and close 5pm on 3 February 2023.

For details on how to apply, please view job reference number 517908 at https://iworkfor.sa.gov.au/







Early Years/Primary Teacher

Waikerie Lutheran Primary School is a school of the Lutheran Church of Australia offering the Primary Years Program of the International Baccalaureate to students in Foundation - Year 6.

At Waikerie Lutheran Primary School classroom teachers report to and are accountable to the Principal and work in consultation with the Leadership Team and other staff in the best interests of The Learner, The Learning and Teaching, and The Wider Community.

Waikerie Lutheran Primary School:

- Regards its child protection responsibilities with the utmost importance and as such is committed to ensuring compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintaining a child safe culture.
- Values diversity and adheres to Equal Opportunity legislation.

Starting from the 23rd January 2023, or as soon as available, this 0.4 FTE teaching position in an International Baccalaureate PYP school provides considerable opportunity for professional development and additional teaching if desired.

Please submit a cover letter (maximum two pages) outlining your beliefs about successful learning and a positive workplace culture, your CV (maximum two pages) and the names of two referees to

principal@wlps.sa.edu.au



CENTRAL **IRRIGATION TRUST**

Officer Central Irrigation Trust is a leading supplier of

Casual Administration

irrigation water to the horticultural industry in the Riverland Region of South Australia.

We are seeking applications from people interested in undertaking administrative tasks at our Barmera office on a casual basis. primarily to backfill during periods of staff leave.

We are looking for someone:

- 10 perform a variety of administrative and clerical tasks, including answering phones and emails
- With reception and point-of-sale experience
- To coordinate front desk activities and complete shift duties Willing to learn new systems related to

water ordering The hourly rate will be between \$30 and \$33/ hour depending on relevant experience.

> Applications can be addressed to Amy Goodman, Water Manager, PO Box 34, Barmera 5345 or via email to office@cit.org.au by Wednesday Feburary 1st, 2023. If you have any queries please call 08 8580 7100

8586 8000 www.murraypioneer.com.au

FOR BEST VALUE CLASSIFIEDS CALL THE MURRAY PIONEER, OR **VISIT OUR WEBSITE** AND SUBMIT YOUR CLASSIFIEDS VIA OUR ONLINE PLATFORM.





AMERICAN

BIRTH

REEKS - MIDDLETON.

Proud parents, Clare and Murray, are excited to welcome Ned Murray into the world.

Born January 7, 2023, weighing 3.8kg.

"Before you were conceived, I wanted you. Before you were born, I loved you. Before you were here an hour, I would die for you. This is the miracle of life."

> (Author Maureen Hawkins).

Grandparents, Anne-Marie and Greg, Deb and Daryll, are eager to meet their new grandson.

80th **BIRTHDAY**

BRUCE. Lona.

19/1/2023

Happy birthday, Lona. Have a great day.

All our love Ken and families.



BRUCE, Lona.

Happy 80th birthday.

From Mik, Ros, Stacey, Jayden and Caity.





MATHER, Morrell and Edna (nee Nitschke).

Married January 19, 1963.

Something truly special to celebrate 60 years together.

Lots of love always Michael and Lyndall, Julie and Neil. Craig, Troy and Anne, and all their families.

DIAMOND WEDDING **ANNIVERSARY**



PANKHURST.

Bob and Pam are celebrating 60 years of marriage on January 19, 2023.

With love, from your family.

DEATHS

BENNETT, Morris.

Dearly loved brotherin-law of Denny and Jill. Uncle to Brenton. Vicki, Dean and Jason.

Will be sadly missed.

BIDDLE, Margaret Ann (nee Lewis).

Passed away peacefully in Loxton hospital surrounded by family on January 13, 2023.

Aged 77 years.

Dearly loved wife of Barrie (deceased). Loving mother and mother-in-law of Peter and Trudie, Michelle (deceased), Hayley and Rob, Carolyn and Tim. Cherished nanna of Ayden, Aaron, Ben, Patrick (deceased), Ryan, Andrew, Ebony and Charlie.

You've completed your life's journey.

Your recent wish is now fulfilled.

Rest peacefully as you reunite with your beloved Barrie.

> So dearly loved, so sadly missed.

HASTWELL, Brenton John 'BJ'.

Passed away peacefully on Monday, January 9, 2023.

Aged 68 years.

Loving son of Malcolm and Hazel (both deceased). Loved brother of Peter, Janet (deceased), Anne and David. Loved uncle to Joanne, Samuel, Sophie, Samantha, Mark, and great-uncle

of 7. His service was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

DEATHS

HASTWELL, Brenton.

Former members of the Barmera Lions Club are saddened by the passing of Brenton Hastwell. Brenton gave 40 years of service to the community through Lions.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Brenton's family.

HEAD, Cheryl Kay.

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 11, 2023.

Aged 77 years.

Loved wife of Doug (deceased). Loving mother and mother-in-law of Tania, Dean and Sarika. Beloved sister of Judith and lan (deceased). Dearly loved and sadly missed nanna and great-nanna to many.

> Gone but not forgotten.

"One in a million".

MEYER, Ernest Gerald

Passed away peacefully at the Barmera hospital on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Aged 75 years.

Loving father of Vanessa and Jamie. Teresa and Don. Loved poppa of Aiden, Brodie, Callum, Arielle, and Annika.

"Gone fishing".

OLIVER, Beatrice Edith Rene (nee Field).

Passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, December 31, 2022.

Loving wife of Ron (deceased). Loving mother of Marie-Anne (deceased), Brian and Bernadette, Julie-Anne and Vera. Loving nanna of David, Nathan (aeceasea)

Very much loved by family and she will be deeply missed.

and Charles.

Rest in peace.



4 OUT OF 5 PEOPLE WHO ARE



DEATHS



PALLAS, Elizabeth (nee Antonergias).

Passed away peacefully at the Loxton hospital on Sunday, January 15, 2023.

Aged 66 years.

Dearly loved wife of Gabriel. Loved daughter of Nikolaos and Antigoni (both deceased). Adored sister to Constantinos (deceased).

> So dearly loved, so sadly missed.

Rest in peace.

STOCKFISCH, Fred.

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Aged 91 years.

Loved husband of Georgina (deceased). Loving father, uncle and pop to many.

> "Will be sadly missed by all".

WARD, Helena Joan.

Passed away peacefully at Banksia House on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Aged 71 years. Loved wife of Kevin (deceased). Loving mother of

Keith, Rick, and families. Sister to Stan and Iggy.

Always in our thoughts. forever in our hearts.



DEATHS

WESTBROOK, Robert

Passed away, unexpectedly on January 9, 2023.

