

FUEL-ISH PRICES Local independent stores benefit as prices soar at major chains

JOSH BRINE

A SMALL independent fuel outlet is benefitting from "looking after locals" by maintaining petrol prices about 10c per litre cheaper than many of the Riverland's major retailers.

Despite the cost of unleaded petrol remaining well above \$2 per litre at major service stations across the Riverland yesterday, the Lyrup General Store's price sat at 198.9c per litre.

The store had diesel at 213.9 per litre yesterday – at least six cents cheaper than any other outlet in the region.

Lyrup General Store co-owner Cass Munro said some of the tactics she had heard employed by major fuel outlets recently were akin to "robbery".

"One person that lives here told us his friend in Adelaide was trying to get fuel when they locked the pump and put the price up 20c," she said.

"To me, that's robbery. People are struggling as it is after Covid.

"Those sorts of people play on knowing that people need fuel.

Continued page 3



Petrol has recently been consistently cheaper at some independent outlets across the Riverland, including the Lyrup General Store, which was retailing unleaded for 198.9c per litre yesterday, well below most of the major retailers. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham



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2 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 ars chalked for ambos

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

OVER 60 cars were chalked with political messages and words of solidarity for the state's ambulance service at a special event in Barmera on Sunday.

It comes after lengthy negotiations between the Ambulance Employees Association and the SA government, with the union continuing to express its disappointment with the Liberal Party SA ahead of this Saturday's election.

Ambulance Employees Association's state councillor and Barmera-based paramedic Russell McQuade said the public chalking event went "very well".

"Members of the community could come in, get their car chalked by ambos and have a chat with us to understand where we are at and how the issues with the ambulance service as a whole really negatively impact our region and the flow-on effects from the congestion in Adelaide..." he said.

"Unfortunately, it's started to quite considerably affect the Riverland."

Mr McQuade said the Riverland was short

Berri Riverside Holiday **Park correction:**

A DETAIL in an article in last week's edition of The Murray Pioneer requires clarification.

The article titled 'Work starts on Berri caravan park upgrade' included a June 2021 quote from Berri War Memorial Community Centre chairperson Jim Rosenthal saying the Berri Riverside Holiday Park's river-side apartment project would cost \$4m.

The project's cost has since risen to \$6m, with \$3m in funding from the federal government.



March 30, the Murray Pioneer will be publishing a Picture Perfect Pets feature to showcase readers pets.

Submit a photo of your pet along with their name, age, gender and quirky habits.

For your chance to win send your entry to Elyse at photos@murraypioneer.com.au or via our Facebook page 🗲

Entries Close March 24, 2022

staffed, with local paramedics completing an additional 1050 of overtime last month alone. "At Barmera, we are two down out of six," he said.

"We have been short here for some time and running on fumes essentially. "I have cancelled my ros-

tered leave because I know we just can't fit it in the system at the moment.

"I know if I leave, my colleagues are at risk and my community is at risk.'

CHAFFE'

Mr McQuade said most paramedics were selfless and love their jobs, being able to help their communities.

"No one is in this job for themselves," he said. "(However), as time goes on and people do more overtime, they become more fatigued, which means they are less able to do overtime.

"You can bet, when the Riverland is short, people struggle.

'There's no way of telling how many Riverlanders have ended up suffering while waiting or if anyone has died as a result."



Meanwhile, the SA Employment Tribunal said chalking was industrial action and that "allowing chalking to continue will not assist resolution of the industrial dispute between the government and the union".

Treasurer Rob Lucas welcomed the decision.

"We welcome today's order by the independent industrial umpire for the union to stop chalking of taxpayer-funded ambulances with blatant political slogans," he said.

The Ambulance Employees Association held a chalking event in Barmera on Sunday, with locals encouraged to use their cars to display the union's message about a need for more paramedics. **PHOTO: supplied**

"We've said all along, they have absolutely no right to deface public property, and if they want to chalk then they should do so on their own private vehicles."

The Tribunal found that the cost of cleaning chalked ambulance vehicles between July 2021 and January 2022 was about \$84,000 – or just over \$12,000 per month.

Both parties have been ordered to resume mediation before the Tribunal on a date to be advised after the election.



Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone (right) with Nationals candidate Damien Buijs and Greens candidate Trevor Schloithe at the Chaffey pre-polling booth at Berri's Glassey Park yesterday. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini. INSET: Mr Whetstone's how-to-vote card has The Greens candidate preferenced ahead of both One Nation and Family First.

Whetstone goes Green on preferences

PAUL MITCHELL

LIBERAL Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone has preferenced The Greens ahead of two conservative candidates for this Saturday's State Election.

Mr Whetstone's how-tovote cards have Riverlandbased Greens candidate Trevor Schloithe above candidates from the conservative One Nation and Family First parties, despite the Liberals being a nominally conservative party.

Hinting at his motives, Mr Whetstone told The Murray Pioneer's Chase for Chaffey online show last Friday that local candidates were better placed to understand the electorate's issues.

However, in a nod to the ongoing federal coalition between the Liberal and National parties, Mr Whetstone preferenced Adelaidebased Nationals candidate Damien Buijs first, at number two.

One Nation Chaffey candidate Sab Feleppa said yesterday

he was "not surprised" by Mr Whetstone's preferencing decision, using it to criticise the two major parties. "The Liberals are no longer

conservatives," he said.

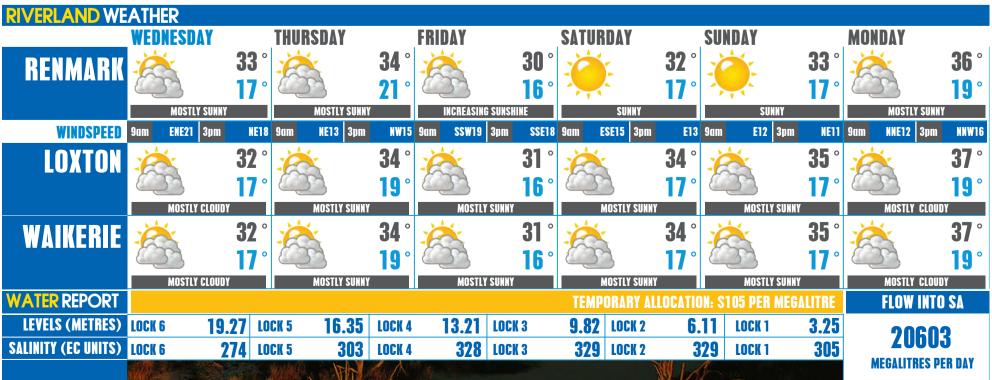
Labor and Liberal are both left-wing parties now." But despite Mr Feleppa's

"Let's face it,

criticism, he also shunned Mr

Whetstone, placing him below Labor candidate Joanne Sutton. Mr Feleppa preferenced the

Greens candidate last. PAGES 16-17 Candidates' last word



Our Christmas Wonderland's new home

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

A LONG-STANDING, iconic Riverland Christmas display will have a new home this year and into the future – moving just down the road.

Loxton North's number two oval will be home to Christmas Wonderland after a group of dedicated community members agreed to take on the festive display.

Loxton North Sports Club spokesperson Michelle Hill said the concept had generated a "lot of interest".

"Loxton North is very much a community place," she said.

"I was approached by a couple members of our community who said, 'Christmas lights are coming

up, what do think?'. "We are happy to help out and happy to be involved."

Christmas Wonderland has been a popular festive destination each year, with a display that spanned over 250m and included a range of scenes, from Bethlehem to cartoon characters.

Hidden throughout the display have been 10 Where's Wally cutouts for people to find.

However, in November, Christmas Wonderland owner Peter Mangelsdorf announced that after almost 40 years, the display at his Fairweather Avenue would be its last.

He hoped to gift the display to keep the tourism icon in Loxton.

he said.

star of Loxton's Lights Festival and a great attraction that brings many

Mr Mangelsdorf said he was

The Loxton North Sports Club will work in conjunction with Mr Mangelsdorf, Loxton Waikerie council and the Loxton Christmas Lights Committee to relocate the display.

Christmas Wonderland is the star of Loxton's Lights Festival and a great attraction that brings many people to Loxton... - Peter Mangelsdorf

"Christmas Wonderland is the



Lyrup General Store co-owner Cass Munro says she is "looking after" local customers by selling fuel at cheaper prices than the major chains. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

Independent stores benefit as fuel prices soar

Continued from page 1

"Some people have to travel a long way to go to work, and it's hard enough getting work at the moment.

"If a little place like us can get fuel at a reasonable price, then why doesn't everyone else do the right thing by their customers and have a set margin?"

Mrs Munro said petrol sales at the general store had also increased as prices in the major towns continued to climb throughout March.

We're going to have a massive fuel bill this month," she said.

"Obviously Renmark has quite a few petrol places and Berri the same and they compete with each other, but it's just us here.

"We also like to look after our local customers...

"We're just happy to plod along and put our margin on it and... when we get a load of fuel we don't put the price up until we've sold all we've got from the previous delivery.

"As soon as we're down to the last bit of the last load, that's when we put our price up or down or whatever the case may be

"We just do it fairly I suppose."

RAA spokesperson Mark Borlace said some independent retailers in SA were currently having to sell petrol at a loss to maintain competitive prices.

He said the "inflationary pressures" on the price of fuel had been caused by demand returning to normal as Covid-19 restrictions ease and the recent Russian invasion of Ukraine.

"Pre-Covid two years ago oil was about \$70 per barrel, in the middle of Covid when no one wanted fuel because no planes were flying it went down to \$20 per barrel, and now 15 months later we're well over \$100 per barrel," he said.

"We've got the highest cost fuel we've ever had.

"Even at \$2.12 per litre... that's still below wholesale.

"The independents can't afford for cars to stop pulling up their driveway, so they just have to keep that volume even if it means losing money for a while...

"Particularly for regional people they need to get their produce into town so it has to go on diesel trucks...

"When you have almost a doubling in the price of fuel over 15 months, it really puts pressure on them to pass that on, and it flows on to the cost of groceries.

Mr Borlace said the next few weeks would be "critical to see what happens to the long-term pressure on fuel prices" and recommended people reduce their driving where possible.

"Use an app and get a bit smarter with your driving," he said.

"If you don't need to drive, probably don't, or combine your trips together or even carshare."





Christmas Wonderland will have a new home at Loxton North, with a group of dedicated locals taking on the festive display. Christmas Wonderland owner Peter Mangelsdorf is pictured with Loxton's Michelle Hill. INSET: The Loxton North number two oval will be home to the new Christmas Wonderland display. PHOTOS: Stephanie Thompson

Mr Mangelsdorf said Loxton North was the ideal new home for the Christmas display. people to Loxton." "I am overwhelmed, I suppose,"

excited to see his Christmas legacy live on in the Loxton area.

4 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Locals urged to fight the bite, avoid rare mosquito virus

RIVERLANDERS are being warned to remain "especially vigilant" about limiting mosquito exposure, after locally acquired cases of potentially fatal Japanese encephalitis were recorded in South Australia for the first time.

Department for Health and Wellbeing executive director of health protection and licensing services, Dr Chris Lease, said four South Australians were confirmed as having Japanese encephalitis.

"With Easter right around the corner, it's an incredibly timely reminder to take precautions against mosquito bites," he said.

"People planning activities around the River Murray are warned to be especially vigilant, particularly between dusk and dawn when mosquitos are most active."

Dr Lease said the cases were detected in people from a "wide range of places" across the state, but some of the infectedpeople had visited the River Murray.

According to SA Health, most people infected with mosquito-borne flaviviruses such as Japanese encephalitis virus, Kokobera virus, West Nile virus, and Murray Valley encephalitis virus are asymptomatic or develop a mild fever.

However, a small proportion of infected people will develop encephalitis, which may be fatal or cause long-term neurological damage.

Symptoms of encephalitis may include confusion, headaches, neck stiffness, tremors, drowsiness and seizures.

Children under five have a higher risk of developing encephalitis if infected with Japanese encephalitis virus.

Dr Lease said while some vaccines for flaviviruses exist, personal and household protective measures remained the first line of defence in avoiding mosquito bites and mosquito-borne diseases.



"If you are outside, apply an insect repellent containing DEET or picaridin, and try to stop mosquitoes coming indoors," Dr Lease said.

"If you are outside, cover up with long, loose fitting and light-coloured clothing. Mosquitoes can bite through tight clothing such as jeans or leggings.

"Mosquito coils can also be useful when outside and aerosol knockdown or surface insect sprays can also help control mosquitoes indoors, but always follow instructions on the label.

"Simple changes around the home can help to reduce and eliminate mosquitoes such as cleaning up water around the house to prevent breeding, and installing mosquito-proof mesh on doors and windows.

"It is important that people remain vigilant in protecting themselves against mosquito bites particularly during periods of warmer weather when mosquito activity is high."

For more tips on avoiding mosquito bites, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/fight-thebite.



A 46-year-old man will face court after a crop of 64 cannabis plants was found growing at a Swan Reach property last week. PHOTOS: supplied.

Swan Reach crop bust

A RIVERLANDER will face court after a large cannabis crop was found growing on his property last week.

A rural property at Swan Reach was searched by police on Thursday, March 10, when 64 cannabis plants, a trafficable quantity of dried cannabis, prescribed equipment for hydroponics, and various drug paraphernalia were located.

A 46-year-old man was reported for cultivating a commercial quantity of a controlled plant, trafficking a commercial quantity of cannabis and possessing prescribed equipment.

It is understood the man will be summonsed to appear in court at a later date.







Ski for Life returned for its 10th year as people from all across the country joined forces in the name of suicide prevention and mental health awareness. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff



Boats lined the river and people flocked to the banks as the Caudo Vineyard hosted the 2022 Ski for Life ceremony. PHOTO: Ben Lennon. INSET: More than 35 crews completed the 456km journey. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

Record-breaking year for Ski for Life

BEN LENNON

The 10th instalment of Ski for Life took place last weekend, with over 35 crews making the 456km journey up from Murray Bridge to Renmark to raise awareness for mental health and suicide prevention.

Crews arrived in Murray Bridge on Thursday night before setting off on the arduous journey on Friday morning, with overnight stops in Morgan on Friday and Cobdogla on Saturday, before finishing in Renmark on Sunday afternoon.

The group this year held its traditional ceremony at Caudo Vineyard, near Waikerie, as the gathering was too big to visit Cadell National Training Centre as a single group, as has been the case in previous years.

Along the way, the group stopped in surrounding towns to raise awareness in local

communities along the river.

Ski for Life raised in excess of \$280,000 this year and that figure continues to grow,

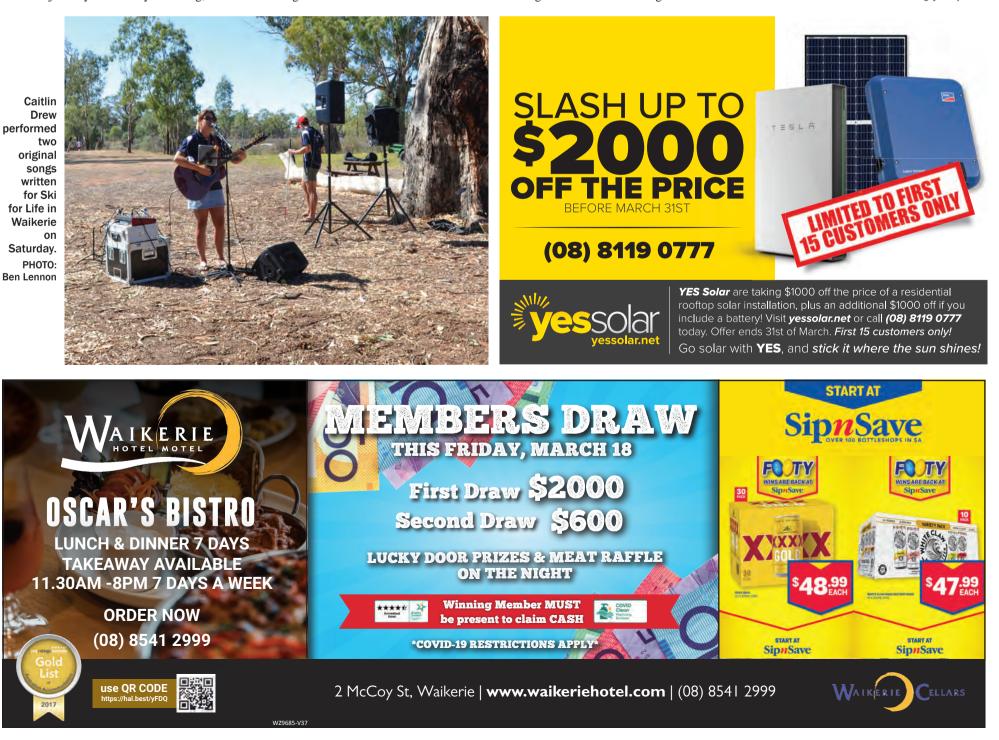
with funds still being tallied. That money will flow back into regional communities in the form of donations to help boost mental health services in those areas.

Committee chairman Mark Facy was thrilled with the efforts of his team and is looking forward to continuing in his role in the years to come.

"We've had some very dedicated, committed and invested people on the committee and everyone has pulled together to make this thing happen," Mr Facy said.

Sunday marked the end of the journey, as one by one crews made a splash out the front of the Renmark Club, cheered on by a massive crowd.

PAGE 16 Building your puzzle



OPINION

EDITORIAL



EMAIL editor@murraypioneer.com.au

> MAIL PO Box 832 Renmark SA 5341

BY PETER AND CARLA MAGAREY

Cup meeting must continue

MINDARIE-HALIDON Cup day is more than a once-a-year race meeting.

As pointed out at the Mindarie-Halidon Racing Club's very successful annual general meeting earlier this month, the cup is one of the few remaining events on the district's social calendar.

East Murray Area School has long closed, the football and netball clubs are gone, and the Wanbi pub last poured a beer to a paying customer many years ago.

Yet every September the tiny community somehow manages to stage a race meeting – one embraced by both industry participants and people from the Mallee and Riverland districts. It is a substantial boost to the local economies, plus – as pointed out by a club member at the AGM – is good for the mental health of often isolated community members.

And the club's committee and volunteers do it well. The on-track events are generally well handled, and the off-course catering, entertainment and organisation are first-class. Crowds of up to 1500 have been the norm, while last year's Covid-compromised event sold out quick smart and was a superb day.