Aged 78 years. Dearly loved husband

of Marlene for 56 years. Cherished father and father-in-law of Tania and Andrew, Michelle and Marcus, and Stephen. Gramps to Brayden, Daniel, Matthew, Alanna, Zane, Reid, Bryna, Saxon, Blair, Hunter and Yasmin. Superman to Zarli, and loved friend to

their partners Forever in our hearts. Will be sadly missed.

Robert's memorial service details will be advised at a later date.



ALTSCHWAGER FAMILY FUNERALS 0400 012 089

WESTBROOK, Robert.

Much-loved brother to Fay (deceased) and brother-in-law to Bill. Uncle to Deb,

and families. Forever in our hearts. XOXO

Sharlene, Trish,



WESTBROOK, Robert.

To Marlene, Tania, Michelle, Steve, and families,

the Loxton Football Club would like to offer their sincere condolences on the sudden passing of Robert.

Robert was a past vice president of the club, a valued member, and a loyal supporter of the Loxton Tigers.

FUNERALS

BIDDLE, Margaret Ann PALLAS, Elizabeth EVANS, V. G'Blue'. (nee Lewis).

Relatives and friends are advised that Margaret's funeral will be service conducted at The Pines, Henry Street, Loxton on Friday, January 20, 2023 at

After the service, the cortege will proceed to the Loxton Lawn Cemetery for the committal.

In Margaret's memory, a donation to Dementia Australia would be appreciated. Envelopes will be available at the service.

ALTSCHWAGER FAMILY FUNERALS 0400 012 089

HEAD.

The relatives and friends of the late Cheryl Head are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service to be conducted entirely at the graveside in the Paringa Lawn Cemetery, 201 Murtho Road, Paringa on Monday, January 23, 2023 at 10am.

In lieu of flowers if desired, a donation to the RSPCA, South Australia, in Cheryl's memory would be appreciated.

Donations may be made at the service.



Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA

MEYER.

The relatives and friends of the late Ernie Meyer are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted entirely at the graveside in the Berri Lawn Cemetery, RL Gambling Road, Berri on Friday, January 20, 2023 at 11am.



Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA

FUNERALS

(nee Antonergias).

Relatives and friends are advised that Elizabeth's funeral service will be conducted at Living Waters Christian Church, Edward Street, Loxton, on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at

After the service, the cortege will proceed to the Loxton Lawn Cemetery for the committal.



ALTSCHWAGER FAMILY FUNERALS

0400 012 089

STOCKFISCH. The relatives and

friends of the late Fred Stockfisch are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted at the Riverland Funeral Chapel, 32 Hughes Street, Berri on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 11am.

At the conclusion of the service, the cortege will proceed to the Berri lawn cemetery for the



Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA

WARD.

The relatives and friends of Helena Ward are respectfully invited to attend her funeral service to be conducted entirely at the graveside in the Loxton Lawn Cemetery, 37 Tobruk Terrace, Loxton on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at



Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA

FOR BEST VALUE CLASSIFIEDS CALL THE MURRAY PIONEER

8586 8000

MEMORIAM

BIRTHDAY

19/1/2023 Happy birthday to my loving dad.

Your birthday reminds me to always value life more than material things Dad, there will always be warmth in my heart and a smile

think of you. Thank you for being one of the angels looking after us.

on my face when I

Love always and forever, your one and only daughter, Michelle, Willy, and family.

XOX

RETURN THANKS

OBST, Martin Berthold.

We wish to sincerely thank everyone who has provided their support by phone calls, messages, visits and cards on the loss of our much-loved husband, father-inlaw and pa. Special thanks to Pastor Jason and Martin's St Peter's Lutheran church family. Please accept this as

Evelyn, Cynthia, Julie, Murray, Paul, Brayden and Amy-Louise.

our personal thanks.



Urgent care in the Riverland when it's needed most >

On a daily basis the Royal Flying Doctor Service conducts more than 100 aeromedical evacuations across Australia - an average of two flights to the Riverland every day.

Please donate today and help keep the Flying Doctor flying.

1300 669 569 www.flyingdoctor.org.au





www.riverlandfunerals.com.au

Facebook/Riverland Funerals

FOR SALE



ALUMINIUM bow ladders, 2 year guarantee, 3 leg picking ladders, Pinyon Engineering. Phone 85866057.

BOAT - 12ft Stacer, 360 aluminium hull 25hp motor. stainless steel propeller, on trailer, both registered. \$4500. Phone 85955005.

BOAT (tinny), 385 Savage Jabiru, electric start/tilt, 25hp motor, 4 stroke, bimini. Top condition. \$7500. Phone 0417435640.

CAMPER trailer Lumberjack. Top of the range, electric lift, 2 x king-sized beds, solar panel, fridge, stove, HWS, shower toilet. Fully offroad. \$26,500. Phone 0417435640.

CARAVAN Prattline. 17ft, with two room annexe. \$7000 ono. Phone 0412771238.





FLORY harvestor, 1996. Almonds, pecans, walnuts - all nuts. Self-propelled pick-up/harvester in good working order with new pickup belt, twin rod dirt chain worth \$15,000 alone. 5137hours. Big price drop. down to \$40,000. Phone

MOTOR - Fully reconditioned FSR 500 BB1. Suitable to modify to a generator. Offers. More information call Pat 0438362365.

0419833517.

PRIDE Pathrider. mobility 4-wheel scooter. New January 10, immaculate. Red with mag wneels, carry 159kgs, highback swivel seat, carry bags, charger, travel up to 26kms. Can deliver. \$2950. Phone 0438253986.

PUPPIES - Jack Russell cross. Vet checked, wormed, vaccinated, microchipped. Male and female. White and cream, tan and white, black and white. Eight weeks old on January 16. Berri area. Breeder number: EF7 EC22302. Phone 0488413418.

FOR SALE

ROSES - new season roses have arrived at Brad's Roses. Floribunda, climbers, standard hybrid teas. Phone 0417855014. 13 Riverview Drive, Paringa.



STORAGE keypad entry, CCTV monitoring. Various site sizes Phone available. 0488050482. mark Central Storage.

VARIOUS Black wheelchair \$320 ono, red wheelchair \$375 ono, shower chair \$85 ono, toilet/commode chair \$100 ono. All in good condition. Phone 0474132451

VINTAGE 2023 Grapes for sale. Chardonnay - 200 tonne, Sauvignon blanc - 50 tonne, Shiraz - 100 tonne, Merlot - 100 tonne. tonne, Gordo 100 tonne. All with spray diaries and Phone dit papers. 0447188244.

COMMUNITY **NOTICE**

ART group - Come along and join us for a morning of creativity, fun and relaxation with like-minded people. For further information phone 0421514954.