By comparison, a similar event held at Broken Hill just last weekend was something of a shemozzle, falling well short of the Halidon meeting in terms of expertise, organisational know-how and ability to deliver a satisfactory day to patrons.

Well over 30 people attended the Mindarie-Halidon Racing Club's AGM, which was bristling with intent, plus outright anger that Racing SA has effectively shut the meeting down.

Racing SA, the sport's governing authority, has barely put a foot wrong in recent years. Under its stewardship, the SA industry has experienced a steady growth in prizemoney, betting turnover and participation levels, particularly field sizes and ownership numbers.

Racing SA has shown the way on animal welfare issues and awareness of how the industry is perceived outside of its own bubble. It has also made the general public more mindful of the industry's enormous financial footprint, courtesy of 3000 full-time employees statewide.

All this while fighting with one hand tied behind its back, via SA's complicated point of consumption (POC) tax returns to the industry, which fall well below other states.

In 2019 Racing SA received a \$24m stimulus package – funded by taxpayers – from the Marshall state government, and a relatively tiny outlay to keep Mindarie-Halidon going would do much more to stimulate the local economy.

Racing SA is currently fighting a fierce battle following its hard-line decision to withdraw support for jumps racing at Oakbank, but many would argue the stance will ultimately place it on the right side of history.

Unfortunately, its decision on the Mindarie-Halidon Racing Club is plain wrong.

No good reason exists to justify the decision to withdraw support for the club's annual meeting, effectively ending over 100 years of racing in the district.

The club has not been without fault and has made its own mistakes, including poor communication with Racing SA in recent years.

This led, in part, to the 2021 event being flagged as the last ever meeting at Halidon. However, once word got around, both the local community and racing industry participants fired up, became vocal and pledged support.

Proof of that support materialised in the months since the meeting, and at the AGM. The community wants to keep the meeting and the club has ample support to continue running the event for many years to come.

The committee is peppered with youth, and bursting with enthusiasm.

And as pointed out by a country racing official at the AGM, the facilities at Halidon are superior to several others statewide.

In short, Racing SA remains the only hurdle.



Hulda and Carl Lude, Loxton, June 1914: Hulda, born in 1893, daughter of midwife Mutter Milich, lived at Pyap. Carl, born in 1882, emigrated from Germany having undergone military training. Coming to Loxton he started his own butchers shop. Riding horse-back to local farms to buy stock, he one day came to the Milichs and met Hulda. It was love at first sight for both. Smitten, Hulda was advised by family to not marry Carl, but she gladly did. Seventeen days later, World War I began, and the Lude's life was changed forever. Carl, reputedly hot-headed, refused to advise the war authorities that he was a German Army Reservist, did not hand over his horses, and ill-advisably led a group of 25 German workers goosestepping down East Terrace on October 10, 1914. The local policeman arrested Carl and perhaps over-zealously made sure he was interned for the duration of the war and summarily deported at war's end. Hulda and Carl both wrote many letters seeking Carl's release especially after the birth of their daughter Norma in late-1914, but the federal police declined them. It was only after several years that Carl was reunited with his patient, devoted wife. PHOTO: Milich family

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Disappointing sports voucher decision

THE SA Liberal government's announcement to increase sports vouchers to \$200 after the election, with no regard for the continued requests for Guides and Scouts to be included, is very disappointing for our leaders and families.

In every other state of Australia these vouchers can be used for recreation and sport, inclusive of Guides and Scouts, but not in South Australia.

Is there an assumption that in South Australia the only way to be active and healthy is through organised sport or dance?

There is no recognition for the hiking, camping, kayaking, sailing and outdoor games that our members regularly participate in.

Recently all the local Guide units were outside walking through the community giving service as they participated in

Clean Up Australia Day. If there comes a time we are no longer viable in SA is there an assumption the sports clubs will take on our service roles?

Our members have been raising this issue at all levels of government for over three years.

We have still received no clear answer as to why we cannot be included in these vouchers in SA or why they cannot become sport and recreation vouchers.

Parents and children should be allowed a fair choice on how they be active in their communities.

This latest announcement is worrying as parents are now faced with a choice for a child to receive a \$200 voucher to join a sport club or nothing to attend Scouts and Guides.

What does this mean for the future of our organisations that have been growing community leaders for over 100 years?

What does this mean for a child in a rural area with additional needs that cannot be accommodated in a sport club but could be with the tailored individualised, inclusive programs in Guides?

Former Guides and Scouts hold many leadership positions in our community.

I urge you to join us in raising this issue with your local member. Don't wait until we are no longer part of your communities.

JULIE AHRENS Riverland region manager Girl Guides SA

PAGE 27 Sports voucher payoff

Ambos' political stunt disappoints

TO say that I am concerned and disappointed in what I witnessed in the main street of Waikerie last week is an understatement.

Parked in a prominent position outside BankSA was an ambulance which was covered in graffiti of a political nature, and very obviously being used as a political billboard.

The vehicle was there when I went into the adjacent supermarket and was still there when I came out 45 minutes later, with no crew in attendance.

Its purpose was obvious. It had been placed there deliberately to make a political statement, something that I find not only offensive, but totally unprofessional and concerning, as part of the graffiti read:

"This is Waikerie's only ambulance."

I certainly hope not, as where were the crew? Certainly not with the vehicle.

I would have thought it an offence to take a state-owned asset, an emergency response vehicle at that, cover it in politically biased graffiti, and use it as a political billboard, in an obvious attempt to embarrass our current government and influence the voting in the soon-tobe-held state election.

It is very obvious that this behaviour has been influenced by a trade union agenda, designed to promote a certain political party and it would appear that many of the newer and younger staff are being influenced by the older and more radicalised staff.

If you wish to retain the respect and assistance of the community, my advice would be to consider the many smaller towns in the state such as Waikerie, who rely on our many volunteer services and are extremely proud of the services provided by them.

Most volunteers are not members of any trade union or have any political agenda biased towards any political party, as devised by a trade union.

Be critically aware of this and do not push your political agenda in the form of graffiti, especially by using a state-owned asset as a billboard.

Many members of the public have very short memories and will not consider why our health system is in decline and unable to cope.

If they choose to think back as to how we got to where we are and why, just think back to the radical plan devised by a former government to improve the efficiency of our health system.

It referred to as "Transforming Health" and it was an absolute disaster from which we still have not recovered.

My taxes helped to pay for that vehicle, so please clean it and put it back in the station where it belongs when not being used for the purpose for which it was intended.

R. WILSON Waikerie

The Brown's Well Highway is proof

AS a resident of the Loxton area, I've never known anyone more invested in our community than Tim Whetstone.

I see him regularly out in the community and he always has time for a chat.

Tim has been on the ground, travelling our roads and puts a lot of time into supporting community events and local sporting clubs. I know he often wears himself out trying to attend as many as possible.

As someone who regularly travels the Brown's Well Highway, the condition of our roads has been of concern to me, and Tim has proven he is good for his word.

The previous government left the highway to rack and ruin and reduced the speed limit. With the Libs elected, the road was upgraded and the 110km/h speed limit restored. Tim gave his word he would have the road upgraded and that's what happened. I know he worked hard to get results in these areas.

The Brown's Well Highway upgrade is just one of the promises Tim has worked to secure and he has been a great local member.

He has my full confidence he will continue to be a champion for our region. DAVID BRAUN

Loxton

Let's get this right

I WRITE to you as a concerned resident of the Chaffey electorate.

After attending a well-run GPSA State Election forum held at the Loxton Hotel two weeks ago, with only a handful of people, I had to ask myself: does anyone actually care?

I take my hat off to all the Chaffey candidates, but do they know anything about the electorate they seek to represent?

I have witnessed first-hand Tim Whetstone's commitment to our electorate. He has been a champion for our growers, our irrigators and water security.

He has a firm understanding of the industries that underpin our region, from primary production to tourism.

He was instrumental in the Seasonal Workers program to help our local growers fill critical worker shortages to support our billion-dollar horticulture industries and has worked tirelessly in the battle against fruit fly, the world's worst horticulture pest.

One of his greatest strengths is his relentless promotion of our region and our produce, and the quiet achievers who work hard in our community.

Tim's understanding of our region has been built on years of working with our community and a deep connection to our region.

Are the other candidates even residents of the Riverland?

It's all well and good saying, "If elected I will move here", but even with today's advanced technology, you can't possibly know what is happening on the ground

"QUOTE HERE..."

if you're not here.

Riverland.

In the world we live in today we can't afford to start again. We need Tim to keep kicking goals and to keep the Riverland on the radar.

Thank you in advance, MICHELLE HILL

Bookpurnong

Blue-ribbon status works against us

I SEE it is time to have another State Election and even though there appears to be considerable discontent with the local member, Tim Whetstone, he will be re-elected.

A bold statement? No, a factual one. This area is a blueribbon Liberal Party seat, and the voters are too set in their ways to change. It's a case of, 'Traditionally, Dad and Granddad voted that way, so will I'. Heaven forbid they should look at what we actually get from any party in power.

Because we are a safe seat, the Liberals will make us all the promises we want to hear, but deliver a very small portion of what they promise, mostly just before the next election.

And we will be good little voters and follow the Liberal Party line.

The Labor Party can't even be bothered to put up a local, and will give lip service, promising to fix all the problems but delivering nothing, because they know we will vote Liberal.

It is, in my opinion, time we stopped being good little sheep and started looking at the issues, what this area needs, and realise as long as we are a lost cause to the Labor Party, it won't bother spending money here.

The sooner we stop voting for either of the major parties and get rid of the stigma of a "blue ribbon, safe seat" the sooner we will see some real interest and spending by the parties to improve infrastructure and commerce, and a vision of a viable future for the whole region.

I urge all voters to look at the parties and ask yourself what they have really done?

If they think we a foregone conclusion, vote for the other parties. Let's put a little scare into these comfortable candidates

Either they deliver, or we don't vote like sheep and tow the party line.

I write this as a voter and as my personal opinion. I favour or promote no political party, I ask only that you vote informed.

Tim Whetstone has proved to be a

hard-working, excellent politician

which he corrected. We all make

9/3/22) for not believing him.

Good luck, Tim, for March 19.

mistakes, even "Theo S" (Text Line,

RONNIE

Renmark

for our areas. He did have an

administration error earlier,

0448 629 186



- NAME HERE

STEPHEN LYNCH Loveday

Will a new location impact Lions Club?

HOW fortunate we are to live in Waikerie where the District Council of Loxton Waikerie has almost completed first-rate improvements to our river front and continues upgrades to our streets and footpaths.

Well done, council.

Commercial and football club developments in train will add lustre to our town, with the ex-Salt Church redevelopment certain to become a community and tourist drawcard via provision for a food outlet, conference and retail space too.

Silo art and food are complementary. Just the thing to hook travellers.

The above redevelopment is consistent with the Waikerie Beyond 2000 committee's efforts and recommendations to the council regarding revitalisation of the CBD.

When completed, the new football club development will have amenities superior to the existing club and doubtless become the new focal point of the river frontage.

Waikerie Lions will soon move after some 30 years as tenants of the old bond store.

The council is seeking expressions of interest from those who see retail or commercial potential in that soon-to-be-vacated building.

Given the interest in domestic and agriculture properties in town and environs, a new business may well be waiting with a plan and approval too, although considering the tangle of red tape before anything happens, this appears fanciful.

Let us all hope that an additional food outlet is not under consideration.

The reality is, with two more, we would have more catering options than our population can viably sustain.

Waikerie Lions, a viable branch of a global business, yes global, have during their tenure made significant improvements to the building.

This has enabled the fulfilment of the club charter, which in brief encourages high ethical standards in all activities and importantly states that a high percentage of monies raised in the community be returned to the community.

Lions have done this in spades. Over the years Lions have made major contributions to civic improvements. The list is longer than a country mile.

Additionally, support has been provided to worthy individuals and organisations in total. Counting labour, who knows but it would certainly be the hundreds of thousands.

The council now seeks a new tenant for the old bond store.

There is considerable doubt in my mind whether any future business could hold a candle in dollars contributed to the town, individuals and organisations as has the Lions Club of Waikerie.

A new tenant must draw new business, not increase competition with the traders of McCoy Street.

Remember, the Lions Club's sole focus is community based: to serve the community.

Could a new enterprise located in the Lions Den continue in this tradition?

Waikerie Lions Club is a mature club, hence a move to a new location – possibly with less-than-adequate space and facilities - will surely affect the club's ability to maintain community support at historic levels.

Finally, considering the apparent shortage of skilled labour, as demonstrated by job ads in this paper, any major work on the building required prior to a repurposing may be a long, costly, drawn-out process. JEFF MOSS

Waikerie

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TEXT LINE

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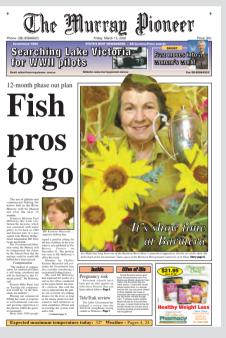


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MIRACLE SPEEDWAY ESCAPE: A Riverland marshall has made a miracle escape after being flung over a car at the Renmark Speedway on Saturday night. The marshall, understood to be in his 20s, was standing on the infield when hit during the super sedan feature, which was held between 10.15pm and 10.30pm. "We had a full field of V8 super sedans and two of them had come together on the track..." Renmark Speedway president Greg Haynes told The Murray Pioneer.

20 years ago March 15, 2002



12-MONTH PHASE OUT PLAN FISH PROS TO GO: The use of gillnets and commercial fishing for native fish in the River Murray will be phased out over the next 12 months. Fisheries Minister Paul Holloway this week confirmed the decision, which was consistent with Labor policy as far back as 1989 and honours part of a pact signed with Murray Bridgebased independent MP Peter Lewis last month.

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

78 Ral Ral Avenue, Renmark 5341, PO 832 Renmark 5341 Phone: 8586 8000 Fax: 8586 4333 Web: www.murraypioneer.com.au Editor: Paul Mitchell **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday 8.30am-4pm

The school crossing fronting the new St Francis of Assisi College in Renmark is too narrow. Buses pulling out or parking cross into incoming lanes. It reminds me of the Berri river front: another council-created jungle.

WENDY Renmark

Many inspiring women in the papers for International Women's Day. All deserving and very humble. They appreciate who they represent. I know many women who are the backbone of their family and their friends and would

do anything to support them. Women consider others, that's why I can't wait for another women PM. RED T Renmark

Let's be honest. Tim Whetstone is the only candidate in the Chaffey State Election who knows anything about the Riverland. Anyone who votes for someone from outside our region should seriously consider what this would do to our representation in parliament. We

need an experienced member and someone with political nous to get things done.

Berri The Australian Christian Lobby (*Murray Pioneer*, 9/3/22) are the mob that shamelessly peddled lies and misinformation during the same-sex marriage campaign. Nothing remotely Christian about that.

> MICK Monash

Hon. Tim Whetstone MP Member for Chaffey

Chaffey Community Column

Calperum Connecting our youth

I was honoured to meet a group of young Riverland trainees who are completing a Certificate 3 in Conservation and Ecosystem Management through the Calperum Connect program. I was impressed with their work and in-depth understanding of the native vegetation landscape at Calperum Station.

This program is one of the many fantastic programs facilitated by the Australian Landscapes Trust. Under the watch of Associate Director of Business Development & Education, Julie Roberts and her team, the programs are educating through hands-on ecology and connecting with our indigenous culture.

Pictured below Julie Robertson, Mikayla Lehmann (Cert II Conservation and Ecosystem Management VET in school's student), Ryan Ingerson (Cert II Conservation and Ecosystem Management VET in school's student) ,Lachlan Stokes (Cert II Conservation and Ecosystem Management VET in school's student), Caitlin Polack (Cert IV leadership and management trainee/ VET teacher) and Ceobahn Webber (Diploma trainee)



Riverland and Mallee Stars

Each year I look forward to the Rotary Club of Berri's Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards. On March 25th our region's most outstanding apprentices, trainees and vocational students will be recognised. Being able to offer young people in the electorate apprenticeships and traineeships is important in providing opportunities for our young people to gain skills and employment across of range of industries. It's also about keeping our skilled workforce in the region to help grow our local businesses. Good luck to all the nominees including my previous trainee from the Chaffey Electorate office, William Gillett who is a finalist.

Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service

The Premier's Certificate of Recognition is now open for 2022. Through the Government of South Australia, you can thank, recognise and celebrate your volunteers by nominating them to receive the Premier's Certificate of Recognition for outstanding volunteer service. Nominations close 25 March 2022. For information visit: https://dhs.sa.gov.au/ services/volunteers/recognition/volunteeringcertificates

Celebrate Together Grants

Applications for the Celebrate Together Grants are now open. Through the Government of South Australia, Large Grants up to \$30,000 and Small Grants up to \$5,000 are being provided to eligible multicultural organisations to host festivals and events that celebrate cultural diversity. Round 1 of the program is open until the 31 March 2022. For Information Visit: https://www.dpc.sa.gov. au/responsibilities/multicultural-affairs/grants/

Arts and Culture Grants program

Applications for Arts and Culture Grants are now open. Through the Government of South Australia, grants are available to support art forms and areas of practice, professional artists and arts organisations to develop, make work and engage with audiences. For information visit: https://www. dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/arts-and-culture/ arants

A 13 Kay Avenue, Berri SA 5343 (08) 8582 4230

E chaffey@parliament.sa.gov.au

Council taking land to market 🤽 **HUGH SCHUITEMAKER**

UTILISING unused parcels of land could help a Riverland council ease pressure on housing availability.

Renmark Paringa councillors at a special meeting held last Thursday passed a motion to create a land development and marketing strategy for the sale of 64 Cowra Street, 49 and 61 Eighteenth Street, plus the McCormick Centre for the Environment.

A council report on the matter said opening new land for housing was necessary for the ongoing growth of the community.

"During the last year, staff have fielded several queries... ranging from the development of residential housing, affordable housing, aged services and tourist accommodation," the report read.

"Council has also been approached by NDIS service



Renmark Paringa councillors last week passed a motion to create a land development and marketing strategy for the McCormick Centre, on Ral Ral Avenue.

providers for vacant land to build NDIS housing based on a shortage of this type of accommodation in the Riverland." Funding for the strat-

egy will come from council's Development of Allotment 64 Cowra Street budget. Expressions of interest for the

Jane Eliza development project

were also discussed - in confidence - by the CEO, council directors, and the executive assistant to the CEO, at the special meeting.

Loxton man pleads guilty to extremist material

A LOXTON man who was in possession of the Christchurch massacre video and a white supremacist manuscript is facing a two-year jail sentence.