FIREWORKS -

display fireworks will take place at the Waikerie Football Oval, Saturday, January 28, 2023 at 9.45pm. Contact Mike 0417877521.

INFORMATION

Seminar. Barmera Club. Monday, January 23 at 7pm. Lake Bonney at Barmera. Nature, politics, law and future. Presented by local author Tim Broster, Followed by open discussion.



RAEDER'S Electric Motor Services. Flooded irrigation motor? For all oven dry-outs and reassembly phone Danny 0438698972

GARAGE SALE

BARMERA Boat Shed, Lakefront, Saturday, January 21 and Sunday 22nd, from 7:30am. Big garage sale of boats and 4WD parts. 7.8m aluminium hull cruiser, sleeps 3, with tandem trailer; 7.6m aluminium tri-hull trailerable houseboat with trailer; 2 x inflatable boats, one near near, one heavy duty in excellent condition: 2005 Mercedes 4WD wagon, 5 cylinder, turbo, rego XXXXXX; Ford range motor, 3L, turbo die-178,000kms; sel. Toyota HJ 47 block parts includand ing new water pump; ride-on mower: Cox fold-up bike (as new); whipper snipper, and sundry items. Phone

LOXTON Corner Kokoda and Oak Street. Saturday, January 21, 8am - 4pm. Moving sale. Bedding to kitchen items, drum set and sporting gear.

0456527508.

LOXTON North - 249 Edwards Road. Open Friday, January 20, Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd, 10am 4pm. Plants. Orders now being taken for bare-rooted deciduous ornamental trees and stone fruit trees. Phone 85841205.

RENMARK - 18 Redgum Street. Saturday, 2pm. All sorts. Down-

MOTOR VEHICLE

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GLASSES reading, lost at Renmark Square, Wednesday, January black arms with diamonte Phone Sandy trim. 0418424983.

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Riverland

CHURCH NOTICES:



BERRI | BARMERA

Sunday, January 22 Berri 9am Barmera I I am Pastor S Trautwein

All Welcome Phone 0493021960

LOXTON

Third Sunday after Epiphany Sunday, January 22

Concordia 10am HC

Myrla & New Residence 8.30am HC da Costa (Myrla)

Bookpurnong 9am Lay Reading

Riverview Rest Home Wed, Jan 25 10.30am HC Unfortunately, until further notice only residents

can attend - no visitors **Lutheran Ministry Centre** Phone 8584 5522 Pastor Chris Georg

(Concordia and outlying) Pastor Jason Sander (St Peter's)

RENMARK | PARINGA

Sunday, January 22

Renmark 9am HC Paringa 10.30am

All Welcome Pastor Roland Adams Phone 0460 300 492

WAIKERIE

Sunday, January 22

Waikerie 10am Lowbank 8.45am Ramco 8.45am

All Welcome Phone 8541 2689



Saturday, January 21

5pm - Berri St Alban's

Sunday, January 22 9am - Barmera

St Edmund's 9am - Loxton The Resurrection 9am - Renmark St Augustine's l I am - Waikerie St James Contact:

Fr. David Patterson 8586 3288



Bible Study 10-11am Worship every Saturday (Sabbath) Now 11.15am All Welcome

Pastor Andy Krause

Ph: 0418 617 582

UNITING CHURCH

BERRI / BARMERA

Sunday, January 22 Sundays at 10am Berri, Denny Street Barmera, Nookamka Tce <u>berribarmerauca.org.au</u>



Sunday, January 22 10am Darryl Knowling

Contact **Rev Linda Forsyth** 0401 815 488

RENMARK

Sunday, January 22 8.30am Renmark West Renmark Avenue Ian Forsyth Phone 0401 815 488



1025 Old Sturt Highway Sunday, January 22

All Welcome

Phone 0419 783 779 berrichurchofchrist.org.au

Catholic Church **Mass Times**

Our Lady Catholic Parish

Saturday Morgan 6pm Renmark 6.30pm Sunday

> Berri 9am Loxton I I am Waikerie Ham Barmera 6pm

WEEKS 2 & 4

Saturday Waikerie 6pm Berri 6.30pm Sunday

> Renmark 9am Morgan 9am Barmera I I am Loxton 6pm



Sunday, January 22 10am

Loxton Senior Citizen Hall 25 Tobruk Terrace Ps Red Elliott 0439 507 096 Ps Sheryl Giles 0423 884 002



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volunteering at Loxton Red Cross Shop, Call 1800 833 489 or email (savolunteer@redcross. org.au.) **Riverland Youth** Theatre is seeking a

suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the volunteer position of Secretary on the four-member executive of the RYT Board. They should have some experience in meeting organisation skills, corporate governance, administration and an understanding of the not-for-profit charitable sector regulatory frameworks and standards. If you have an interest in contributing to RYT's

email an expression of interest to board@ryt. org.au including your relevant qualifications and experience.

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Conveners needed for the 2023 LOXTON show to be trained for this year's Show in October for the following sections: Vegetables, Floral Art. Amateur Winemaking & Brewing and Scarecrows Please call 0497

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are seeking able bodied volunteers to help with maintaining walking trails, weed control, pest control, revegetation & other projects. If you enjoy the outdoors please contact Gordon on 0427847896 for more information.

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MONTHLY column

Adelaide Crows Riverland **Supporters Group**

HAPPY new year to all Adelaide Crows supporters in the region. Are you ready for season 2023? Thanks for sharing a great end-of-season day with us at the Mallee Fowl Restaurant. Our committee has been busy over the break and we are sure you will be looking forward for what we are planning this year.

For those who were able to be at Hungry Jack's to meet some of the Adelaide Football Club players in December, thanks for coming. The players came to our region to give our communities, especially the students, moral support around their concerns with the flooding. It was an snap decision for the players to come, but we did our best to let you know, despite the short notice. Thanks to The Murray Pioneer and The Advertiser for their stories and photos of that day, and thanks also to Riverland ABC.

It's going to be an exciting night at the Waikerie Community Club on Monday, February 6, at 6pm for 6.30pm when we welcome you, our supporters. to a community dinner with Adelaide Football Club guests, including chairman John Olsen AO, CEO Tim Silvers, engagement executive Sam Jacobs and a current player or two. Dinner will be threedrop main course and alternate twodrop dessert (\$28 p.p.) Bookings with Jenny 0407 641 932 or Gwen 0408 609 304 by January 30. There will be an opportunity for discussion and question time during the evening.

A members' day will be held on Sunday, February 26 at the Cobdogla Club, where you can hear our plans for you. We are giving you the chance to win two tickets to home games at Adelaide Oval.

Here's to a great 2023. #weflyasone

- Gwen

Points shared in pennant clash

HONOURS finished even between The Lawns and Waikerie in last weekend's round of fixtures in the Bowls Riverland Saturday pennants first division.

Waikerie came into the clash looking to atone for a loss against Barmera the week prior, but failed to get past the home side, with The Lawns claiming a victory in two of the three rinks.

Stand-in Waikerie skipper Brian Burnett led his four to victory over Rod Stoeckel's quartet, but wins from Russell and Peter Lawton's respective fours cancelled out the nineshot buffer created by Burnett's side.

The tie allowed Berri to edge further away from Waikerie at the top of the table, after the ladder-leaders secured a 19-shot win over Renmark on Saturday.

The travelling side outscored its opposition in all three rinks on its way to victory, with Berri now clear on top of the first division table by 62 points.

Barmera makes up the third spot on the podium for the time being despite suffering a loss at the hands of Loxton on Saturday.

The victory propelled Loxton off the bottom of the table and into fourth spot, with The Lawns and Renmark close behind.

Each of the three sides vying for fourth place has won three matches for the season, with the next month of action set to prove vital heading into finals.

Meanwhile, Berri cruised to a 33-shot win over The Lawns Red in second division, with the side leapfrogging Waikerie into first spot on the ladder.

Waikerie remains top of third division despite a loss to Monash, while two forfeits in fourth division saw Monash pick up the only victory of the weekend in the division.

RESULTS FIRST DIVISION

Loxton 55 d Barmera 50. D. Schliebs 19 d J. Morena 15; P. Kimber 18 lost to C. Karantonis 19; R. Coombs 18 d R. Reynolds 16.

Berri 60 d Renmark 41. A. Hill 21 d B. Dopson 16; G. Butt 24 d S. Blee 12; K. Stokes 15 d M. Rice 13. The Lawns 53 drew with Waikerie 53.

R. Stoeckel 12 lost to B. Burnett 21; P. Lawton 22 d W. Collins 14; P. Lawton 19 d A. Fulwood 18. Points: Berri 282; Waikerie 220; Barmera 199; Loxton 108; The Lawns 108;

Renmark 97. **SECOND DIVISION** Barmera 72 d Loxton 51.

C. Gamble 26 d T. Thurston 12; D. Mills 29 d H. Appleton 15; W. Uppington 17 lost to W. Harrison 24

Loxton RSL 81 d Renmark 47. C. Inglis 25 d B. Lockett 23: S. Roberts 25 d L. Warren 12; G.



Despite a loss from Andy Fulwood's rink, Waikerie emerged from its clash with The Lawns with a share of the spoils after the two sides finished on 53 shots apiece last Saturday. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

Monash 69 d Waikerie 43.

I. Potts 36 d H. Hope 9; M. Wood 19 lost to R. Davies 21; M. Kruger 14 d D. Morley 13. Berri 73 d The Lawns Red

40. R. Kuchel 29 d R. Sutton 12; K. Carpenter 16 lost to R. Ashworth 18; J. Trezise 28 d B. Haby 10.

The Lawns 84 d Berri Red

D. Ludas 35 d J. Centofanti 13; M. Spano 34 d D. Spicer 8; J. Knight 15 lost to L. Knight 23. Points: Berri 212; Waikerie

200; Monash 183; Barmera 176; Loxton RSL 149.27; The Lawns Red 135; The Lawns 133; Renmark 114; Lyrup 113.27; Loxton 107; Berri

THIRD DIVISION Monash 50 d Waikerie 41.

J. John 17 d S. Canney 11; C. Traeger 14 lost to W. Burris 19; S. Voigt 19 d B. Hill 11. Berri 65 d Loxton RSL 44. B. Bland 29 d J. Smith 11; K. Tanner 16 drew with P. Smith 16; J. Bradford 20 d H. Dreschler 17.

Loxton Red 73 d Moorook

R. Lee 21 drew with A. Wachtel 21; K. Maynard 30 d C. Pantic 11; M. Schutz 22 d M. Couzner 15

Barmera 60 d Berri Blue 39. I. Lloyde 21 d G. Pahl 13; H. Robinson 17 d P. Ledsham 14; T. Brown 22 d R. Grosser

Renmark 63 d The Lawns 46. M. Walker 19 d L. Pinyon 14; J. Thompson 23 d D. Wilson

14; C. Vriends 21 d P. Brown

Loxton White d Lyrup (forfeit).

Points: Waikerie 297: Berri 263; Barmera 230; Renmark 230; Loxton Red 217; Monash 167; The Lawns 143; Loxton White 136; Loxton RSL 122; Moorook 118; Lyrup 67; Berri Blue 36.

FOURTH DIVISION

Monash 47 d Waikerie 39. R. Wright 29 d S. Moritz 14; T. Swanbury 18 lost to M. Morley 25.

Moorook d Loxton (forfeit). Barmera d The Lawns (forfeit).

Points: Waikerie Regents 210; Monash 184; Waikerie Hornets 131; Barmera 118; Moorook 111; The Lawns 78;

Waikerie Wednesday's top dogs again

WAIKERIE has leapfrogged Barmera into top spot of the Bowls Riverland Wednesday pennant competition, after the former bested the Pelicans in last week's round of fixtures.

Barmera went into the clash with just two losses to its name but was comprehensively beaten by the home side, with Waikerie emerging victorious in all three rinks.

The 39-shot win sees Waikerie now one point ahead of Barmera in the overall standings, with the two tied on 11 wins.

Monash rounds out the podium places after it ran out 40-shot winners over Loxton last week, while Lyrup remains on just win for the season following its 26-shot loss to Renmark.

Berri Red continued its hot run of form in second division, defeating second-bottom Barmera last week.

Clubmates Berri Blue remain in second spot despite a loss last Wednesday against fourth-placed Moorook. RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION

Waikerie 86 d Barmera 47. Morley 19 d C. Gamble 16; C. Davies 25 d J. Gartner 23; J. Strauss 42 d C. Shugg 8. Renmark 71 d Lyrup 45. C. Eagle 28 d D. Hill 10; S. Schulz 19 lost to R. Smith 23; J. Cooper 24 d R. Adams 12. Berri 57 d The Lawns 56.

K. Treloar 15 lost to M. Spano 21; C. Eichenberger 18 lost to S. Machell 21; R. Butt 24 d J. Knight 14

Monash 90 d Loxton 50.

R. Potts 26 d M. Schutz 19: J. John 25 d B. Mattner 15: S. Elsdon 39 d D. Vaughan 16. Points: Waikerie 276; Barmera 275: Monash 265: Loxton 176; Berri 163; The Lawns 145; Renmark 123; Lyrup 31.

SECOND DIVISION The Lawns Red 51 d Waikerie 25.