The Advertiser reported last week that Aidhan Kenneth Cooling pleaded guilty to possessing extremist material at the Adelaide Magistrates Court.

Cooling, 28, of Loxton, was arrested and

charged in August last year, when police found a copy of the Christchurch massacre video on one of his electronic devices.

SA Police prosecutors dropped a second, more serious charge of possessing a record or document for use in a terrorist act.

They told the court that charge was being withdrawn because the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions had "declined to

make a determination" about whether to proceed with it.

The Advertiser reported that Cooling's lawyer, Jason Evitts, asked for a lengthy adjournment prior to sentencing to "canvas several issues, including a psychological report".

The magistrate remanded Cooling on continuing bail to face court again in May.

Lions Club 'proud' of its \$1k Ski for Life donation

A LOCAL community group has donated \$1000 to a fundraising event that skied into Renmark over the weekend.

The Lions Club of Renmark presented the donation to the Ski for Life chairman Mark Facy, vice chair Bo Dearlove and sponsorship and marketing person Helen Lawton-French.

The annual fundraising event raises awareness for mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention.

Funds raised by Ski for Life are available through grants and go towards community, group and individual projects

that use conversations and community engagements to raise awareness of mental health, wellness and suicide prevention strategies.

"Our members felt that the 'Ski for Life' mission aligns with many projects undertaken by Lions," said Renmark Lions president Allan Maddocks.

"We have a strong belief that awareness of these important issues in our society should be encouraged and we commend the 'Ski for Life' group for their fundraising efforts. We are proud to be able to make this substantial donation."

PAGE 16 Building your puzzle



Lions Renmark president Allan Maddocks (second left) and treasurer Graham Edwards (right) present a \$1000 donation to Ski for Life's Bo Dearlove, Helen Lawton-French and Mark Facy. PHOTO: Ben Lennon

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Social housing policy 'abandons Riverland'

SA Labor has "abandoned the people of the Riverland" via the announcement of its latest social housing policy, Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone says.

The SA Labor Party this week promised a "building blitz" with a focus on housing in Adelaide, but also including Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Whyalla, Strathalbyn and Port Augusta.

"I'm disappointed that SA Labor has once again overlooked the people of the Riverland and Mallee, showing little interest in the wellbeing of our region," said Mr Whetstone (pictured).

"Under 16 years of a Labor government, we saw firsthand their lack of commitment to the Riverland and their latest policy just demonstrates their disregard for our region.

"Since coming into office, the Marshall Liberal Government have stemmed the sale of public houses and land by an average of more than 60 per cent per year.

"In the Mid Murray, Renmark Paringa, Berri Barmera and Loxton Waikerie Council areas, 345 public houses were sold by Labor – an average of over 21 houses a year to balance their reckless spending, compared to a total of only 15 under a Marshall Liberal government, or just over 3 houses per year.

"In these same council areas, the Marshall Liberal government has spent more on public housing maintenance despite there being 330 fewer public houses in the region. We are spending on average



almost \$2.6 million a year compared to \$2.3 million under Labor." State Opposition Leader Peter Malinauskas said up to 250 new homes would be built in metro Adelaide, and said the remainder would be located in regional areas "including Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Strathalbyn, Whyalla and Port Augusta".

The Murray Pioneer contacted Labor for clarification on whether the Riverland would be included in the plan, but received no reply ahead of print deadline.

Mr Whetstone said a re-elected Marshall Liberal Government would continue its housing program which forms a \$398 million commitment to build 1000 affordable homes to 2025.

"Ten per cent of affordable houses will be built in regional areas, with final build numbers in regional areas to be finalised over coming months," he said.

The Labor policy announcement came just a day after Labor Leader Peter Malinauskas suggested the Riverland regularly relied on those "in Adelaide" for economic support. Mr Whetstone described the remarks made about the Riverland as "offensive".

"While comparing regional areas, Mr Malinauskas used the Riverland as an example of a region who was unable to 'just get on with it' and suggested the Riverland is reliant on government assistance," Mr Whetstone said.

"Perhaps the Labor leader should take a drive past Gepps Cross and remember the Riverland and Mallee contribute more than \$4 billion to South Australia's economy.

"We are the food bowl of South Australia and the engine room of Australia's wine industry; the people of Chaffey can without-doubt stand on their own two feet.

"It is completely out of touch comments like these from someone who wants to be the leader of South Australia that should concern every Riverland resident."

PAGE 24 Camping ban hits homeless

Chaffey hope hosts Littleproud

NATIONALS candidate for Chaffey Damien Buijs hosted federal Agriculture Minister David Littleproud in the local electorate.

The duo visited Thornby feedlot, near Cambrai, and met owners – and fourth-generation farmers – Alex and Fiona McGorman.

"They have been farming the land for over 120 years," Mr Buijs said.

"They put on a fabulous barbecue for us and invited local farm owners from the region to discuss any of their concerns and plans for their future, and how Minister Littleproud could help." A former shearer himself, Mr Buijs described the Thornby setup as "amazing".

"It would rival anywhere in the world," he said.

"The McGormans shear over 30,000 sheep a year and I'm sure the shearers appreciate the shed design."

Operations on Thornby have increased in scale to today annually cropping 6000 acres of broadacre cereal grains and hay and finish over 60,000 lambs through its AusMeataccredited lamb feedlot.

CHOPS



Chaffey candidate Damien Buijs (left) with fellow National Party member and federal Minister for Agriculture, David Littleproud, at Thornby feedlot on the weekend. PHOTO: supplied

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Petition launched to save historic local race meeting... Cup call an economic killer

PAUL MITCHELL

A DECISION by racing authorities to axe the historic Mindarie-Halidon Cup meeting could cost the local economy over \$500,000.

Irate event organisers have launched an online petition aimed at saving the event, staged for over 100 years at the Halidon racecourse, 45 minutes south-west of Loxton.

Racing SA's decision to withdraw support for the Mallee event comes despite a hugely successful, sell-out 2021 meeting and a bumper turnout of almost 40 people at the Mindarie-Halidon Racing Club's AGM earlier this month.

Club president Geoff Redden said Racing SA had failed to provide a satisfactory explanation for its decision, and that industry participants wanted the meeting to continue.

"Trainers, jockeys, the crowd and all the people who were here want it to go on," Mr Redden said.

"It was unanimous that we continue and we thought it would be up to us.

"Then we got an email on February 10 to say we were

DO YOU HAVE



MAIN PHOTO: A sell-out crowd attended the 2021 Mindarie-Halidon Cup meeting. Racing SA has withdrawn support for the annual meeting. INSET, TOP: Fashions on the Field last year. INSET, BOTTOM: The winning connections for the 2021 Mindarie-Halidon Cup. PHOTOS: Paul Mitchell

shut down. It's outrageous." Aside from the loss of

a rare social event for the region, the economy impact of losing the meeting would be substantial.

Information obtained from the District Council of Karoonda East Murray suggests a typical post-Covid crowd of 1500 people would generate \$300,000 in direct expenditure.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the tourism industry's total output multiplier is 1.91, meaning that for every dollar of direct expenditure by visitors, the broader local economy is estimated to benefit by a further \$0.91, once flow-on effects are taken into consideration.

This would generate an additional \$273,000 of economic contribution, taking the estimate to \$573,000 without any allowance for overnight visitation.

The Murray Pioneer understands Chaffey state MP Tim Whetstone and Barker federal MP Tony Pasin have both weighed into the issue, throwing their support behind the club's bid to continue racing in 2022 and beyond.

Racing SA CEO Nick Redin told The Advertiser that the decision was a judgment call made "in the best interest of the industry as a whole".

"We need to focus our resources where they can be of most benefit," he said, "and unfortunately in this case we were no longer able to justify the infrastructure and operating costs for running a single race meeting once a year."

Racing SA has offered the Mindarie-Halidon Racing Club the opportunity to host the meeting at the Murray Bridge Racing Club, however club members flatly rejected that proposal at the AGM.

A Covid-limited crowd of 1000 attended the September 2021 meeting, however the club believes hundreds more would have been on hand, without restrictions.

The club says it was tackling a list of infrastructure maintenance requirements set down by Racing SA at a meeting in January, before the rug was pulled from under its feet "less than 30 days afterwards".

The change.org online petition had over 1000 signatures as of yesterday. The petition's wording was critical of Racing SA and urged locals to support the push to overturn the decision.

The petition suggest withdrawal of support fails to drive Racing SA's pledge to implement "policy that is beneficial to the industry as a whole".

"This seems contradictory to different bodies of the racing industry who are fully supportive of racing continuing at the Mindarie-Halidon racecourse," the petition states.

The petition supports the council's view on the meeting's value to the local community.

"The importance of this event is huge for the Mallee and Riverland region," it savs.



Halidon **Racing Club** president Geoff Redden.

"It attracts tourists to the adjourning towns, creates an opportunity for patrons to come along and enjoy themselves and is the only racecourse within these regions. "The Mindarie-Halidon races being run at Halidon is

more than just a race meeting. "It is part of the history of the community, it represents pride and community spirit

of the district. "Racing SA do not understand the implications of ceasing races at Halidon and the effects it will have on the community, especially since it is still strongly supported by the locals, different groups of the racing industry and visitors alike.

"We ask everyone to sign the petition in support of keeping the Mindarie-Halidon Race Course as part of the Racing SA program.

"Let's stop another regional community event being closed down with such a rich history."

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BAROSSA FRESH





↔ HOT CROSS BUNS

Want to try to make hot cross buns yourself this Easter? One of our favourite local bakers Eleni from Eleni Barossa Hand-made has given us her recipe for the most to die for hot cross buns!

INGREDIEN TS: 80g caster sugar 60ml warm water 7g dried yeast 125ml lukewarm milk 35g butter melted 410g plain flour 2 tsp ground cinnamon ¹/₂ tsp ground nutmeg 1/4 tsp ground cloves 1tsp salt 105g currents 120g raisins 40g mixed citrus peel 1 egg, whisked 1tsp vanilla extract

DECORATION: 2 tbsp plain flour 115g apricot jam



METHOD:

1. Combine a tbsp of the sugar and the warm water in a large bowl. Sprinkle over the yeast, then set aside for 8 mins or until foaming. Add half the milk, half the melted butter and 110g of flour and stir until smooth and combined. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and set aside in a draft free warm place for 45 mins or double in size.

2. Combine the remaining sugar, spices, salt, dried fruit and peel. Stir into the yeast mixture with the egg, vanilla, remaining milk and butter. Add the remaining flour, mix until a coarse dough forms. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and knead for 5 mins until the dough is soft, smooth and elastic.

3. Place the dough in a lightly oiled bowl, turn the dough to coat in oil. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and set aside in a draught free place for 1 hour until double in size.

4. Knock back the dough with one punch to expel the air. Turn out onto a clean work surface and use a large sharp knife to cut into 8 equal portions. Lightly grease a baking tray. Roll each portion into a ball and place onto the baking tray. Cover with a tea towel and rest for 1½ hours until double in size. **3.** Preheat oven to 180°C. To make the decoration, combine the flour with 2 tbsp water or enough to make a firm paste, beat with a wooden spoon until smooth. Place in a small piping bag fitted with a small plain nozzle and pipe a cross on top of each bun. Bake for 20 mins or until an inserted skewer comes out clean. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.

3. Place the jam and 2 tbsp water in a small saucepan over low heat and stir constantly for a couple of minutes until warm and combined. Brush the jam over the buns with a pastry brush.

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\$600k state funding pledge for Calperum

of a Riverland environmental site could "boost the local economy and create jobs", according to two state MPs.

The Liberal state government last Friday pledged \$665,000 in funding toward a \$3.3m project to be delivered by the Australian Landscape Trust (ALT) – aimed at turning Calperum Station into a nature-based tourism destination.

Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone said the station made up approximately one-third of the Riverland Ramsar site, and was home to several rare and threatened species.

"Calperum Station is an important environmental and cultural site that spans all the way from the Mallee to the Murray," Mr Whetstone said.

"This project could transform the area into a must-visit naturebased tourism destination where people can immerse themselves in the environment and learn about local indigenous culture.

"While the project will still require federal government funding to go ahead, I look forward to working with the ALT to deliver a transformational project for the region.'

Minister for Primary

UTILISING the tourism potential Industries and Regional Development, David Basham, said the funding would create accommodation, walking trails, upgraded facilities, plus a new conference and education centre, at the site.

This is another exciting project for regional South Australia which will create an educational, cultural and nature-based tourism destination in the Riverland," Mr Basham said.

"The ALT is a non-profit organisation dedicated to improved management of natural resources for the benefit of communities and the environment.

"This project will provide a significant boost for the local economy and create more than 30 jobs during construction and on-going.

"South Australia's regions are a critical driver of our state economy contributing around \$29 billion per year with just under 150,000 people employed in our regions."

The state government grant is set to come through the Opening our Great Outdoors fund.

The federal government in January also announced \$1.5m in funding for Calperum Station, function to the Ramsar site.



MAIN PHOTO: Calperum Station ranger Jeremy Sumner (left), and general manager of education and business development Julie Robertson (right) show Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone plans for future infrastructure developments at the station. INSET: Riverland ranger Andrew Sumner, Tim Whetstone, Julie Robertson, school-based trainee Jamason aimed at restoring ecological Radloff, and Riverland rangers William Morgan, Mandy Morgan, Samantha Lindsay and Jeremy Sumner, PHOTOS: supplied

This project could transform the area into a must-visit nature-based tourism destination where people can immerse themselves in the environment...

- Tim Whetstone



Big bucks flowing for SA river health projects

SUPPORTING the economic health and sustainability of Riverland communities through upgraded infrastructure is the target of a new \$20m funding initiative.

The federal government last week launched the South Australian Constraints Early Works Program, aimed at bringing forward the delivery of construction projects along the Murray River.

Barker MP Tony Pasin (pictured) said the initiative would support new local employment opportunities.

"Works (are) happening up and down the River Murray including potential clusters of work at Berri, Morgan and Swan Reach.' Mr Pasin said. "This will

mean upgraded infrastructure and jobs on the ground, providing a much-needed economic boost into the

local communities.' Federal Minister for Water Keith Pitt said the works would improve road access to properties at risk of being cut off by high river levels.

"The \$19.69m we're fast tracking will allow construction to start on a range of new river crossings, raising up to 5.3 kilometres of

OFFICIAL MEDICAL ADVICE

roads and tracks as well as improving connectivity with up to 3400 hectares of floodplains", Mr Pitt said.

"The work will also provide community amenities like boat ramps, toilets and barbecues, as well as stabilising up to 1.6 kilometres of river bank.

"The South Australian Constraints Early Works Program shows just what we can achieve when we put communities at the centre - we can respond ahead of time, we can provide jobs and economic stimulus and we can deliver infrastructure that will benefit communities in times of flood."



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Waikerie's two-court option unveiled

A TWO-COURT stadium option for Waikerie will be presented to the local council this week.

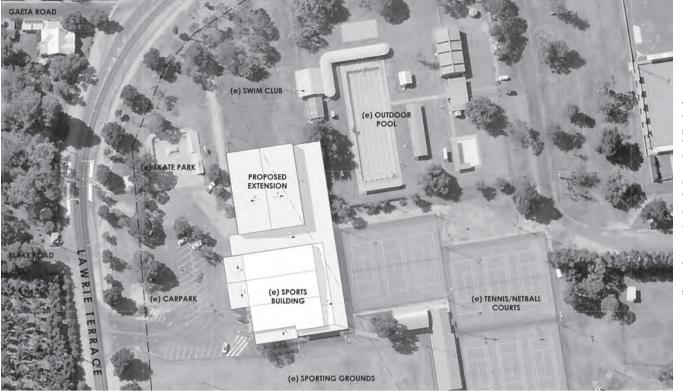
The Waikerie Community Sports Centre Working Group has spent over a year working on the plan, which the group says "came about after more than 480 people registered their objection to the one-court upgrade option presented by council to the Waikerie community in 2020".

A committee spokesperson said since that initial reaction by the community, the group has been working with sporting organisations and Loxton Waikerie council staff to present a proposal that incorporates a second stadium and extension of the existing stadium to meet national and international court requirements and allow for more diversified indoor activities.

"Over the last 12 months of meeting with various sporting bodies and collecting data of current and potential usage, (the committee has) been working with a Tanunda-based architect to finalise a concept that can be presented to council for consideration and costing," the spokesperson said.

Council has previously unanimously endorsed a one-court option. At Friday's meeting it will decide whether to include the group's two-court design into the Waikerie Sports Centre master plan as the "community's preferred option". Elected members will also be asked to obtain costings for the two-court design as a shovel-ready project.

The group's spokesperson said the latest plans allow for a new entry point on the



Designs for a two-court stadium in Waikerie will be presented to Loxton Waikerie councillors at a meeting later this week. IMAGE: supplied

western or carpark end of the existing stadium, to also act as the new entry point for the swimming pool. Included in the plan are new swimming pool toilets and change rooms on the eastern side of the new stadium, plus kiosk and pool servery near the entry into the pool area itself.

The spokesperson said the new entry into the building and pool would allow for a oneperson operation for both areas, reducing the cost for additional staff during the swimming season.

"The new building will alleviate the need for major upgrades to the old change rooms and toilets at the pool and bring it up to present-day health standards," the spokesperson said.

"During the time the committee has been working towards offering an alternate plan to the council's option, informal talks have been held with both hockey and cricket clubs who have indicated they too would like to use the present canteen and meeting room facilities during the times they host home games.

"The concept would also mean the hockey and cricket fields would be moved closer to the present rec centre and overcome the very expensive need to upgrade or rebuild their current clubroom off Smith Drive.

"The committee has taken into consideration that basketball and netball will be primary users of the new facility, (however) it will also allow for additional sports like gymnastics, badminton, indoor cricket, indoor soccer and indoor hockey to name a few.

"It has already been flagged that Waikerie is working towards fielding A1 and A2 netball teams in the Riverland competition and a new facility here would be welcomed by others in the competition.

Currently there are 22 local basketball teams and seven netball teams in the Riverland competition as well as many junior teams of five to 11-year-olds in the local netball and basketball competitions.

"The extra space will allow visiting teams to play two games at the same time and overcome the current problem of late games at

the single stadium when they are played in Waikerie."

It is understood the Riverland Netball Association could run an 11 and under competitions this year, potentially generating more teams for Waikerie Netball Club and the association.

"Having a two-court stadium also enables us to host finals and other special event nights," the spokesperson said.

"Currently Waikerie is not included in these due to only having one stadium."