E. Kennedy 19 d S. Short 13; R. Christie 32 d L. Burnett 12. The Lawns 36 d Loxton RSL

C. Haar 24 d J. Smith 10; L. Pinyon 12 lost to H. Dreschler

Moorook 35 d Berri Blue 33. H. Smith 19 d K. Tanner 18; L. Tschirpig 16 d M. Miller 15. Berri Red 46 d Barmera 28. J. Bradford 20 d M. Wade 14; L. Blades 26 d K. Brown 14. Loxton 46 d Renmark 19. M. Tygh 23 d B. Cornelius 12;

N. Milich 23 d B. Warren 7.

Points: Berri Red 284; Berri Blue 257; The Lawns 235; Moorook 235; Loxton 197; The Lawns Red 169; Waikerie 123; Loxton RSL 106;

Barmera 51; Renmark 23.

Top midweek triples teams collide

THE top two sides in the continues to search for T. Hucks 22 d G. Milich 18; D. off last week, with the contest between Barmera and The Lawns Red going down to the wire.

The rinks were evenly split, but the Lakesiders managed to gain an edge on aggregate, winning the match by just one shot.

The victory sees the top side edge 44 points clear of their opponents in second, while Loxton Red and Renmark Gold make up the remainder of the top four.

Barmera is still yet to lose this season, while at the other end of the table, Monash

Bowls Riverland midweek its second win of the camtriples competition squared paign after it went down by week.

RESULTS

Loxton White 92 d Berri Blue 62. H. Appleton 15 lost to N. Jenke 20: P. Vaughan 12 lost to K. Carpenter 20; T. Thurston 30 d J. Jungfer 9; J. Kingston 35 d J. Centofanti 13.

Loxton Red 94 d Monash 76. R. Coombs 29 d P. Raams 20; W. Harrison 27 d P. Grocke 21; G. Schulz 24 d R. Jury 11; B. Schubert 14 lost to W. Pahl 24.

Barmera Pelicans 75 d The Lawns

T. Brown 23 d P. Brown 13: H. Robinson 8 lost to K. Tschirpig 24; P. Thompson 26 d R. Ashworth 13; T. Daelman 18 lost to K. Knight 21. Loxton Blue 116 d Lyrup 61. D. Kimber 38 d P. Denton 12; P. Kimber 21 lost to P. Drewett 28;

Schliebs 35 d R. Drewett 3.

Berri Red 103 d Loxton RSL 67. B. Hollis 25 d B. Manuel 21; K. Stokes 27 d T. Wurst 14 ; J. Cresp 26 d G. Huppatz 18; G. Elleway 25

d D. Drabsch 14. Renmark Green 91 d Waikerie 72. B. Knight 25 d G. Lloyd 7; S. Blee 26 d T. Strauss 20; J. Thompson 27 d N. Harcombe 21; M. Rice 13 lost to M. Morette 24.

Barmera 72 d The Lawns Red 71. J. Morena 17 lost to M. Inglis 20; C. Healey 22 d R. Adam 19; A. Gapco 9 lost to S. Ivanovic 18: P. Ashton 24 d R. Stoeckel 14.

Points: Barmera 337; The Lawns Red 293: Loxton Red 247: Renmark Gold 219: Renmark Green 215: Berri Blue 193: Waikerie 192; Loxton Blue 191; Lyrup 168; Loxton RSL 163; Berri Red 146; Loxton White 133; Barmera Pelicans 116; The Lawns 69: Monash 60.

Waikerie hosting gliding titles

THE Waikerie Gliding Club is hosting the Open, 18m and Sports Class National Gliding Championships this week.

Running from January 10-21, the championships have already seen 16 elite gilders reach speeds of 150km/h and 160km/h.

Safety officer Bill Mudge said this week's event was one of many elite competitions the club has hosted since the 1950s.

"The launching commences around midday to two o'clock most days, and then the gliders disappear on course and don't return until the evening, around 5pm or 6pm," Mr Mudge said.

"It's the elite gliders; they are very sleek, very beautiful to look at.'

The gliders fly distances between 300km and 700km, and in the open class



are ballasted with water to make them glide faster.

The drivers also use thermals and have had them reach over 12,000ft so far in the competition.

"We have had a winning speed of 163km/h over a 350km course on Thursday," Mr Mudge said.

The championships will end this

Real deal Neil

THE Riverland's newest football and netball competition has cast aside some "disappointing" treatment from the RFL and is ready for its inaugural season, its new president says.

Former Renmark Paringa mayor and RFL chairman Neil Martinson was accepted into the competition's top job at the recent AGM and cited a messy split from the RFL as a motivating factor behind his application for the role.

"They had a transition committee to start looking at executive positions of the new league and that's when they sent out the call for applications, which is when I applied," Mr Martinson said.

"One of the reasons behind why I decided to get involved was that I've always supported the old Independent group clubs and I was very disappointed in how the matter was put together by the RFL.

"In terms of them getting rid of the old Independents, I've looked at the constitution and there's nothing there that allows them to do that.

"Provided the Independent clubs were paying their membership and they weren't bringing the RFL into disrepute, there was no legal reason under the constitution for them to do what they did.

"I was disappointed with how it all happened and I'm keen to try and help out as best as I can."

Despite what Mr Martinson described as a "disappointing" exit from the RFL, he believes that the seven MVFNL clubs now have a chance to start fresh and said that each club is "ready to go".

"The clubs attended a meeting at RFL headquarters in December and that turned into a bit of a farce," Mr Martinson said.



"They were going to disband (from the RFL) at that meeting and then it got cancelled and they had to do it again.

"The clubs were very disappointed in the manner in which they were treated.

"Now, they're excited to get going with the new league and they can stand on their own two feet, so everybody is looking forward to the start of the season.'

The MVFNL released its round one fixtures last week, with action set to kick off on May 6, with a grand final rematch between BSR and Sedan-Cambrai.

"It's a late start and that's due to farmers being involved in seeding and that sort of thing," Mr Martinson said.

"We'll start the season with an ANZAC Day match at Blanchetown on May 6 and the grand final will be played at Wunkar on September 9.

"The new board will be looking at the by-laws over the next couple of months and the other thing that's been brought up is the start times have been altered slightly.

"The A grade netball will start at 12.45, the B grade netball at 2.15 and the A grade football at 2.45, and all those times will be in SA

"We've got a bye on the King's Birthday weekend in June and also we won't be playing on Country Championships day."

Despite Mr Martinson's disap-



Neil Martinson has stepped into the hot seat of the newly-formed Murray Valley Football Netball League, with the former Renmark Paringa mayor accepted as president of the league at last month's AGM. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

proval at the handling of the split between the MVFNL and the RFL, he believes that there remains a chance for the two to work together in key facets of the game.