The group believes the local tennis fraternity would be "a big winner" under the twocourt plan, with the eastern side of the current building having glass viewing windows and a veranda to overlook the courts.

The spokesperson described the plan as "exciting" and said it also meets the needs expressed by the local community.

"(It) fits the original concept of council to provide a modern facility suitable for the next 50 years," the spokesperson said.

Tim commits to full four-year term

TIM Whetstone will serve another full four-year term if re-elected this Saturday, regardless of which party wins the 2022 State Election.

The Chaffey MP has spent the past four years as part of the Marshall Liberal Government, however pundits and bookmakers suggest the Labor Party will be returned to power and Peter Malinauskas will become premier.

Mr Whetstone is also heavily favoured to earn a fourth term, and rejected any suggestion he could follow in the footsteps of other Australian politicians who step down shortly after elections, rather than serve in opposition.

"I'm not a dummy spitter – I'm honoured and privileged to be able to represent the people of Chaffey," Mr Whetstone told The Murray Pioneer on its Chase for Chaffey website series.

"It is a high honour (and) I put myself up for a full term."

Mr Whetstone also pointed to his own record as a local member during Labor's stint in power.

"I did my first two terms in opposition and I got some good outcomes in opposition," he said.

"I'm there for Chaffey, I'm not there for me...'

Despite confirming his plans if the election outcome goes against the Liberals, Mr Whetstone said he remained hopeful about this Saturday's result, pointing to the government's handling of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"At the moment (it is) a hypothetical question," he said.

"I would like to think that the people will give the Marshall Liberal



Government a second term so that we ing of an Adelaide-based candidate for can actually govern in our own right. "We were hamstrung by the pandemic

and that has put the state under huge pressure. It's a lot of background noise when we're trying to govern the state.

"We've been able to grow the economy, we've been able to keep people safe, essentially we've been leaders nationally through the pandemic, and I think as a government we've done an outstanding job.

"But people don't like uncertainty, they don't like being told exactly what to do by politicians and sadly that's what's happened through the pandemic."

Meanwhile Mr Whetstone said the strong involvement of unions in the 2022 campaign, plus Labor's 11th hour nampre-polling booth at Berri's Glassey Park yesterday. PHOTO: Elyse Armanini

Chaffey, Jo Sutton, should send a message to Chaffey voters.

"Under the 16 years of Labor that they ignored the regions... we didn't see the noise and the action that the unions movement have come out (with) in the last few months," he said.

"As a government I'm very proud of the continual investment, particularly in regional SA that we never saw under Labor.

"Labor at the last minute put someone (forward) who sits in an office in Adelaide (and has) probably never been to Chaffey.'

To view the Chase for Chaffey series, visit The Murray Pioneer Facebook page. - PAUL MITCHELL Vocational skills on the Liberal election agenda

AN election promise to continue to invest in South Australian vocational skills training will allow Riverland locals to "gain skills they will have for life" according to Chaffey MP

Tim Whetstone. A re-elected Liberal government would commit \$12 million to extend the Skilling South Australia program for another 12 months and help deliver 12,000 new apprenticeships and

traineeships. "Trainees and apprentices are a vital part of the Riverland and Mallee and utilising their skills is critical for the region's future development," Mr

Whetstone said. "We're creating more opportunities through the hugely successful Skilling South Australia program for those entering the workforce for the first time or people looking to start in a new field

of work. "The commitment to extend the program for vocation training will continue to provide more Riverland locals careers closer to home, gain skills they will

have for life, and allow us to grow employment opportunities that sup-

port local businesses." Premier Steven Marshall said South Australia's "outstanding results" in skills training over the last four years helped to give the state the fastest growing economy in Australia.

According to the Liberal government, apprenticeships and traineeships have increased in a number of industries, including construction (57.1 per cent), defence (14.3), ICT (430) and childcare (60.9)

"The fact more than 3400 businesses hired their first apprentice under Skilling South Australia helps explain how we delivered more jobs and lower unemployment at any time since records began," Mr Marshall said.

"The 53,000 apprenticeship and trainee commencements since we came to office has turned around the exodus of young people from South Australia to the eastern seaboard in search of a job."

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Screenings of entries into the 1 Minute Riverland Mallee Film Festival will be featured at the Bonney Theatre this Sunday.



Bonney Theatre to Light Up for Harmony Week

A LOCAL landmark is set to light up this weekend to celebrate the beginning of Harmony Week and to showcase the talents of some of the best filmmakers in the Riverland and Mallee.

Berri Barmera Council will host the screenings of Harmony Light Up and the 1 Minute Riverland Mallee Film Festival at the Bonney Theatre Outdoor Projection Site this Sunday, March 20 from 6pm.

Barmera Primary School students contributed artwork towards the Harmony Light Up project, created by local projection artist and Berri Barmera councillor Adrian Little, while St Joseph's School Barmera students created flag bunting to decorate the site of the event.

The showing of Light Up will be followed by the screening of submissions to the inaugural 1 Minute Riverland Mallee Film Festival - a partnership project between council and



Country Arts SA.

The festival encourages local filmmakers at all levels to take on the challenge of creating, shooting and editing short films to fit in a 60-second time frame.

Submissions for the festival have been received from filmmakers of a variety of ranges, covering a wide array of topics, with a few well-known locals to appear.

The Riverland's Sikh community will be providing meals, while Sassy Brews will be on site serving coffee and cake.

Attendees can also take part in craft activities from around the world or join in with the Riverland Drumming Circle.

"The magic of the Bonney Theatre projections combined with celebrating the start of Harmony Week will be a fun evening out for the whole family," said Peter Bond, council's acting CEO.

"It will be great to see the Berri Barmera and wider community enjoying a relaxed dinner or dessert and unwind with some new cultural experiences."

From 7.45pm both projections will be screened on a 15-minute loop until 9.30pm.

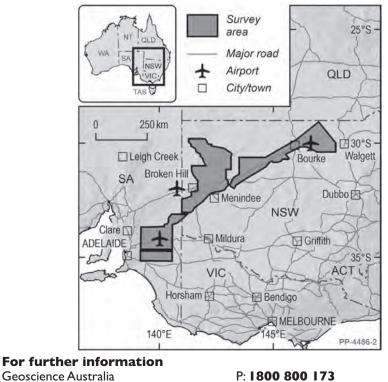
Harmony Light Up will also screen nightly from 8-10pm throughout Harmony Week until Sunday, March 27.



AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

Geoscience Australia in collaboration with NSW and SA state agencies, is conducting an airborne geophysical survey in the Upper Darling River, Far West regions of NSW and near the townships of Berri, Morgan, Murray Bridge and Alawoona in South Australia.

The survey will be carried out by a helicopter fitted with specialist geophysical equipment flying straight lines during May to July 2022. The aircraft will be flying at approximately 100 metres above the ground, with survey equipment attached by cable operating approximately 40 metres above ground level. No ground disturbance or overflight of townships, houses or other structures will occur.



Geoscience Australia E: ClientServices@ga.gov.au www.ga.gov.au



Performers from the Adelaide Fringe Caravan enjoyed the experience of performing on the Waikerie river front on Sunday. PHOTOS: Paul McCormick

First River Fringe festival hits Waikerie

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

THE Waikerie river front was a hive of activity on Sunday when the Rotary Waikerie Riverfront Twilight Market coincided with the launch of the River Fringe.

Waikerie Rotary market co-ordinator Sonia Fowler said a record 60 stalls took part in the market.

She said locals, tourists staying at the Waikerie Holiday Park and Adelaide Fringe followers enjoyed the atmosphere.

"They had a look around the stalls and they grabbed something to eat from the food vans we had on site and then they headed to the lawns in front of the old Chocolate Factory and watched the Fringe Show," Ms Fowler said.

The Adelaide Fringe Caravan's free entertainment at the market featured Miss C Balloonologist, Dolly Parton Dance Party, Ivan Aristeguieta, Fit to Fly, George Glass Does Art Attack, Gordon Southern and Louis Biggs.

Ms Fowler said the Riverland was an ideal place to host Fringe events, especially over a long weekend.

Having the market or any event on the long weekend in the Riverland, you always are guaranteed lots of visitors," she said.

Loxton Waikerie Mayor Leon Stasinowsky said he was pleasantly surprised at the big turnout at the Waikerie Riverfront Twilight Market and River Fringe launch.

"I had to drive around about four or five times before I could find a park, which was certainly great," he said.

Mr Stasinowsky said bringing the



Tourists and locals flocked to the Waikerie Riverfront Twilight Market, which featured the River Fringe launch on Sunday.

Adelaide Fringe to the Riverland was a convenient way to give locals a chance to experience the event without having to visit the city.

"Covid-19 has restricted everyone's movements," he said. "They are not game to go."

Mr Stasinowsky said performers travelling with the Adelaide Fringe Caravan were rapt with the river-front venue.

"They just loved the atmosphere and the area, away from the hustle and bustle of the big cities," he said. "It gave them a chance to get out into the

open fresh air and see what country life is about.'

River Fringe, which is presented by Loxton Waikerie Council continues until March 20.

More information can be found at (adelaidefringe.com.au/fringe-lists/riverfringe).

Labor's cost-of-living election promise

A MALINAUSKAS SA government would deliver "much-needed cost-ofliving relief to battling South Australians", amid rising petrol prices, SA Labor says.

If it wins the state election this Saturday, Labor says it will double the state government Cost of Living Concession for people on low and fixed incomes.

South Australians eligible for the concession will receive up to \$434 in the next financial year - 100 per cent increase on the current 2021-22 payment of \$217 if Labor is elected.

"Labor recognises the particular strain rising cost of living is placing on South Australians, particularly those on low and fixed incomes," said Labor Leader, Peter Malinauskas.

"For a homeowneroccupier, the concession will increase from

0844BL



\$217.20 to \$434.40. For homeowner-occupiers who are self-funded retirees with a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card, as well as tenants, the payment will increase from \$108.60 to \$217.20.

"The boost will be for the 2022-23 financial year."

Amid criticism for its election spending spree, Labor said its "modest" costof-living commitment would \$37.7 million.

This week's announcement is in addition to Labor's previous announcement of free public transport for all Seniors Card holders at all times.

"Rising petrol prices and other everyday costs are hitting everyone's budgets, but South Australians on limited or fixed incomes are feeling it more than most," Mr Malinauskas said.

"Many older South Australians are experiencing financial stress as a greater proportion of their income is spent on everyday essentials. Labor recognises the contribution senior South Australians have made to our state and the impact rising costs are having on their fixed incomes.

"Of course, we would love to provide greater cost of living relief to everybody, but we are taking a prudent approach and targeting this modest cost of living relief to South Australians in dire need of support."



A trafficable quantity of methamphetamine and dried cannabis was found at a Fisher property last week. PHOTOS: supplied

Police in cannabis, meth bust

A MAN is set to appear in court on numerous drug-related charges after cannabis and methamphetamine were found at a Riverland home.

Police conducted a search of a property at Fisher, near Swan Reach, on Wednesday, March 9, when 16 mature cannabis plants, a trafficable quantity of methamphetamine and dried cannabis, equipment used for the production of cannabis oil, and various drug paraphernalia, were located.

A 55-year-old male was interviewed and reported for cultivating cannabis, trafficking in a controlled drug and manufacturing a controlled drug.

It is understood the man will be summonsed to appear in court at a later date. Riverlanders with information regarding

Berri caravan park wins pair of Grey Nomad awards

A LOCAL caravan park received multiple awards for its service to mature-aged visitors over the past year at a national awards night earlier this month.

The Berri Riverside Holiday Park was announced as the gold winner of the Best Grey Nomad Community Stay and the silver winner of the Best Grey Nomad Large Caravan Park at the Grey Nomad Awards on the Sunshine Coast on Friday, March 4.

The park, owned by the Berri War Memorial Community Centre, was praised by judges for its standalone features, including pizza nights, a kiosk café, mini golf course, resort-style pool and cruising restaurant.

"In ensuring the success of this holiday park as a must-visit for grey nomads, the Berri War Memorial Community Centre is supporting every business in and around the Riverland while encouraging senior travellers to stay longer in this unique pocket of Australia..." they said.

The judges noted grey nomads were "critically important to the economy of most regional communities".

"The ongoing investment, as witnessed with the expansive new roof over the pizza night area and new communal firepit, has without doubt helped achieve an increase in repeat visitation from an impressive 67 per cent to an astounding 80 per cent," they said.

"While grey nomads are not looking for all the bells and whistles, they love experiencing the local area from a unique perspective.

"Berri Riverside Holiday Park's cruising restaurant, the only one we know of at a caravan park, delivers on that."

Grey Nomad Awards director Kim Morgan said the awards provided information to help guide older travellers on where to visit and what to see.

"Australians have long enjoyed epic road trips, starting in the post-war period when economic prosperity and the launch of Holden collided," Ms Morgan said.

"That love of the open road has never dimmed, and with Australia being a big country it's important to know where to visit to have extraordinary experiences.

"That's where the Grey Nomad Awards come into play."

the manufacture, sale and possession of illegal drugs are asked to contact Crime Stoppers by phone on 1800 333 000, or by visiting the website (www.crimestopperssa.com.au).



A number of mature cannabis plants were also located by police.



Australian Government

IF IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT

Have you seen something that doesn't feel right? One small observation could help stop a much larger border crime.

FLAG IT Report anonymously at borderwatch.gov.au



Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

16 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au

Pioneer sports editor Ben Lennon gets on board with the weekend's annual Ski for Life event...



Ski for Life teams worked together to collect puzzle pieces and assembled them as a team during the ceremony at Caudo Vineyard. INSET: Chloe Chapman (left) and Amy Goggle, of team Stigma Stompers, dressed up for the final leg of the Ski for Life journey, arriving in Renmark on Saturday afternoon. PHOTOS: Ben Lennon

Building your puzzle

BEN LENNON

THE Ski for Life annual event concluded in Renmark last Sunday, after a plethora of meaningful stops along the Murray across the three-day journey.

I had the pleasure of being involved thanks to the wonderful welcoming nature of chairman Mark Facy, marketing and sponsorship director Helen Lawton-French and the entire committee.

On Saturday morning, I made my way up the Sturt Highway from Renmark to the Caudo Vineyard for the annual Ski for Life ceremony.

I was greeted with a smile and handshake from Helen as she walked me through the crowd to the banks of the Murray before the ceremony kicked off not long after my arrival.

Surrounded by a family of over 350 people that I had never met until 20 minutes prior, I along with the masses, was asked by master of ceremonies Ben Pettingill to reflect on why I was there.

Others in attendance had different context to me, with people coming from across the country to raise money and awareness for suicide prevention and mental health.

Each person bowed their head to reflect on what brought them to the banks of the River Murray on the Saturday afternoon, so for the first time in a while I did the same.

I took a minute to reflect on how I had come to be in this brand-new role, surrounded by people I didn't know, in a town I've never lived in and a job that, while it had been my dream for as long as I can remember, was still incredibly new to me.

LIKE many others I've had my share of mental health challenges, as have plenty of my friends and family.

In that moment of silence at the Caudo Vineyard, my thoughts wandered from why I was here in the Riverland, to how I had actually been doing since making the move.

I realised I probably wasn't going as well as I could be, but as I looked around at the crowd that surrounded me, it occurred to me that I wasn't alone at all, despite not knowing the name of more than five people.

The Ski for Life ceremony progressed and if the minute of silence didn't resonate with me enough then the next moment certainly did.

Ben went on to explain that each crew had been set the task of finding a jigsaw piece along their travels.

He stood next to an empty wooden display and, as Caitlin Drew performed an original acoustic set in the background, members of each crew came to the front to assemble the jigsaw puzzle as a team.

After some collaboration, the puzzle was complete, and as Ben explained the meaning behind the activity, the crowd stood in silent admiration of what was in front of them. "This puzzle is an image of a previous ceremony at Cadell, and if I take one piece out, the puzzle is no longer complete," he said.

"Each and every one of you had an individual piece. It's not together, it's not whole and it's not what it's meant to be.

"We are better together. We can't build a complete picture by ourselves. There's no point in making this journey as individuals.

"When we all come together, look at the result. If you look closely you can see where it all joins.

"That might look like a blemish or two, or a couple of cracks. There's always going to be those edges that are disjointed, but coming together makes them harder to see, makes it solid and makes it whole.

"There's no point going through challenges alone.

"We build our puzzle together with the people that support us, that we can lean on and let them lean on you. That's what Ski for Life 2022 is all about."

Now in Renmark, I've started to build my own puzzle back up again without even realising it, through meeting new people and taking on new challenges.

IN my short time with the Ski for Life crew, it became obvious that across the 10-year period of its existence, it had developed from a few mates into a massive family who were all there for each other.

Ski for Life focuses specifically on rural areas that are well detached from the city life I grew up with.

Many people in these towns live a fairly secluded life, which is why getting mental health services into these areas is so important

The annual event manages to take some testing times for those involved and channel that into something wholesome and uplifting.

Ben's explanation of Caitlin's lyrics ran through my mind as I drove away from the vineyard that afternoon.

"Realise life's already good instead of worrying about when life's going to get good," he said.

"There's always going to be stuff going on, but if we take that moment to reflect on now, life's already pretty good."

In his first year in charge of the committee, Facy took the reigns of the biggest Ski

for Life so far and he couldn't be happier. "Speaking to the participants, it's one of the most successful ones we've had. Everyone has been overwhelmed and had a

terrific weekend," he said. If you are currently having suicidal thoughts, please seek immediate assistance by calling Lifeline on 13 11 14 or the suicide call back service on 1300 659 467. For additional support, contact Standy Support After Suicide on 1300 728 247. If you or someone you are with is in need of immediate support please call 000.

TAYLOR GROUP MEDIA

Joanne Sutton

At age 38, as I watch the cost of living rising out of control and wages going down in real terms, my belief is stronger than ever that working South Australians need a strong voice in government.

I've put my hand up to run for Chaffey because the River Murray is critical to the Chaffey community, and someone needs to protect it.

I'm passionate about the environment and I know many Riverlanders share this passion. Liberal Minister for the Environment and Water, David Speirs, sold out the River Murray and the Chaffey community.

So much so, that he was criticised for a likely breach of the Ministerial Code of Conduct by failing to act in South Australia's best interests. That's the kind of representation this community gets from the Marshall Liberal Government.

South Australians deserve a choice at every election.

The people of the Riverland must now make the choice between voting for a party who will sacrifice the health of their river to please the eastern states, and a party that will actually stand up and protect the river. Labor will protect the River Murray. Tim Whetstone and the Liberals will not. It's that simple.

Record number to vote in 2022

A RECORD number of voters will take to the polls in the 2022 State Election, according to the Electoral Commission of SA (ECSA).

A total of 1,266,719 South Australians have enrolled to vote, representing a 5.4 per cent increase in the number of enrolled voters since the 2018 state election when 1,201,775 individuals were registered on the electoral roll.

Electoral Commissioner Mick Sherry said he was pleased with the public's response to enrol to vote.

"We thank the South Australian public for enrolling or updating their enrolment details this state election," Mr Sherry said. "In February alone, more than 10,000 new South Australian voters joined the electoral roll, which is a fantastic result.

"Since January this year, over 14,000 young people between the ages of 18-24 years have enrolled to vote."

Mr Sherry said over 80,000 South Australians have updated their enrolment details.

"This is a fantastic result, and we thank South Australians for making sure that their voice is heard at the 2022 State Election," he said.

"As this is the first South Australian State Election since Covid began, there are a number of expanded voting options, including early voting centres and postal voting, which will allow eligible electors to vote safely and effectively.

"Voters should also feel safe and confident to attend a polling booth on election day with a raft of Covid safety measures in place."

NOTE: '1' can only be marked once on each ballot paper. You must number at least as many boxes as there are vacancies, in the order of your choice.

Trevor Schloithe

I'm running for the seat of Chaffey because I passionately believe in improving our region.

I was brought up on fruit blocks, worked as a horticulturist throughout the region, and my son had his own vineyard. I have seen first-hand the impact this changing land has on hard working families.

We need to look towards the future to ensure our environment is sustainable and the river is healthy, with a consistent water supply for the communities and life that rely on it.

My first priority issue is the River Murray. Everyone has a connection to the river. Its health impacts everyone and everything in this region, from business to families to the surrounding environment.

I will also be focusing on issues with the capacity of health professionals in regional areas, which result in many patients being forced into emergency services in the CBD, far from home and loved ones.

Australian politics needs to be shaken up. Both major parties are putting the interests of their big corporate donors ahead of our community. The Greens put people before profit.

I'll represent our community's values in parliament and hold the major parties to account. Together we can create a fairer future for all of us.

VOTE 1 TREVOR SCHLOITHE



- Make big corporations pay their fair share
- Action on the climate crisis
- Build more housing
- Invest in our health system
- Put people back into planning
- Make public transport free

0459 107 066

⊠ chaffey@sa.greens.org.au

Authorised by I.Green, The Greens SA, 7/291 Angas St Adelaide SA 5000

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This group of submissions has been edited by Paul Mitchell, as deemed necessary by the Murray Pioneer.

AUSTRALIAN ELECTION

Mathew Francis

Mathew Francis is married to Deepa and together they have a 17-year-old named Rachel.

Through his career, Mathew has held various roles in both private and public sectors in consulting, operations and development. In the last decade has owned businesses such as service providers under the NDIS, trading companies and demolition businesses. also consults to various small businesses with a passion to improve efficiency.

His commute between Adelaide and the Riverland fortnightly has allowed him to understand and experience the challenges of living in regional SA. Namely one of the biggest challenges being the black spots in the Riverland, especially on his property in Markaranka. Mathew's motivation to run at this year's State Election for Family First was when he was confronted by some extreme bills being passed in SA parliament that don't represent the best for families.

Mathew knows that a strong society and community is built from strong families, which is a top priority in his life, as well as standing for religious freedom and freedom of conscience. He believes in small governments and governments enabling families to thrive and not survive, rather than seeing our freedoms being constantly eroded and we face rising cost of living. Mathew sees that there is a huge need for skilled workers in the regions.



I am standing for One Nation in Chaffey to provide voters with a genuine alternative to Liberal and Labor.

Politics is increasingly disconnected from the people it is supposed to serve. I support water reform in the Murray-Darling Basin, but with not a drop more to be taken from already-efficient South Australian irrigators. They have sacrificed more than enough.

I'll advocate One Nation's policy to end the crisis engulfing South Australia's health system: more transitional beds so that mental health, disability, and aged care patients don't unduly occupy beds needed for acute care, and greater autonomy in regional health. We want to put local hospital boards back in charge. We'll also work to fix the housing crisis. More and more South Australians are struggling to buy or rent a home. One Nation will increase housing supply by banning foreign ownership of residential property and reduce housing costs with generous stamp duty concessions. I believe in straight-talking and accountability - it's a personal value. I'm fed up with the spin and double-talk that politicians use to cover mediocre performance and I'll focus on real work to address the issues that concern the people of Chaffey.

One Nation puts Australia and Australians first.

Damien **Buijs**

A shearer and small business owner, Damien Buijs is passionate about supporting regional communities.

Damien believes regional Australia is the heartbeat of our nation's economy and therefore the Riverland deserves strong, dedicated representation. Coming from a small regional town, Damien is committed to building better roads and infrastructure which will enable rural communities to go about their work safely and efficiently, promoting jobs for our children and grandchildren.

Damien is also a strong advocate for decentralisation, enabling regional communities to provide quality tertiary education for our local youth so that they don't need to move away to study or acquire a trade.

By training our upcoming workforce in regional areas, it will help in addressing our rural labour shortages. This also goes for local health and childcare services being provided locally to a high standard

Damien is also a strong advocate for the Murray Darling Basin Plan, believing the plan must be delivered in full.

He strongly opposes any proposed changes to the plan which will put South Australian irrigators and communities at risk, and will always put the interests of locals first.

Tim Whetstone

It's vital we are prepared for future challenges, and I bring a local understanding of what's important to our community.

We must have a healthy, working river and water security, underpinned by the Murray-Darling Basin Plan being completed in full.

Delivering the health workforce our region needs is a priority and we've committed \$188 million to regional SA to attract and retain GPs. I'll be working to ensure we have suitable frontline services, including mental health and ambulances.

A reliable transport network is vital for our ability to do business. We are injecting millions into building better roads, with more work to be done. Similarly, local sports clubs and schools will continue to be upgraded.

We must improve our communication network, with the successful Mobile Blackspot program investing millions into our region. Growth in jobs is vital, as we keep pushing to reduce the cost of living and doing business.

Our primary producers must have the tools in the toolbox to contend with a variable climate and rising input costs. Continued support in ag-tech and a robust biosecurity regime is critical to increase farmgate returns and expand markets.

My focus is growing our region to be a better place to live and work, and there's still much more to be done.



MATHEW FRANCIS



- For families to thrive not survive
- Better public health and hospital system in the regions
- Keep government thought police out of our homes
- Simplification of taxes and fiscal disciple More investment in regions to combat blackspots

0430 220 412

Deepa.mathew@familyfirstparty.org.au

Authorised by J.Snelling 102-132 Hilltop Drive, Oakden for Family First Party SA.

FELEPPA



- No more water from SA irrigators
- A better, smarter health system

- Royal Commission into the COVID-19 pandemic



Bryce Boon (centre) won the Riverland West Fisherama's junior category for catching the biggest carp off a river bank. He is pictured with his father, Michael Boon (left) and brothers Graham (front left) and Jesse.

No illegal guns. Say something before it's too late.



crimestoppers.com.au

ernment



Winner of the Riverland West Fisherama \$17,000 boat package, Raelene Brand (second from right), of Qualco, with one of the event's co-ordinators Kelly Chamberlain (left), Nathan Hart from HMF Boats Waikerie, and Ian Rogers from Waikerie Honda. PHOTOS: Paul McCormick

Record turnout for Fisherama

CHRISTINE WEBSTER

THE Riverland West Fisherama attracted a record number of more than 300 entries – in perfect weather conditions – on Saturday.

One of the event co-ordinators, Craig Thiel, said more people seemed to be fishing off the river banks this year.

He said more than half of the participants came from outside the Riverland.

Mr Thiel said mainly carp was caught this year with no signs of the threatened Murray cod, which under SA laws need to be returned after measuring back into the river.

"In general a lot of fish were caught, but mostly carp and that was good to clean out the river," he said.

"We did have some native fish. I know four or five catfish were caught and one bream.

"I don't know how many callop, but not as many as other years."

Mr Thiel said most of the carp would be given to a Sunlands turtle farm, which

RIVERLAND WEST FISHERAMA MARCH 12, 2022 WINNERS

- Biggest callop from boat senior: Patrick Alchurch
- Biggest callop from boat junior: Declan Blackswell
 Biggest callop from bank senior: Sheila Atkinson
- Biggest callop from bank junior: Kieran Hahn
- Biggest bag amount callop caught senior: Patrick Allchurch
- Biggest carp boat senior: Darren Carter
- Biggest carp boat junior: Riley Maywald
- Biggest carp bank senior: Blake Mcardle
 Biggest carp bank junior: Bryce Boon
- Biggest bag carp: Sam Baum
- Biggest native catfish: Kieran Hahn

sponsors the fisherama.

"A lot of people take them for yabby bait or crab bait also," he said.

The winner of the \$17,000 boat package was Raelene Brand from Qualco, north west of Waikerie. She is the first female to win the Riverland West Fisherama raffle.

"I am excited," Ms Brand said.

"I have been buying tickets every year for the past seven years.

"Lots of fishing days are coming up."

Winners of the fishing competition were presented with their prizes at the Ramco Football Netball clubrooms on Saturday night.

Mr Thiel said the popular yabby races made a return, with cash prizes on offer.

"That kept the crowd going for about an hour," he said.

Mr Thiel said the support of the sponsors made the event possible. He also said attracting competitors from outside the area gave the Riverland West area an economic boost.







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www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 NEWS 19

Fruit fly battle to continue in winter

GROWERS in areas of the Riverland will have to contend with fruit fly restrictions throughout winter after quarantine dates were extended once again.

Fruit fly restrictions in Renmark West and Pike River were last week extended until October 25, following detections of the pest in surveillance traps.

PIRSA fruit fly response general manager, Nick Secomb, said the quarantine restrictions would have ongoing impacts on local horticultural producers.

"It is disappointing that we've not been able to lift restrictions, particularly for the local horticulture industry operating around Pike River and Renmark West which have had to comply with additional regulations and exporting restrictions," Mr Secomb said.

Mr Secomb said fruit fly were able to survive through the Riverland's winter conditions.

"Fruit fly 'overwinter', which is similar to hibernation," he said.

"So we need to extend the outbreak end date further over the cooler months, including into spring, due to the cooler temperatures.

"Adult flies can emerge from the pupae in as little as seven days during summer, but are able to survive as adults over winter.

"Fruit fly is most active in the warmer



Kym Walton is the node co-ordinator for the local SA Drought Hub, based at the Loxton Research Centre. PHOTO: supplied

Drought hub's Kym one for the node

A "NODE co-ordinator" has been appointed in Loxton to lead the local arm of a drought resilience program.

Kym Walton will head up the local SA Drought Hub office, based at the Loxton Research Centre, and will be one of four node co-ordinators statewide.

SA Drought Hub director Dr Stephen Lee says the appointments represent an important step forward in the Hub's development.

"The node co-ordinators are vital cogs in the Hub's operations," Dr Lee said.

"They are responsible for working closely with the Hub's partners and key stakeholders in their respective regions to facilitate and deliver demand-driven activities that focus on innovation and adoption to build drought resilience among farmers and regional communities.

"The Drought Hub is now seeking submissions for the delivery of projects and activities in 2022, and the node co-ordinators will play a leading role in developing those initiatives."

Raised in the Riverland, Mr Walton has 24 years' experience in the water and environment industry.

The Node Coordinators have been appointed through the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) which is a major SA Drought Hub partner.

Mr Walton's position is for the "low rainfall and irrigated agriculture" region.

The SA Drought Hub's headquarters are at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy campus. months, so we ask everyone to remain vigilant and help get rid of fruit flies in the Riverland."

The Renmark West outbreak was initially declared in December 2020, with the pest then detected at Pike River in March 2021.

Mr Secomb encouraged residents inside the quarantine areas to continue following practices to minimise the threat of further outbreaks.

"The local community has done a tremendous job supporting the fruit fly response program and following prevention restrictions for over a year now," he said.

"I encourage everyone – from residents and schools to growers to travellers – to please continue to follow fruit fly restrictions so we can end the outbreaks.

"We also need the public to check their fruit for maggots, seal anything suspicious in a plastic bag and call the Fruit Fly Hotline on 1300 666 010."

Further information regarding fruit fly outbreaks in the Riverland can be found by visiting the website (www.fruitfly.sa.gov. au/).

Adult flies can emerge from the pupae in as little as seven days during summer, but are able to survive as adults over winter...

- Nick Secomb



Renmark West and Pike River residents have been urged to continue monitoring backyards for fruit fly, after outbreak dates in the areas were extended again.



Australian Government

AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMIC PLAN

We're taking the next step to keep our economy strong.

- · Keeping taxes low, because money in your pocket eases the cost of living
- Infrastructure projects across the country are creating jobs
- Skilling the workforce for the jobs of tomorrow
- Committing to making more goods in Australia to help secure our supply chain
- Delivering affordable and reliable energy to our homes and businesses
- Backing Australian businesses to modernise and innovate for our future

Australia's Economic Plan has helped us through the last two years. There are 260,000 more people in work than before COVID. Australia has performed better than major advanced economies through the pandemic. That's why we're taking the next step.

To find out more, visit economicplan.gov.au



20 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Second call for flood donations

ELYSE ARMANINI

A RECENT call for donations of goods to be transported to flood-affected northern NSW and southern Oueensland was answered with overflowing generosity from the Riverland community.

Thirty-six pallets of donations - made-up of non-perishable foods, water, essential clothing and bedding, and other donated items from local people and businesses - are ready and waiting to be transported to Lismore, NSW.

A B-double has now been donated to the cause by Vince Cordoma and Dean Leslie, of Irymple and Robinvale-based company LRT/VCT, with the truck set to arrive in the Riverland this week.

'Everything is packed, palleted and ready to go," said organiser George Simos, of Glossop.

"It's a waiting game now.

"I had two phone calls last week from different distribution groups (in Lismore) asking when is the stuff going to

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A B-double laden with Riverland-donated goods will head to flood-hit areas in NSW and Queensland. PHOTO: 7news

arrive. For them to be doing that means that they need it they're desperate."

Now, Mr Simos is asking Riverlanders to dig deep in a bid to help partially pay for food pallets provided by Nippy's and Koch's Foodland.

'Nippy's and Koch's have partially covered the cost of their donations, and I'm paying the rest," he said.

"Hopefully I'll get some donations to cover the costs.

"I've spent about \$3000 of my own money on... things I know the people up there need to have. Cleaning products, mops, rubber boots, first aid,

insect repellent ... they're just not getting it quickly enough."

Mr Simos said many generous community members and smaller businesses were willing to help.

"A lot of people are putting their hands up and helping,' he said.

"Grenfell Koch (local supermarket owner) worked tirelessly to secure the donated products from his suppliers, and we are very grateful for his efforts. "I've had a few money

donations so far, but I need a few more.

"A lady from the Salvos actually asked if I wanted a whole heap of clothes donated. I told her we were full, because we had to put the donations to a stop, so she got together with the Salvos people and donated \$500."

Mr Simos said he was unsure if the donations and help would stop after the load was delivered.

"Once this load goes, is that the end of it, or does it continue? I don't know," he said.







"If the donations increase, we can cover the costs and if there's any left-over we can do it again, or we can find an organisation that's up there, on the ground, and give it straight to them."

Riverlanders willing and able to donate are asked to contact George Simos on 0409 832 360.

More blood donors needed after floods **JOSH BRINE**

RIVERLANDERS are being asked to give blood at mobile donation centres in the region this week, with flooding in New South Wales and Queensland creating a shortfall of 3000 donations.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood's pop-up donor centre will be at the Berri Town Hall today from 10.30am to 7pm, and the Greek Orthodox Community Hall tomorrow from 11.30am to 7.30pm, and Friday from 7.30am to 12 noon.

Despite a strong number of bookings already, Red Cross is calling on locals to "step up" and fill the "few appointments still available"

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood's executive director for donor services Cath Stone said flood damage, stayat-home orders and evacuations in eastern states had resulted in reduced collections.

"People out there may be thinking, 'How can I help?'," she said.

"Donating blood ensures that patients in these communities get the medical treatment they need."

To make a booking, call 13 14 95,

Council helps locals celebrate centenaries

A LOCAL council invested almost \$70,000 to bring nearly 30 community-led events and projects to life to celebrate Barmera, Monash and Glossop's centenaries last year.

Barmera Berri Council allocated \$68,545, including in-kind support, to 28 projects through its Centenary Grants Scheme.

At council's last monthly meeting, councillors were presented with a detailed report of all funded projects, including costings and an evaluation of each event or project.

Council's acting CEO Peter Bond said elected members were impressed by the outcomes of the program. "We're very excit-

ed by the success of the centenary grants scheme," he said.

"That was a test case and it was extremely successful... the community got a lot of benefit out of it."

Among the recipients were the Barmera Centenary Committee and Barmera Central, which received almost \$22,000, and the Lone Gum and Monash Community Association, which was allocated about \$15,600 plus \$1500 inkind support.

Some of the major events receiving funding were the Barmera Street Party, which was attended by about 8000 people, Monash's Hidden Secrets Exposed exhibition and Military Ceremony, and the Riverland Auto Street Party, which featured about 2000 attendees

and 220 vehicles. The Riverdaze Girl Guides SA State Camp also generated about \$100,000 in economic activity thanks in part to \$4700 in grants from council.

Some projects have been repurposed where possible due to Covid-19 restrictions, such as the \$3950 grant for the Back to Glossop Continental being used to produce an 80 Years of Glossop High School memorabilia magazine and an elec-

tronic honour board. Funding for cancelled projects was returned to council.