"I'm trying to see if we can get an under 13s competition going," Mr Martinson said.

"Particularly with Murrayville, where it's going to be a significant drive to come across, perhaps some of the over 13 lads could be involved with junior football in the

"If they're travelling from Murrayville to Blanchetown for example, there can be an opportunity for some of the senior boys that are too young for A grade. They may be able to involve themselves with the RFL.

"Umpires are always a problem and training as well because of the distance that's got to be covered, but we're certainly going to look at that and get some support for the club umpires that they use.

"I've spoken to some of the RFL

boys and, depending on their numbers of course, whether they can do some umpiring at clubs that are closer to the RFL area.

"All those things are being looked and we're virtually ready to go. The constitution has been sent away for approval."

Also on the inaugural committee of the new league are vicepresident Andrew Schultz, Marc Worsfold, Heidi Roesler, Elouise Stalenberg and patrons Rob Lehmann and Louise Thiel.

Search begins again as Swans left to fill in the Blanck

BEN LENNON

RECENTLY appointed Paringa Football Club coach Max Blanck has stepped down from the role, just months after taking on the Swans' top job.

Club president Kevin Eckermann insists the club remains on good terms with Blanck following his exit, with the former Berri Demon citing a lack of time as reasoning behind his departure.

"Unfortunately Max's

family situation has changed where his wife is doing something different now and it's become really difficult for him to be involved due to his young kids and family," Mr Eckermann said.

"He won't be able to put into it what he thought he could when he accepted the role and whilst he's still in contact with the club and still here, he's now stepped

"However, he's going to be around for a while and involved until things get set

"We've arranged a meeting with him where we'll discuss what he's done, what players he's spoken to and those things."

Mr Eckermann believes despite Blanck's departure, the club remains in a strong spot heading into the inaugural season of the Murray Valley Football Netball League

The Swans began their search for Blanck's replacement last week, with a num-

chigmtrs@bigpond.com

ber of phone calls already made to potential candidates.

"We're in the process of finding a new coach. We've already made some contacts so that's a positive thing,' Mr Eckermann said.

"The good thing about it is it's only January and we don't start until the first week of May.

"We'll certainly be there. We want people to understand that we don't have a coach at the moment but we're working towards getting one."

18TH STREET, RENMARK

Mr Eckermann is hopeful the club's current crop of players will stick around and stand up in the absence of a senior coach for the time being and encouraged any potential newcomers to reach out to the club.

"We're hoping we keep the players on board and to any new players who want to put their hand up and come out to this new league, it's an exciting thing to come into," Mr Eckermann said.

"We've got some senior players that will take care of training and I believe that Max has already organised two trial matches.

"We'll be looking to get out to training in early or mid-February. "Because of the late start

to the season in May, it's a long time for guys to be training from now until then, especially in country areas.

"Hopefully we get some netball girls out to play as well. We're certainly going forward and there'll be people helping to make sure that it happens.'

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PRE-OWNED

CARS ANY AGE...



Loxton and Parilla faced off under lights last Saturday after the Riverland cricketing community took to social media to voice several concerns. **PHOTO: Grant** Schwartzkopff

LAST Saturday's heatwave caused widespread confusion among the Riverland cricket community, with a fixture-based debate spilling onto social media.

Riverland Turf Cricket Association president Brian Lynch wore the brunt of the criticism, which centred around Loxton's match with Parilla going ahead, starting in the evening, while the Renmark North vs Pinnaroo and Berri vs Murrayville matches were both abandoned due to high tempera-

Mr Lynch believes the situation is "not as big as a mess as everyone thinks", with the association acting on advice received from SACA earlier in the week.

"Loxton and Parilla were always playing a night game. It might not say it on PlayHQ, but that had been pre-arranged for months," Mr Lynch said.

"I was in Adelaide all last week coaching the Murray Districts and got a call from (Renmark North captain) Tarque Williamson who said 'it looks like it's going to be a heat rule this weekend, are we able to change our game with Pinnaroo to a night game?'.

"I told him that Loxton and Parilla are already playing a night game. As with any fixture change, the clubs need to agree. So, I said that if the two clubs agree, you can shift it to a night game.

"This was on the Tuesday. Because I had SACA already there at some of the Murray Districts game, I asked them how it works with the heat rule and night games.

"They said that absolutely we could play if we can get a game, because that's what the lights are there for. I asked them to put that in writing, which they did.

"They sent me a document that details checking the temperature and making sure it's on the way down and under the cut-off before the start of play.

"They suggested we try for a 5.30 start and if it wasn't quite there, we just hold off a bit longer and then make sure the temperature is on its way down.



"We thought it was tough to cancel two games for the sake of one.'

Following the discussions between Mr Lynch and SACA, Renmark North and Pinnaroo were booked in to play a night game as of Tuesday afternoon, until a change of heart from the visitors caused the game to remain at its initial start time

"The fixture change had to be agreed upon by both sides," Mr Lynch said. "You can't change the time and then force the other side to turn up.

"Ultimately, Pinnaroo didn't agree to play under lights, which is sad, because we played under lights at Loxton and the temperature was fine. Both clubs agreed that it

"We had a good crowd, we had kids everywhere and that's the story that SACA want as well.

"We'd love in 10 years to have more of these facilities around so it's more even for everyone.'

Discussion on social media quickly turned sour, with a number of personal comments made about Mr Lynch and the association itself.

"Everyone went off half-cocked, particularly the Renmark North players that didn't realise they actually were set to play as of Tuesday," Mr Lynch said

"It's not my fault that people were illinformed, it's up to their club to talk to them about that.

"A lot of the people that were criticising the league or me know who I am and they've sat on committees with me before. They could've given me a call instead of doing it on a public forum and making us

all look like rabbits.

"I understand there's been a lot going on behind the scenes at Renmark North and they weren't happy with the conduct of some of their players.

"It's just one of those things that maybe it all got a bit off the chain. I don't want to have no social media presence because we still want to promote the game, so the sooner everyone gets on board and swings in the same direction on that, the better.

"Everyone needs to be putting cricket first as opposed to their own clubs.

"The problem with governing it is that people are commenting saying 'this is stupid why can't we do this?' Well, there's a million reasons why we can't.

"Someone had to wear the brunt of everyone not knowing what's happening and that's been me, but it's not as big of a mess as everyone thinks it is."

Some have called for the Loxton and Parilla match to be played as a friendly fixture without premiership points on the line, due to neither of the other games getting

"There will be a decision made about that at the next committee meeting, but Loxton and Parilla agreed that we just want to play cricket," Mr Lynch said.

"At this stage, the Pinnarooo and Border association has agreed for it to be played for points and in my mind, both Loxton and Renmark North have agreed for it to be played for points.