Projects yet to be completed include a World War II honour board and centenary plaque in Monash, a centenary photo book, a book on the soldier settlers of Lone Gum and Monash, the postponed Monash Community Shindig, and projection displays celebrating Barmera and Glossop's centenaries. - JOSH BRINE

6

CENTENARY GRANT RECIPIENTS:

- Barmera Central Barmera Centenary Committee: \$21.988
- Lone Gum and Monash Community Association: \$15.588 Barmera Bowling Club: \$5000 (plus \$5000 fed-
- eral government funding) Glossop High School: \$4550 Monash CFS: \$4390
- Girl Guides SA: \$3200 (plus \$1500 from another grant)
- Glossop Centenary Committee: \$3008 (\$1457 returned due to cancelled project)
- Riverland Rodders/Riverland Customs and Classics: \$3000 St Edmund's Anglican Church Barmera: \$2437
- Loveday Internment Camp Committee: \$2000
- Glossop Primary Community School K-7: \$880

Renmark SA 5341 EMERGENCY: 0426 950 334 Barmera Primary School: \$255 visit lifeblood.com.au or download the Phone: 8586 4411 3 Barwell Avenue, Barmera *does not include in-kind support Donate Blood app. TWO SOLD, TWO REMAINING! FOUR NEW TOWNHOUSES TO BE BUILT SOON! G.J. Gardner. HOMES RIVERSIDE state RENMARK

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The Holthams were part of a building franchise for 18 years before moving on to develop their own standalone business in Holtham Building & Construction just over 12 months ago. "It was a fairly easy transition," Gill said.

"We just wanted to be wholly and solely making our own choices and taking our own path.

"We had everything in place to be able to do everything in-house. We chose to close down our office and showroom in Berri and move our business on-site, to a dedicated office and showroom alongside our own home."

CONTINUED PAGES 22&23

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Gill said becoming a stand-alone business allowed them to be "more exclusive" in their freedoms and creativity.

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Clients can expect constant, helpful advice and friendly customer service from the whole team at Holtham Building & Construction.

"We deal with the owners the whole way through the process," Gill said.

"It's very much a hands-on, exclusive service. We have lots of expertise between us, and many resources to draw on.

"We still have all of our contacts from the building industry, including our tradespeople and now mostly local suppliers.

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"We're not rushing to get finished quickly, rather we are making sure that things are done perfectly."

Riverlanders Wayne and Rozz Dyer are the owners of a Holtham home in Renmark, completed just in time for Christmas last year.

"We met with Gill, Craig and several of their team in 2019 to discuss the build of our new own-design home," Mrs Dyer said.

"They were very helpful, suggested a few tweaks and style suggestions, and took on board our request to use as much Riverland content as we could.

"Their staff and tradies were a joy to work with and took great pride in the finishes to our home.

"The Carabooda limestone and recycled timber have given us a timeless home, which we are very happy with."



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24 NEWS www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Camping ban 'hurts the needy'

A DESPAIRING local couple say the lack of emergency food and shelter options for the needy across the Riverland often escalates to more serious problems, including incarceration.

Volunteers Malcolm and Kathleen Tubb regularly expand on their church's work of "helping those less fortunate", but say finding accommodation is becoming increasingly difficult, even leading to behavioural problems that culminate in imprisonment.

"There is currently no resource to accommodate them and to assist them with their mental and/or drug or alcohol issues, and many simply end up in prison, at an even greater cost to the taxpayer," Mr Tubb said.

The Renmark couple say tighter restrictions on some Riverland camping grounds had exacerbated the problem.

"We can understand why authorities do

not want them in public camping grounds, but ejecting simply transfers the problem, with them sleeping rough on the river bank or on vacant sites where there are no toilet facilities," Mr Tubb said.

"The river is often used as a toilet, and defecating in the river is not good.

"We have been able to use a number of church premises and campgrounds in the past but isolated incidences of bad behaviour have led to us being ejected."

Mr Tubb said his church tries to provide both emergency food and shelter for those in need, with the focus on the former.

"The main thrust and need is for food, but we also find that there are those seeking temporary shelter," he said. "We try to help them, but find this much more challenging."

Mr Tubb asked whether those with "respectable behaviour" could be allowed



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Renmark man Malcolm Tubb at a river-front site he says is often used by the "needy", struggling to pay for food and accommodation. PHOTO: Paul Mitchell

to continue to camp or caravan at Riverland parks.

He also suggested accommodation could be organised in one of the "many vacant premises" across the region.

He said the only other options were:

□ "Refuse entry to those with behaviour problems, so that they can create trouble elsewhere."

- "(Source) a secure facility to treat those with mental and substance abuse problems."
 "Continue to wait until their behaviour"
- results in a prison sentence."

the homeless, under strict supervision and with basic toilet facilities."

Mr Tubb said he had approached two Riverland councils about the issue. - PAUL MITCHELL

Mr Beelitz said Mr and Mrs Bayah were

Mr Bayha is servicing the Waikerie,

We wish Pastor Julian and his wife Sara

family orientated and also enjoyed spending

time with their two adult children, who both

Lowbank and Ramco Lutheran congregations

all the best and God's richest blessings as they begin their ministry to the Waikerie

Lutheran Church and wider community," Mr

and the Waikerie Lutheran Primary School.

Riverland West welcomes new pastor

Newly installed

Parish Pastor,

Julian Bayha,

Waikerie from

PHOTO: supplied

live in SA.

Beelitz said.

the Barossa

Valley.

and his wife

Sara who have moved to

Waikerie

Lutheran

THE Waikerie Lutheran Parish has installed a new pastor, Julian Bayha, who has moved to the area with his wife Sara from the Barossa Valley.

More than 120 people welcomed Mr Bayha into the role recently with an installation in the D'Vine Hall at the Waikerie Lutheran Primary School.

Mr Bayha was previously a pastor at Langmeil Lutheran Church in Tanunda in the Barossa Valley before taking leave for a year.

Bishop of the SA-NT Lutheran district, David Altus, conducted the installation, which was also attended by Loxton Waikerie Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, and Renmark Paringa Lutheran Parish pastor, Stephen Trautwein.

Waikerie Lutheran Parish chairman Neville Beelitz said Mr Bayha and his wife both enjoyed the outdoor life and Mr Bayha was part of a cycling group in the Barossa Valley.

"They both enjoy camping and spending time enjoying the blessings of nature and all that it has to offer," he said.

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Still supporting locals living with a disability

ENHANCED Lifestyles has been committed to supporting Riverland locals living with a disability since before the rollout of the NDIS.

With over 70 staff locally based in the Riverland, it has a proud history of promoting an independent lifestyle for their customers, as they were created by people with disabilities for people with disabilities.

As a member-governed organisation, Enhanced Lifestyles ensures that customers' voices are always heard. Its board is predominately comprised of its customers, allowing individuals with lived disability experiences to drive decisions within this unique organisation.

Supporting independence in the Riverland

Enhanced Lifestyles offers a range of personalised services to support people living with a disability in their homes and their community. Customers can access support with household tasks or personal care. Their dedicated lifestyle attendants also support customers to access the local community and explore social opportunities, their hobbies, and interests throughout the Riverland.

Enhanced Lifestyles' services are tailored to each individual's needs and goals. Their ethos and person-centred approach ensure that customers feel confident knowing that they're fully supported.

Locally servicing the Riverland

Enhanced Lifestyles is locally based, in Berri, providing services across the Riverland.

This will be a space where Riverland residents can have a face-to-face chat with a local to explore support options for themselves or a loved one in the region.

We are committed to

being a long-term partner in the Riverland region," said Enhanced Lifestyles Interim CEO Andrew Ellis.

"After strong growth in staff working to provide essential services to our local customers, we are already outgrowing our existing premises in Wilson Street.

"We recognise there are other unmet needs for people living with disability in the region and are aiming to relocate to a larger office in order to expand the range of services and supports available in the Riverland."

If you have an NDIS plan and are interested in learning more about how Enhanced Lifestyles can support you, you can drop by its office, located at 30 Wilson Street, Berri, for a chat.

For more information about Enhanced Lifestyles' services, visit www.enhancedlifestyles.com.au or call 8501 4010 to speak to the local team.



A group of Monash volunteers, led by the town's CFS brigade and sponsors Cleanaway, picked up 80 bags full of litter along a 1.5km stretch of the Sturt Highway last Tuesday. PHOTO: supplied

Community spirit drives CFS highway clean-up

JOSH BRINE

A RIVERLAND volunteer group hopes to expand its annual Clean Up Australia Day event, after picking up a significant amount of litter along a major local highway.

Eighteen volunteers took part in the Monash CFS's rubbish pick-up along the Sturt Highway on Tuesday last week, two days after Clean Up Australia Day, picking up 80 bags of rubbish over a 1.5km stretch from 8am to 12 noon.

Monash CFS captain Dave Otto de Grancy said the brigade's goal was to turn the clean up into a "true community event".

"We'd love to get 100 to 200 people out there," he said.

"We only ever make it about a kilometre and our trailers are full and we run out of bags and people are

starting to get tired, so it would be nice to have a heap of people there and do something that really benefits our community.

"Every year afterwards me and my lad, who has been doing it for a few years now, both say it was a really good day because you feel like you've done something worthwhile.

"It's actually fun because everyone's talking and having a good time, and you don't realise how much you've picked up until the end of the day when you fill up the trailers...

"We're trying to build that community spirit, and we're so lucky that Monash is one of the few genuine communities that has that spirit, so I want to see if we can embrace that for this event." Mr Otto de Grancy said

the amount of rubbish the

group picked up was "pretty insane"

"There were a lot of fruit and veg style foam boxes, and then the litter from the main fast food places..." he said.

The volunteers also cleaned up discarded roadwork signage.

"It's disappointing that is left up to community mem-Mr Otto de Grancy bers," said.

"The Monash CFS crew is well above average on our callout rate at the moment. so to have to go out there and clean up after businesses isn't a good thing."

Mr Otto de Grancy thanked all those who helped pick up rubbish, plus Cleanaway, which sponsored the event and provided a truck, three skip bins and workers for the clean-up effort.

masn

WARM, WELCOMING

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 NEWS 25 Volunteers needed to keep bingo club afloat

ELYSE ARMANINI

A LOCAL bingo club faces the possibility of folding if its office bearers are not filled at an upcoming AGM.

The Palms Bingo Club will re-hold its AGM at the Monash Club on Tuesday, March 22 at 2.45pm.

The club requires three positions to be filled:

□ President

Treasurer Secretary

Palms Bingo Club secretary, Johanna Birg, said the first AGM attempt was held on March 1, but was unsuccessful in filling any of the three positions.

Mrs Birg said her responsibilities as club secretary would need to be taken over, as she is leaving the position after seven years.

"I've just received a resignation from the president," Mrs Birg added.

"The treasurer has moved to Mildura... once someone has moved interstate, they can't be on the committee from another state.

"When we have our next AGM, if we don't fill any of the positions we will fold.

"People are willing to go on the committee to help out, but they're not willing to take on the executive side of it."

Mrs Birg said the club folding would have negative implications on the community and local charity organisations.

"We play for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the Red Cross, Community Living, and all those little branches off the hospitals," she said.

"Not only that, but it will end up being the end for the elderly that can't play bingo at night. They'll miss out on day bingo during the week.'

Members of the community can attend the meeting to put their hand up for the club positions.

"No one showed up to the first meeting, so we couldn't even hold an AGM," Mrs Birg said.

"Everybody knows what's going on at the moment and if they're not interested then maybe it's just time to heave-ho. (Bingo clubs) are a dying breed, sadly.

"We've got a few more bingo games, but we will have to fold if we don't get anybody (taking on the roles)."



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Everyone's talking and having a good time, and you don't realise how much you've picked up until the end of the day...

- Monash CFS captain Dave Otto de Grancy



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Wellness Festival to bring peace and joy

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ELYSE ARMANINI

RIVERLANDERS can discover natural ways to live a balanced, healthy and peaceful life when a popular annual wellness festival returns to Renmark next month.

The eighth Riverland Wellness Festival is set to take place at the Renmark Hotel on Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3, from 10am to 5pm each day.

Riverland Wellness Festival director, Sue Shaw, said festival visitors often find multiple reasons to stay the day.

"They love coming for massages and healings," she said.

"Readings are always popular. The readers are always busy and we've got quite a few different readers this year. Some are psychic readers, some are intuitive readers, and we have hypnotherapists too. "People love everything. They arrive and



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SUE SHAW

they stay all day. Once they're there they just don't want to leave.' After almost a decade of putting

on the festival, Ms Shaw said the "sense of welcome" makes coming back to the Riverland each year easy. "The sense of

gratitude as well. People are so grateful that we bring exhibitors up from Adelaide, because they normally wouldn't get a chance to experience what they do," she said.

"I enjoy connecting with the community and loving the region. I love it all - meeting people, seeing people from last year and reconnecting."

Ms Shaw said the Wellness Festival environment feels "just like a family". "Even if you come on your own to the

festival, you feel welcomed, accepted, it's friendly, everyone says hello to each other - and there's no competition," Ms Shaw said.

"Come along, enjoy yourself, take some time out, bring your friends along and have a great day out.'

Thirty stalls will be on display each day of the festival weekend, with many different options for visitors to choose from, including: □ Iridology

Special guest for upcoming Mardi Gras

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

THE rescheduled Loxton Mardi Gras - less than a month away - will feature a special guest.

South Australian Governor Frances Adamson will attend the 65th annual event, which is usually held in February.

Loxton Mardi Gras events and publicity officer Chris Sheahan said having the governor attend would be a in Covid cases at the beginhighlight of the parade and surrounding events.

"She very promptly accepted our invitation," he said.

In addition to the Loxton Mardi Gras parade and market on Saturday, April 9, an appreciation service will be held on Sunday, April 10.

The February event was postponed due to an increase ning of the year.

"As well as us being concerned for public safety... we found with our ambassadors, people were staying away from events," Mr Sheahan said.

The event will be held at the Loxton number two oval, beginning with markets at 9am, while the parade will kick off from 11.15am.





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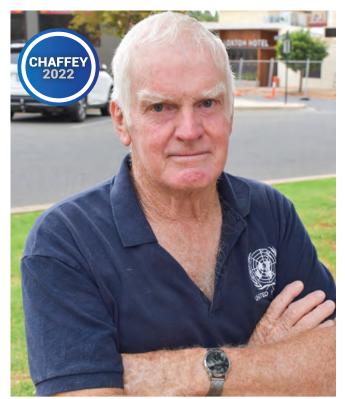
Ms Shaw acknowledged the Renmark Hotel and its staff for the ongoing support as major sponsors of the event.

"They are so supportive, and they love having us back every year," she said.

"We are really happy to be part of the community hotel and we love coming back."

Entry is \$5 per person, per day, and children under 15 are free.

Tickets can be paid at the door on the day, or pre-purchased by visiting: sueshaw. com.au/product/riverland-wellnessfestival-tickets/.



Loxton man Leith McDonald worked on polling booths at many elections over the past 40 years.

Fips from a veteran polling booth official

STEPHANIE THOMPSON

A LOCAL who worked at polling booths for 40 years has shared his top tips ahead of Saturday's 2022 State Election.

Leith McDonald finished as officer in charge of the Loxton polling booth at the most recent elections and said people are often creatures of habit, all wanting to vote at once.

"It's always flat out from 9.30am to midday," he said. "Everyone wanted to vote

in the morning."

Posts have been circulating on social media recently, encouraging people to vote using pen only so that preferences cannot be "rubbed out and changed".

However, Mr McDonald debunked the claim.

"I think the situation was that if you put pens out, they'd disappear," he said.

"A pencil on a string tends to stop that.

"People don't use pencils at home, but they use biros."

Mr McDonald said he feared Covid-19 would cause issues for voters and electoral commission staff this year.

"(It will) inhibit the smooth passage of the public voting at each public booth," he said.

"With masks on, it can be hard to hear.

"Non-voting and voting twice or more will become bigger problems.

"Applications for postal voting have gone through the roof, creating more problems.'

Mr McDonald said he expects voting to look very different in the near future.

"Technology has now taken over and it will not be long before touch screens will be used," he said.

A number of polling booths are located around the Riverland and open from 8am to 6pm this Saturday.

LEITH'S TOP TIPS FOR VOTING IN 2022

Vote in the afternoon to avoid queues

Bring your own pen or pencil Remember your mask

Do your research on candidates prior to arriving

Be courteous toward election officials

Family First Chaffey candidate targets 'black spots and bad policies'

PAUL MITCHELL

DISENCHANTMENT with the major parties prompted former Liberal Party member Mathew Francis to run for the seat of Chaffey at Saturday's State Election.

Mr Francis, who owns property near Waikerie, is representing the reformed Family First Party and says its policies match his own values.

"Basically I'm running because of some of the policies of the big parties," he said.

"I looked at them and saw that they

didn't much align with my views and how I see life.

"After I realised that, I heard about Family First, so I went through their policies and I thought I was better aligned with

them than the major parties. "Labor and Liberal policies on abortion, euthanasia and mandating Covid-19 vaccinations... just put me off

"Those were the main reasons." Mr Francis is involved in the real estate industry, formerly worked as an

NDIS provider, and is also married to Family First upper house candidate, Deepa.

He identified mobile phone black spots as the most important election issue for local residents.

"About a year back I bought a property there in Chaffey and commuting up and down I went through a few things that not only me, but everyone in Chaffey would be facing," he said.

"One of them was black spots. Once I enter my property at Markaranka (north of Waikerie) I have no network whatsoever. "That's a very important issue to me and one that I would probably

concentrate on if elected." While reluctant to directly criticise his old party, which faces an uphill battle to retain power this Saturday, Mr Francis said his candidacy is motivated by "trying to do the right thing". "I feel like I'm standing for a good cause," he said.

Mr Francis, 46, and his wife have a 17-year-old daughter. He said he hopes to be in Loxton for a meeting tomorrow.



Mathew Francis

Liberal sports voucher payoff promise

RIVERLAND families involved in grassroots and junior sports could benefit from a recent Liberal election commitment, according to Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone.

A re-elected Liberal government would see the SA Sports Voucher Program double from \$100 to \$200 for all eligible children in reception to year 9.

"A Marshall Liberal Government has, and will continue to, invest in the different areas of the sports industry including the grassroots level, sporting infrastructure and the elite level," Mr Whetstone said.

"Junior sports and grassroots sports are so important to the fabric of our community, and we must give children the opportunity to participate and be part of a club environment.

"Many families in the Riverland and Mallee will welcome this announcement, as doubling the sports voucher value will assist

families who are struggling to pay for the day-to-day costs of living.

"We have a tight-knit community and it's fantastic to see increased participation to continue to support our next generation of Riverland sports stars.'