"It'll all go back to the next meeting if it needs to be explained.

"Right now Renmark North and Loxton are going through the fixture and trying to look for more night games to schedule.

"From SACA's point of view it's a positive story for cricket because we've avoided the heat and played in a safe manner."

RESULTS

Loxton 7/163 (B. Hoffmann 55, T. Eagle 39, K. Smith 26, R. Hogan 16, S. Dabinett 2/34, P. Gorman 2/35. I. Fischer 1/1. D. Kerber 1/24) d Parilla 64 (S. Dabinett 22, J. Norman 3/12, K.



Hamish McDonald nailed two triples as his

Renmark side stormed to victory over Berri

Blue last week. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

Angels shine as

Last year's grand finalists started the game strongly, with some smart batting helping the Angles to an early lead.

David Grenfell was in hot form on the pitcher's mound, with the veteran producing seven strikeouts in the victory, with Berri Blue held scoreless for the match.

Hamish McDonald hit a pair of triples, while Luke Sutherland was best with the bat for Berri Blue.

No results were provided for the match between Riverland Pirates and Berri Red.

RESULTS

Renmark 8 d Berri Blue 0.

Safe hits: Renmark - H. McDonald 2t, B. Anderson 1d 1s. N. Koumbarakos 1d. L. O'Brien 1s, M. Reilly 1s. Berri Blue - L. Sutherland 2s, L. Kambouris 1s. Strikeouts: Renmark - D. Grenfell 7. Berri Blue - L.

Riverland Pirates vs Berri Red - details not provided.

RIVERLAND GOLF RESULTS

BERRI

Wednesday, January 11

Stableford: P. Frahn 37, E. Dawson 36, S. Marsden 35, R. Burn 35, M. Wilksch 35, C. Hyde 34 G. Branson 34, R. Day 34.

Saturday, January 14

Stableford: B. Frahn 41, E. Day 41, J. Brand 38, S. Marsden 37, B. Eckermann 36, D. McInnes 35, I. Bradshaw 35, G. Leyson 34, J. Skinner 34, R. Day 34, S. Gore 33, E. Dawson 33, S. May 32, G. Branson 32, M. Jennings 32.

Sunday, January 15

Stableford: R. Keightley 35 pts, M. Wilksch 35, P. Efthimiou 32, R. Dale 32, L. Berry 32, J. Brand 32, W.

LOXTON

Wednesday, January 11

Men: A grade - J. Henwood 42, P. Tygh (Darwin GC) 41, S. Palat 39, Z. Wooldridge 38. B grade - A. Hucks 36, D. Peberdy 33, D. Pfeiler 33, B. Skinner 33. Women: S. Grein 38, C. Arndt 34, J. Sawade 34.

Saturday, January 14

Men: A grade - R. Koch 40, B. Proud 39, D. Forbes 39, B. Chapman 39. B grade - M. Koch (West Lakes) 38, S. Cabot (Future) 37, D. Harding (Berri) 37. Women: J. Patching 42, M. Thomson 37, J. Ling 33, D. Harman 29.

WOMENS EIGHTBALL RESULTS

Renmark Roses 9 d Waikerie Club 6.

Best: Renmark Roses - T. Threlfall, N. Albanese. Waikerie Club - J. Mackereth, K. Bannister. Monash Club DV8s 14 d Lyrup Blue 1.

Best: Monash Club DV8s – L. Threlfall, D. Marshall. Lyrup Blue – K. Warnett, C. Werner. Bonnie Pelicans 14 d BBC CUE-Ts 1.

Best: details not provided.

Lyrup Club 8 d Lyrup Lion Cubs 7.

Best: Lyrup Club - C. Munro, J. Geue. Lyrup Lion Cubs - A. Johns, S. Jansen.

RENMARK SMALL **BORE RIFLE CLUB** RESULTS

Thursday, January 5

50m-shoot: B. Phillips 100.8, 99.5 (4), 200. M. Cresp 100.1, 100.8 (0) 200. R. Ward 98.4, 99.5 (0) 197. N. Lloyd 97.5, 98.5 (1) 196.

Thursday, January 12

20m-shoot: M. Cresp 99.1, 100.2 (0) 199. B. Lacey 97.0, 99.5 (1) 197. N. Lloyd 98.2, 99.1 (0) 197. R. Ward 96.1, 94.1 (1) 191.

Mixed bag for Murray Districts/Bar

A WEEK of tough competition greeted some of the region's brightest young cricketers last week, when a combined Murray Districts and Barrier side entering the under 12s and under 14s country zone cricket carnival.

The carnival, played across four days at ovals scattered across towns north of Adelaide, saw the under 14s finish without a win, despite some impressive individual performances.

Berri's Shepherd Humphries was a standout performer in the middle order, reaching double figures in each of his side's four matches.

His highest score of the carnival came against Fleurieu when he peeled off 35 runs from 62 balls, despite the Murray Districts side finishing on just 78 as a team.

Liam Wisneske of Murrayville performed admirably at the top of the order, but runs were hard to come by, with the side reaching three figures on just two

Meanwhile, the under 12s enjoyed some success, winning two of their four games.

The side began the carnival well, securing a win against Upper North in its opening contest, thanks largely to strong performances from Brock Nickolls and Thomas Crane.

The Murray Districts/Barrier side then went on to lose its next two matches against Eyre Peninsula and Barossa/Light, before finishing the week on a high by skittling the Yorke Peninsula side for just 34

Tyler Ellis did the bulk of the damage, picking up four wickets for just five runs, while Crane and Anant Singh Dhillon chipped in with two poles each.

RESULTS

UNDER 14

Upper North 3/92 (J. Nickolls 1/2, L. Wisneske 1/4, S. Humphries 1/19) d Murray Districts/Barrier 7/92 (L. Wisneske 23, A. Khaira 13, E. Hyde 12, S. Humphries 11).

Mid North 9/187 (N. Wade 2/8, L. Wisneske 2/13,

N. Warner 1/10, M. Warn 1/15, J. Nickolls 1/29, S. Humphries 1/34) d Murray Districts/Barrier 116 (R. Montgomery 33, S. Humphries 25, L. Wisneske 21, N. Wade 12)

Fleurieu and Districts 2/79 (L. Wisneske 1/6, R. Montgomery 1/9) d Murray Districts/Barrier 78 (S. Humphries 35, E. Hyde 14) d Murray Districts/ Barrier 78 (S. Humphries 35, L. Wisneske 14). Yorke Peninsula 8/147 (L. Wisneske 4/15, A. Khaira 2/7, N. Wade 1/17, J. Nickolls 1/30) d Murray Districts/Barrier 72 (S. Humphries 27, J. Nickolls 12).

UNDER 12

Murray Districts/Barrier 3/137 (B. Nickolls 61no, T. Crane 34, T. Ellis 15) d Upper North 3/136 (J. Sparrow 1/3, A. Singh Dhillon 1/8, C. Bell 1/17). Eyre Peninsula 7/155 (A. Humphries 2/14, B. Nickolls 2/19, T. Crane 1/14) d Murray Districts/ Barrier 98 (B. Nickolls 25, A. Humphries 14no, R. Burns 11). Barossa and Light 5/131 (T. Ellis 2/10, T. Crane

1/8, A. Singh Dhillon 1/11, C. Hampel 1/12) d Murray Districts/Barrier 79 (B. Nickolls 21, A. Singh Dhillon 14no, T. Ellis 12, T. Crane 12) Murray Districts/Barrier 1/37 (B. Nickolls 21no. A. Singh Dhillon 6no) d Yorke Peninsula 34 (T. Ellis 4/5, T. Crane 2/7, A. Singh Dhillon 2/8, B. Nickolls

Flynn Andrew

Ramco post

a formidable

total of 340

on day one of

its clash with

Renmark

North last

fortnight,

saw the

match

before high

temperatures

(left) and **Thomas** Waanders combined to help Waikerie

RTCA junior cricket fixtures abandoned

BEN LENNON

THE region's junior cricketers went without last weekend, after high temperatures caused the abandonment of both under 16s

The two games ended in a draw, despite both matches being half completed the week prior.

Flynn Andrew and Thomas Waanders starred for Waikerie-Ramco on the first day of the fixture, combining to help Waikerie post a score of 9/339 against Renmark North.

Andrew peeled off the first hundred of the under 16s season, finishing on 102no, while Waanders finished just two runs short of the milestone at the close of play on

Berri also posted a formidable total in the first week of its clash with Loxton, finishing on 222 runs for the loss of nine wickets.

A number of parents lobbied for the games to start earlier last Saturday in order to avoid the heat,

with RTCA president Brian Lynch offering an explanation as to why it was not possible.

"If you move the game earlier in the day, you can't govern what the temperature is at the back end of the game," Mr Lynch said.

"As with all things, it's open for change, as long as it's covered by insurance, which is the important thing that everyone has forgotten.

"It's in our constitution that says day games can't be played without getting approval from SACA or we won't be insured for that."

Many drew comparisons to Loxton and Parilla's senior match later that day kicking off at 5.30pm, therefore beating the heat.

But, Mr Lynch explained nothing was "changed on a whim" in the seniors.

"Everyone's of the opinion that we changed it, but nothing's been changed. We set a night game months ago, asked what the rules were and SACA gave us this guidance," Mr Lynch said.

"What time do you think you'd



abandoned last Saturday. РНОТО: **Facebook**

have to get out of bed in Loxton or Waikerie to go to Renmark and start a game at 7am?

"What they missed was that it's still not insured because you can't just start the game earlier to avoid the heat.

"If SACA can give us those guidelines that say we can, then by all means, let's see if it's good for cricket to get mums and dads out of bed at 5.30am to take their kids to cricket...

"Let's see if that grows the game. If so, I'm all for it.

'But, the same people that were critical of trying to move the game told me their kids couldn't come to Murray Districts for all manner of reasons the week before.

"As much as they go in on social media and say they want more cricket, they didn't want them to play more cricket the week before..

"Suddenly they reckon the RTCA should move everything to a Sunday which, but you can't just demand a team turns up on Sunday to play for points."



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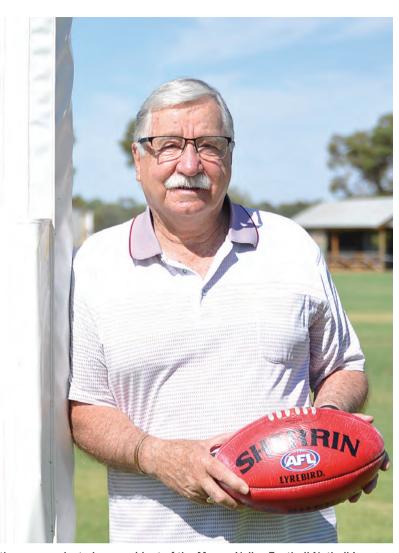
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FOOTBALL SWANS LOOK TO FILL IN THE BLANCK PAGE 33









Former Renmark Paringa mayor and ex-RFL chairman Neil Martinson was elected as president of the Murray Valley Football Netball League at the competition's inaugural AGM last month. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham



RTCA and Loxton Cricket Club president Brian Lynch has defended the association's actions during a heatwave-affected round last weekend. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

Cricket boss defiant amid heatwave spat

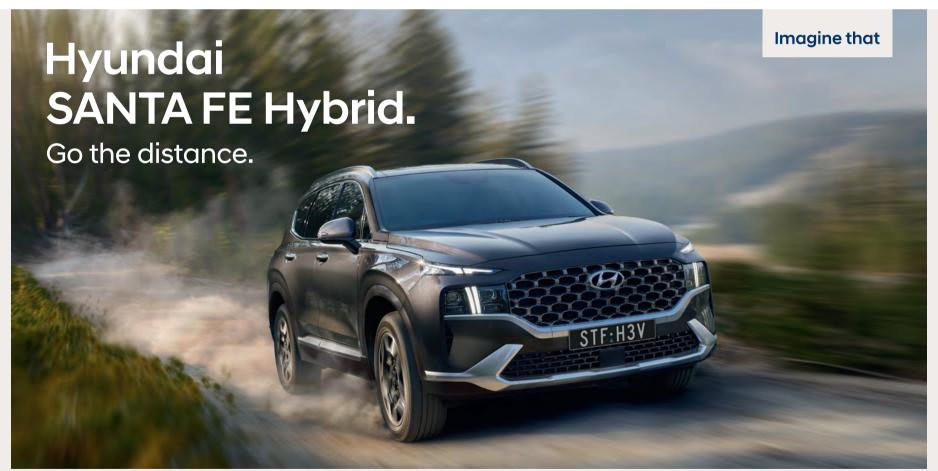
BEN LENNON

LAST Saturday's heatwave caused widespread confusion among the Riverland cricket community, with a fixture-based debate spilling onto social media.

Riverland Turf Cricket Association president Brian Lynch wore the brunt of the criticism, which centred around Loxton's match with Parilla going ahead, starting in the evening, while the Renmark North vs Pinnaroo and Berri vs Murrayville matches were both abandoned due to high temperatures.

Mr Lynch believes the situation is "not as big as a mess as everyone thinks", with the association acting on advice received from SACA earlier in the week.

PAGE 34 STORY



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