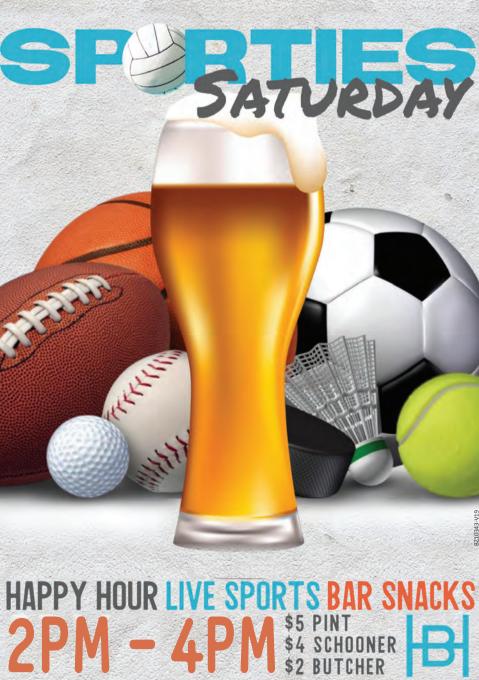
The increase would save South Australian families \$20 million per year, and the promise follows the announcement in February that year 8 and 9 students are now eligible to use the vouchers.

"A re-elected Liberal government will build a stronger future for South Australian families by lowering their everyday costs," said Premier Steven Marshall.

"We know many families have been doing it particularly tough, and this commitment will provide them additional financial support as we emerge from Covid."

- ELYSE ARMANINI









Our Lady of the River Berri's new Foundation students. Back row: Mary (left), Leo, Auriea, Angus, Theodora, Nibaan, Mackenzie, Kaylee, and Angus. Front row: Hudson (left), Nathan, Oliver, and Harper. PHOTOS: supplied







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Kevin Applebee is one of the exhibitors invovled in the current exhibition at Waikerie's Rain Moth Gallery, featuring works by the Waikerie Photographic Club. PHOTOS: supplied

HAVE SOME SOCIAL PICTURES TO SHARE?

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



Local yoga teacher Gill Collins is among local identities who had her portrait snapped for the current exhibition at the Rain Moth Gallery.

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

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

WEEKLY

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

Every Thursday & Friday 9:30am to 3:30pm, and Saturday 9:30am to 11:30am, the Barmera Theatre Art & Craft Gallery on Barwell Ave is open for sales. Inquiries to Ruth 0428 899 506. WEEKLY

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

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

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

Tennis doubles. Every Saturday afternoon at the Berri Tennis Club at

1.30pm there is social tennis. All welcome.

MONTHLY

The Riverland Philatelic Society -Stamp Club - meets on the fourth Monday of every month at 10am at the Berri Library. All welcome. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4 – SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Murray Moments by the Waikerie Photography Club. The exhibition of unique Riverland landscapes and portraits of local characters at the Rain Moth Gallery is part of the Adelaide Fringe/River Fringe festival. SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Berri Church of Christ outdoor March market and car boot sale. 1025 Old Sturt Highway, 8.30am to 12 noon. Contact Trish for bookings on 0409 900 380.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

The next gathering of the Waikerie & Districts Cancer Support Group will be held at The Carpenters Daughter, 1 Francis Street, Waikerie. **SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Renmark Lions Club 'Fundraising Bazaar' 8am to 12noon at Renmark No. 2 Oval - W E Wood Hall. Lots of bargains. EFTPOS, barbecue, hot donuts. Contact Colin 0419 801 996.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1 - SATURDAY, APRIL 2 SPELD SA free parent workshops at Barmera Primary School. Topics include: Dyslexia, numeracy, executive functioning skills, building resilience & self-esteem, and general literacy.



New Waikerie & District Ladies Probus Club member **Barbara Morete** with treasurer Pauline Kalms and president Maxine Morley. PHOTOS supplied



Waikerie Ladies Probus newsletter:

DUE to the surge of Omicron, this year's Waikerie and District Ladies Probus Club's activities resumed in February instead of January.

New member Barbara Morete was inducted into the club and Deb Muller, regional co-ordinator Riverland and Mid Murray Red Cross, was the guest speaker.

Many Riverland people are still unaware of the medical bus service, taking people to their appointments in Adelaide for an affordable fee. The scheme is operated by volunteers, who leave Berri between 6am and 7am to collect passengers along the way. Bookings have to be made beforehand so timing can be worked out (phone 1800 334 882, Monday to Friday between 9am and 3pm). The appointments must start from 10.30am onwards and be finished by 1.30pm. If anyone has been held up and has to be left behind, Deb's office has until 3pm to arrange overnight accommodation or passage on the Stateliner bus for them. After that, Adelaide takes over.

Flinders and Greenhill lodges are recommended for stays and most hospitals have gold coin donation buses to the accommodation sites. The clients are then collected the next day. Over 65-year-olds need a referral from My Aged Care, to be organised in advance. Deb's office can provide advice on that.

Clients can claim costs back from the Patient Assisted Transport Scheme if their appointment is more than 100km from home.

There is also support for local medical and shopping trips, also with volunteers, either in cars or the wheelchair accessible bus that was donated by an Adelaide taxi company. Once again, this has to be arranged in advance and a modest fee is charged.

Both the state and federal governments are involved in funding aspects of the programs.



Waikerie & District Ladies Probus Club and Waikerie Red Cross committee member Joy Paschke with regional co-ordinator Riverland and Mid Murray Red Cross, Deb Muller.

The group also provide assistance to young adults with resume writing, preparing for interviews and learning to drive.

Share the Dignity campaign is another priority where feminine hygiene and food products are provided to girls and women in need. Kimberley Clark and Kellogg's are supporters of this work.

Deb feels privileged to work for Red Cross, which makes a difference in people's lives here and around the world, with emergency aid, finding missing people, organising blood donations and supporting migrants. Her talk was timely as Red Cross people are out near supermarkets collecting donations in March, as Covid-19 has prevented doorknock appeals.

The club's next meeting is its AGM at the Waikerie Bowling Club on Tuesday, March 22, at 10am. Sufficient nominations have already been received for committee positions.

A speaker from the Waikerie Hospital Guild has been invited, as this is its centenary. Morning tea will be provided and guests are welcome. For more details, please call president Maxine (0402 008 752) or secretary Chris (0428 412 495).

Successful women's breakfast in Loxton **STEPHANIE THOMPSON**

MORE than 40 people attended a special women's breakfast earlier this month.

The Rotary Club of Loxton hosted the Women in Leadership breakfast as part of International Women's Day celebrations. Loxton Rotary secre-

received.

tary Jenny Mills said guest speaker Pippa Pech was well

"It was a very inspiring presentation," Mrs Mill said.

Over \$200 was raised from the raffle for Rural Aid, which the Rotary Club of Loxton will match dollarfor-dollar. Mrs Mills thanked local

sponsors for supporting the event.

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 NEWS 29 Diabetic eye disease session in Berri

IN collaboration with the Macular Disease Foundation Australia, Sight For All is visiting Berri on Friday to present a free community information session on diabetic eye disease.

Sight For All has been targeting areas in SA where the diabetes rates are higher than the national average.

"We recently delivered the session to Port Lincoln, Port Augusta, Peterborough and Port Pirie and received highly positive feedback," a spokesperson said.

"The session is open to absolutely everyone, but



will directly benefit people who have diabetes or people who know someone with diabetes."

The session will cover: 1. What is diabetic eye

disease? 2. Who is at risk?

3. What can be done to reduce the risk? and

4. The support team that is available both locally and nation-wide.

"There is no cost to attend, attendees will have the opportunity to take home free fact sheets and light refreshments will be provided," the spokesperson said.

The local session is at the Berri Town Hall on Friday, March 18, from 10am to 11am.

RSVP to Jo on 0428 049 888 or education@sightforall.org.





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Teresa ter Bogt (left), guest speaker Henry Tsui, Ruth Christie and Claire James at the February meeting of the Paringa branch of Women in Agriculture and Business. PHOTO: supplied

Henry presents on glaucoma to WAB

HEATHER EVERINGHAM

OPTOMETRIST Henry Tsui, guest speaker at the February meeting of the Paringa branch of WAB (Women in Agriculture and Business), has served the Renmark community for 16 years after moving from Auckland to Adelaide with the intention of staying 18 months.

Henry was born in Hong Kong and his family moved to New Zealand when he was eight years old. He had studied in Auckland to be an optometrist and opened a business there before moving to Adelaide, and later commencing a business in the Renmark Square until re-locating to Ral Ral Avenue.

Today Henry is married to Renmark pharmacist Julie and the couple have a threeyear-old daughter.

Henry's topic was glaucoma, the health project of WAB branches statewide for 2022.

Glaucoma is an insidious disease which has no symptoms, but when left undetected and untreated leads to blindness.

There is no cure. The condition is brought on by nerve damage caused by a build-up of pressure which results in blocked vision.

The condition usually occurs after the age of 60 with high blood pressure levels, diabetes and family history as contributing factors. Statistically the incidence of glaucoma is higher in African and Asian cultures and those who are very long sighted or short sighted. Peripheral vision is affected first and this impacts on driving ability and being able to navigate around objects.

Blindness is the worst case scenario but non-compliance of treatment steps can compromise the condition. Less than 5 per cent of the population will become legally blind but education awareness of this condition is vital.

Regular checks will lead to early detection and treatment. World Glaucoma Week was March 6-12, 2022 and had the aim of raising awareness and emphasising the importance of early detection.

Paringa WAB branch has been invited to attend the 90th birthday celebrations of Yurgo branch, to be held in the Karoonda Institute on Monday, March 21.

At 12 noon a two-course meal will be served, followed by a presentation by longterm Yurgo member, 90-year-old Beryl Clothier.

The local branch's next meeting is on Tuesday, March 22, at 7.30pm in the home of Ruth Christie in Renmark where local mayor Neil Martinson will speak about his former days in the employ of SA Railways.

Lameroo Country Music Festival next month

By ROBYN

MCINTOSH

YOU will need to book in to attend the Lameroo Country Music Festival, which runs for three days from April 29 in the Lameroo Memorial Hall (main hall and the supper room).

Guests on this festival include **Wayne Horsburgh**, **Graeme Hugo**, **Craig Giles**, **Ian Bidge Boyd**, **The Austins** and **Heartland**.

Phone **Kath** on 0409 690 688 for caravan and camping inquiries, and **Roz** at Big River Entertainment (0408 597 307) for all other inquiries.

Award winners for the 2022 **Stan Coster** Memorial Bush Ballad Awards were announced on YouTube on February 27.

Male Vocal was won by **Terry Bennetts** for *Not Without You Old Mate*, Female Vocal winner was **Sharon Heaslip** for *It's Always the Son That Gets the Farm*, the New Talent went to **Lachie Cossor** for *Southern Cross*.

Instrumental was won by **Anthony Baxter** for *Wattle In Springtime*, Duo or Group went to the **Coad Sisters** for *Land of Acacia*, Album went to **Ken 'Chainsaw' Lindsay** for *My Favourite Place*, winner of Songwriter was **Terry Bennetts**/ **Keith Lethbridge** for *Not Without You Old Mate*, and the Comedy award went to **Tracy Coster** for *Beer I Bought for Dave*.

Queensland singer/songwriter/multi-award winner, **Sharon Heaslip**, who won Female Vocal with the **Allan Caswell/Lindsay Waddington** penned song *It's Always The Son That Gets The Farm* in the bush ballad awards as mentioned above, has been diagnosed with MS.

As Sharon says, she will now be unable to sing or record any more. It's such a shame for someone who has been such a festival favorite, and one with such a moving voice, described as "a beautiful songbird, singing its heart out".

If you would like to purchase her CDs go to her webpage (sharonheaslip.com). They include *A Thousand Different Pictures*, *A Year* of *Firsts* and *By Request*, all recorded at Kross Kut Records at Robina, Qld.

Check out her earlier CDs at her site and, if you can, order any of her music through that site by clicking on the CDs.

We all know people on the east coast where

the floods have caused a lot of devastation. With a lot of our country music artists living in the eastern part of our nation, it has been a worrying time for those of us who care about them.

News came to us last week that one of our industry ladies, 82-year-old **Marge Graham**, a country music promotor/radio presenter/singer, had perished in the floods at South Lismore. Marge received a Tamworth Peel Valley Lions Club award in 2019 and donated the \$500 she

Cafe on McCoy



Marge Graham at Tamworth with MP Kevin Anderson, who presented her with the certificate for her induction into the Australian Country Music Broadcasters Hall of Fame, in 2018. PHOTO: Robyn McIntosh

VIY KIND OF COUNTRY

received to the local Riding for the Disabled. She was honoured for her radio work when inducted into the Australian Country Music Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2018.

As I know better than to phone any of the artists I know in the flooded areas, due to not wasting their phone battery, I've been keeping an eye on Facebook for any news.

Another situation I have caught up with is that the Clarence Valley Country Muster site at Ulmarra, 12km out of Grafton, looks a real mess, with the whole area under water.

Water was only three steps away from coming into **Wendy Gordon**'s living area, with the lower level of the home completely submerged. Unfortunately the lower level is where the festival guests' accommodation is, and Wendy had everything ready for the October festival, with the grounds looking beautiful.

It was so heartbreaking to see the photos of the property. It is lucky people have such respect for this hard-working lady, with news that former ABC Saturday Night Country host **John Nutting** has been there lending a hand as the water recedes.

Mullumbimby singer **Clelia Adams** and hubby **Rowly**'s property is just inland from Brunswick Heads and their land was under water, including the downstairs part of their home that houses Clel's music room.

Luckily they were safe upstairs, but with their shed going under, the mowers, tools, etc. are all damaged or lost, as are so many of their possessions.

Although based on the Gold Coast, the Hussy Hicks duo Leesa Gentz and Jules Parker had their studio at Lismore (where they were at the time) go underwater even though they were 3.5 metres above ground level.

Lisa and Jules felt that they were high enough to be safe, going by past flooding history, but as the water rose they had to get onto their roof until rescue came.

There will be so many more musos having lost equipment and instruments along with their other possessions, as along the coast there has been so much devastation.

Country By The River is on March 26 and 27 at the boat ramp, Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge, and has some high-profile artists as well as other festival favorites.

As there was no phone contact I am not sure if there are still tickets available, but if you are interested go to m.moshtix.com.au.



Enjoy a coffee and try our toasties.

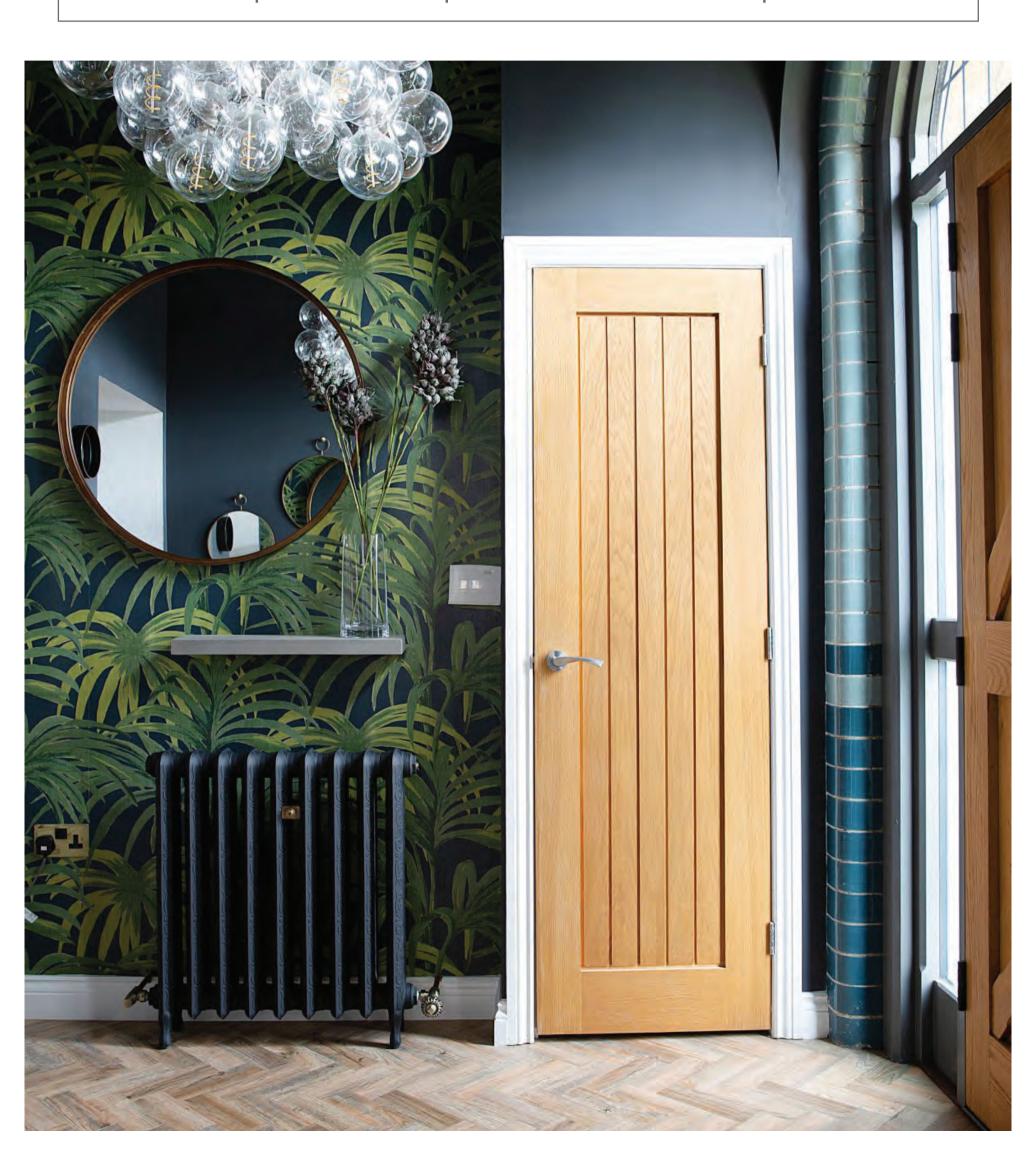
> Cafe on McCoy | 8471 7580 9 McCoy Street, Waikerie

www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 RIVERLAND EXTRA 31

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32 RIVERLAND EXTRA www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Partnership to make home sales easy

SETTLE Easy has announced a significant partnership with realestateview.com.au to integrate its market-leading conveyancing services into the realesateview.com.au buyer journey.

This will help millions of Australians with their conveyancing needs at the pointy end of their property purchase.

realestateview.com.au reaches 1.2m property seekers each month to help them find their dream property and provides them with tools to assist them throughout their property journey.

From researching their new home, to making an offer through their easy to use digital tool, and now guiding new purchasers through the conveyancing process via their partnership with Settle Easy.

"There is no doubt finding the right property to suit your unique needs can take time," realestateview.com.au CEO Toby Balazs said.

"When you find the right place, we know that the final stage of this journey – the property transfer itself – can be quite complex and time consuming.

"We're all about making the search for the right property as easy as possible which is why partnering with Settle Easy makes perfect sense.

"For us, partnering with a forward thinking and wellregarded organisation such as Settle Easy is a great benefit to our audience and real estate



agent partners. We want to help purchasers finalise the property transfer so seamlessly, they'll want to do it all over again.

"For our agent partners, we want to continue to help support their vendors and buyers however we can, ensuring the final step of the process is as smooth as possible."

Settle Easy's unique online platform works with purchasers and sellers to assist them with the legal components of buying or selling a property. Their platform is supported by some of Australia's most sought-after property law professionals who are experts in their field and can help with legal advice in regards to you and your property.

"Never underestimate the work involved in buying or selling property," Settle Easy CEO Sam Almaliki said.

"You need to do your research, understand the local



market, work out how to finance the deal and then finalise everything according to property law in your state or territory. "This partnership will make things a whole lot easier for anyone buying or selling property."

Property seekers and real estate agents in relevant areas will also be supported through specific content, free contract reviews, service discounts and referral incentives to celebrate this partnership.

The integration of Settle Easy's services onto the realestateview.com.au website begins next month.



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T	V GUIDE	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16	TO TUESDAY, MARCH 22	neer.com.au Wednesd	ay, March 16, 2022 Ki v	
	ABC	ABC2	7		WIN	SBS
WEDNESDAY		6:05 Octonauts	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 Hometown Killer; 2:00 Autopsy USA; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 6:30 AFL 9:15 The Front Bar 10:45 The Latest: Seven News 10:45 Autopsy USA 11:45 Motorway Patrol 12:15 Splitting Up Together 2:00 Home Shopping 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Married At First Sight; 1:30 My Way; 2:00 Point- less; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Million- aire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News 6:00 Nine News 7:00 A Current Affair 7:30 Married At First Sight 9:00 Under Investigation 10:00 Nine News Late 10:30 Forensics 11:40 Grand Hotel 12:30 Tipping Point 1:20 Talking Honey -Relationship Specials 1:30 Tv Shop -Home Shopping 2:30 Global Shop 3:00 Tv Shop -Home Shopping 4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory	6:00 The Talk; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful Encore; 8:00 Studio 10; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 Ambu- lance Australia Encore; 2:00 Entertain- ment Tonight; 2:30 Everyday Gourmet With Justine Schofield; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohey; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 Ambulance Australia 8:30 Bull 10:30 The Is Us 11:30 The Is Us 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 1:30 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings	5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 09:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:30 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 Dateline; 2:30 Insight; 3:30 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 3:35 Go- ing Places With Ernie Dingo; 4:10 The Royal House Of Windsor; 5:05 Jeop- ardyl; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 Michael Mosley's Health Intervention 8:30 Life On The Outside
THURSDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Australian Story; 10:30 Nigella At My Table; 11:09 Cata- lyst; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:00 Hard Quiz; 1:30 Shaun Micallef's MAD AS HELL; 2:00 Press; 3:00 ABC News Atternoons; 4:00 Escape From The City; 5:00 Kurt Fearnley's One Plus One; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7.30 8:00 Foreign Correspondent 8:30 Q+A 9:35 Rosie Batty's One Plus One 10:05 Scottish Vets Down Under 10:35 ABC Late News 10:50 The Business 11:10 Freddie Mercury 12:40 Call The Midwife	Gol; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 Circle Square 6:05 Octonauts 6:20 Bluey 6:25 Shaun The Sheep 6:40 Andy's Safari Adventures	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 Frequency; 2:30 Dog Patrol; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 6:55 AFL 10:00 AFL Post Game 10:30 The Latest: Seven News 11:00 TBA 12:10 Kiwi 2:00 Home Shopping 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Married At First Sight; 1:30 Driving Test; 2:00 Pointless; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Mil- lionaire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News 6:00 Nine News 7:00 A Current Affair 7:30 Rbt 8:30 Australia Behind Bars 9:30 A+E After Dark 10:30 Nine News Late 11:00 New Amsterdam 11:45 The Horn 12:35 Tipping Point 1:30 Tv Shop -Home Shopping 2:30 Global Shop 3:00 Tv Shop -Home Shopping 4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory 4:30 A Current Affair	6:00 The Talk; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful Encore; 8:00 Studio 10; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 To Be Ad- vised; 2:00 Entertainment Tonight; 2:30 Everyday Gournet With Justine Scho- field; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Freshly Picked With Simon Toohey; 4:00 Farm To Fork; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 First Dates Australia 8:30 Gogglebox Australia 9:30 Law & Order 10:30 Blue Bloods 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 1:30 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings	5:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 09:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:00 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News; 72:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS News- hour; 2:00 Cook Up With Adam Liaw Bitesize; 2:10 Ireland In Music; 3:10 Sing St Patrick; 4:10 The Royal House Of Windsor; 5:05 Jeopardy!; 5:30 Let- ters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 The Royals 9:30 Britain's Most Expensive Houses
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TUESDAY	6:00 News Breakfast; 9:00 ABC News Mornings; 10:00 Foreign Correspond- ent; 10:30 Rosie Batty's One Plus One; 11:10 Grand Designs New Zealand; 12:00 ABC News At Noon; 1:10 Unfor- gotten; 2:00 Press; 3:00 ABC News Af- ternoons; 4:00 Escape From The City; 5:00 Kurt Fearnley's One Plus One; 5:30 Hard Quiz 6:00 The Drum 7:00 ABC News 7:30 7.30 8:00 Anh's Brush With Fame 8:30 A Dog's World With Tony Armstrong 9:30 The Poles Revealed 10:35 ABC Late News 11:05 Four Corners 11:50 Media Watch	5:05 Little Princess; 5:15 Hoot Hoot Gol; 5:20 Children's Programs; 5:50 Peppa Pig; 5:55 School Of Roars 6:05 Octonauts 6:20 Bluey 6:25 Shaun The Sheep 6:40 Andy's Safari Adventures 7:00 Dino Dana 7:10 Andy And The Band 7:30 Spicks And Specks 8:00 Would I Lie To You? 8:30 Adam Hills 9:15 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 9:35 Gavin And Stacey 10:05 Schitt's Creek 10:30 The Office 11:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? 12:15 Plebs 12:35 Community	6:00 Sunrise; 9:00 The Morning Show; 11:30 Seven Morning News; 12:00 Dark Desire; 2:00 The Real Manhunter; 3:00 The Chase; 4:00 Seven News At 4; 5:00 The Chase Australia 6:00 Seven News 7:00 Home And Away 7:30 SAS Australia 8:40 Police Strike Force 9:40 The Rookie 10:40 The Latest: Seven News 11:10 The Dead Pool 1:10 Travel Oz 2:00 TBA 4:00 NBC Today 5:00 Seven Early News 5:30 Sunrise	6:00 Today; 9:00 Today Extra; 11:30 Nine's Morning News; 12:00 Married At First Sight; 1:30 Getaway; 2:00 Point- less; 3:00 Tipping Point; 4:00 Million- aire Hot Seat; 5:00 Nine's Afternoon News 6:00 Nine News 7:00 A Current Affair 7:30 Married At First Sight 9:00 The Hundred With Andy Lee 10:30 True Story With Hamish & Andy 11:00 Mr Mayor 11:25 Killed By My Stalker 12:10 Tipping Point 1:30 Tv Shop - Home Shopping 4:00 Believer's Voice Of Victory 4:30 A Current Affair	6:00 The Talk; 7:00 Judge Judy; 7:30 The Bold & The Beautiful Encore; 8:00 Studio 10; 12:00 Dr Phil; 1:00 The Dog House Australia Encore; 2:00 Enter- tainment Tonight; 2:30 Everyday Gour- met With Justine Schofield; 3:00 Judge Judy; 3:30 Left Off The Map; 4:00 Good Chef Bad Chef; 4:30 The Bold & The Beautiful; 5:00 10 News First 6:30 The Project 7:30 The Dog House Australia 8:30 NCIS 11:30 The Project Encore 12:30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert 1:30 Home Shopping 4:30 CBS Mornings	6:00 France 24 Feature; 5:15 NHK World English News; 5:30 Deutsche Welle English News; 6:00 France 24 English News First Edition; 6:30 Al Jazeera News; 7:30 Italian News; 8:10 Filipino News; 8:40 French News; 09:30 Greek News; 10:30 German News; 11:30 Spanish News; 11:30 Turkish News; 12:00 Arabic News F24; 12:30 ABC America; 1:00 PBS Newshour; 2:00 Rivers Of Australia; 3:35 Destina- tion Flavour China Bitesize; 3:40 The Cook Up With Adam Liaw; 4:10 The Royal House Of Windsor; 5:05 Jeop- ardy!; 5:30 Letters And Numbers 6:00 Mastermind 6:30 SBS World News 7:30 Great British Railway Journeys 8:30 Insight 9:30 Dateline



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March 2022 Horoscopes: week 3

ARIES (March 21st - April 20th)

An unfavourable aspect to Neptune later in the week will make it challenging to make the right decision. Take things one step at a time. **Romance**. You may be a little unrealistic at the moment. This won't be the best time for making decisions about your love-life.

TAURUS (April 21st - May 21st)

You may be concerned about an incident which you know wasn't your fault. Listen to what your colleagues say, but don't mistrust your own memory. **Romance**. You will be upset if you feel that someone is wasting your time. A promise which seems unlikely to be fulfilled probably won't be.

GEMINI (May 22nd - June 21st)

A favourable aspect to Saturn will help to anchor your thoughts in practical reality this week. An idea which seems sensible in theory might be too much hassle in practice. You need to be realistic. **Romance**. Be careful that a minor frustration with your partner doesn't spoil your week. A discussion later in the week will help to ease tensions.

CANCER (June 22nd - July 23rd)

This will be an excellent time for a new venture. If you are prepared to stick your neck out you will not be disappointed. **Romance**. Don't judge a new acquaintance by their appearance. This person is much more interesting than they first seem. It will be a while before you know them well enough to ask them out, however.

LEO (July 24th - August 23rd)

Week's Solution

You might want to relax a little this week. You have been working extremely hard recently, but are in danger of over-loading yourself. **Romance**. You will be pleasantly surprised by the honest approach taken by a friend. You would do well to follow this person's lead.

VIRGO (August 24th - September 23rd)

A positive aspect to Jupiter will help a risky venture to be successful, despite what your friends predict. Don't listen to people who have less courage than you! **Romance**. A dispute between close friends will help to bring you into contact with a new admirer. Another meeting later in the week will give you a second chance to see them.

LIBRA (September 24th - October 23rd)

Don't feel responsible for other people's chores. Do your own work properly, but don't do other people's work as well. **Romance**. Your partner may find it hard at times to cope with all your excess energy! A gettogether later in the week will give you both a chance to relax together.

SCORPIO (October 24th - November 22nd)

A relative may have views which seem out-of-date. Don't ignore everything that this person says, however. **Romance**. A romantic dinner with your partner later in the week will bring you closer together. You may be quite tense at the moment, and need to spend time relaxing.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23rd - December 21st)

A meeting with a person that you have not seen for some time will be very rewarding. This person has changed a lot recently, but largely for the better. **Romance**. A dream about a close friend will surprise you. Your relationship with this person will gradually change, but you will need to be patient.

CAPRICORN (December 22nd - January 20th)

An acquaintance whom you have known for some time may try to take advantage of your good nature. Don't allow yourself to be led astray. **Romance**. You may need to refuse a romantic offer from a person whom you know through work. The person concerned is serious, but you might prefer to just be friends.

AQUARIUS (January 21st - February 19th)

Try to decline an offer without hurting the other person's feelings. You have a lot to do at the moment and can't take on work which other people should be doing themselves. **Romance**. Your partner will be surprised at how much emotional energy you have. A quiet get-together later in the week will be worth looking forward to.

PISCES (February 20th - March 20th)

A problem which has been worrying you for some time will not go away. You will not be able to put it out of your mind until you have found a solution. **Romance**. You would be surprised if you knew how much your partner respects your views.

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

Make your vote count

SOME of you have already decided who you will vote for in this Saturday's State Election, others remain undecided.

During a recent discussion, a grain grower questioned what impact their vote could have on the result of an election. After all, they said, farmers aren't a big section of the population.

One thing I learned during my time working in state politics is that

every vote counts. Agriculture-driven growth is crucial to South Australia's economy. Developing the grains industry is one of the most powerful tools we have to accelerate growth.

The decisions that governments (and parliaments) make can change the way farmers do business to boost productivity and in turn, profitability. Don't be part of the problem, be

part of the solution.

As a farmer heading to a polling booth on election day or choosing to vote through the post, do your due diligence on each candidate and better understand why they are running in your region to your next local member of parliament, or go one better and reach out to them directly?

Make the candidates earn your vote. Ask them questions about policies important to you.

• Will you commit to a better standard of rural and regional roads? □ Will you make investments in

mobile connectivity to support adoption of technology on-farm? □ Will you support farmers to

adapt to climate variability? And the list goes on.

Our Grain Producers SA 2022 State Election Forum series - which included a session in Loxton - put candidates in the hot seat.

Grain growers and communities deserve to have an opportunity to hear from candidates about matters that are important to them prior to an election.

Voting gives you the ability to help put people into positions of power who align with your vision for the future.

At a state level, an election only happens every four years. Agriculture needs the right policy settings to keep growing.

Each vote is important so make sure your vote counts this election. As a former world leader once

said, "There's no such thing as a vote that doesn't matter". **BRAD PERRY**

CEO Grain Producers SA

Careful who you pick

ANOTHER state election is upon us, meaning decisions, promises, spending and lies.

Business confidence is down and consumer confidence right behind it.

Rural health has been raising issues for many years and been neglected.

Education standards are on a rapid decline even against their own standards. They are even worse when compared to national and international data, but no one is talking about it.

Water security is non-existent. Water storage is non-existent. Do we just go in and tick the usual boxes or just put a big cross through

the lot to show our disgust as to how the regional/rural areas have been increasingly neglected over a numerous years?

PHONE

TEXT

(08) 8586 8000

0448 629 186

Yes, the big cross has been mentioned to me by quite a few voters. No matter who we vote for, we will get more of the same: neglect.

This election is as important as any and it might pay to consider your voting wisely especially in the upper house (Legislative Council).

In Chaffey, who is best going to listen to us and put our needs and ideas above party policy, rather than continuing the mentality that we have endured for too long: that Chaffey is a safe Liberal seat so parties don't need to exert themselves there?

Both major parties are promising millions of dollars which they do not have

What happened to resolving and improving issues by looking at how the organisation, department or portfolio is being managed?

Just throwing money at a problem does not necessarily solve the problem. At times it can create a bigger problem.

Yes, the Liberals will claim to have spent large sums in the area, but it is nothing more than window dressing.

Nothing for long-term job creation. No incentive to attract skilled tradespeople that are required. No initiative in creating new

industries or manufacturing. A lack of support for the family

and businesses on the land. No policy in securing water

for South Australia and definitely neglecting the supposedly high-security irrigators with long-term licences and allocation.

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EMAIL

MAIL

Meanwhile Labor has no policy for Chaffey and can barely find a candidate. An environmental unionist from the city has put their hand up at the last minute.

Not much hope for the family farmer and therefore our communities.

The Greens need to talk more to long-term residents living near their sacred environmental areas.

It is essential that the man on the land and river maintain a healthy environment as that is the lifeblood to their business. They need to be practical, show common-sense, maintain a balance and work together with what mother nature may throw at us

For the Greens it is a case of throw money at the environment, but don't worry about where your next meal may come from or whether our communities survival.

One Nation is a newbie to the state. In the eastern states, they seem to throw around some flea-brain commentary, maybe just to get attention.

Here they appear to be more grounded, including policy ideas for education and health, and addressing the deteriorating standards in both. One Nation is strong on Australian manufacturing and industry and drought-proofing the eastern part of Australia, including SA, by building water diversions from these flooding eastern state rivers and by building dams

In SA, One nation is being led by a knowledgeable and intelligent lady, upper house candidate Jennifer Game, who is very savvy with the political system and the games that go on. She is experienced in large organi-

editor@murraypioneer.com.au

PO Box 832 Renmark SA 5341

sations, legal, financial, and political. Chaffey candidate Sab Feleppa, originally from Waikerie, may be worth considering.

I have discussed with One Nation if it would consider investigating in an idea of turning the former Glossop High School site into a technical education facility specialising in primary production, water management and associated vocations that feed off these industries, such as marketing, finance and food.

Onto the National Party, and weren't they the ones that sided with Labor and started the decimation of our water security and up to 33 per cent of South Australia?

Aren't they the figurehead party for flood plain harvesters in the upper Darling? Are they the party for the landholder?

We need someone who will work hard to maintain a presence as a representative for a neglected regional area. The recognised parties don't, in my view.

One MLC we need re-elected is Nicola Centofanti. Nicola has been like a dog at a bone in representing Chaffey. We need her back.

I will be putting the effort in and numbering below the line. I believe it is slim pickings for our

next Member for Chaffey. We can either keep getting what we have been or take a chance on a

new direction. It's a devil you know or devil you don't scenario. IAN PENNO Winkie

4 NIGHT

HOLIDAY **VALUED AT \$2,600**

HOUSEBOAT

ON 'MOVING WATERS'

Murray Pioneer SAND BEDZZ 2022 AFL FOOT

Round 1

Address

Phone

Points margin in highlighted game:

Entries close Wednesday, March 16 at 4pm

Melbourne	Western Bulldogs	
Carlton	Richmond	
St Kilda	Collingwood	
Geelong Cats	Essendon	
GWS Giants	Sydney Swans	
Brisbane Lions	Port Adelaide	
Hawthorn	North Melbourne	
Adelaide Crows	Fremantle	
West Coast Eagles	Gold Coast SUNS	
Name	 	



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WELCOME to mid-March and to the River Fringe in our region. The entertainment is all go and we thank Loxton Waikerie council for making this initiative happen. Friday evening it was the silent disco and the young ones had a great night of fun, colour and music. And they were back again on Saturday morning.

Riverland towns welcomed hundreds of water skiers and their support teams as they participated in the Ski for Life annual. The skiers left from Murray Bridge on Friday and headed to Renmark at the weekend. Saturday morning they stopped at Waikerie for a while. Thanks to all who were there to support them.

The Waikerie Rotary Club Markets on Sunday were amazing. The event gave you the feeling we were in a city area, with music, bunting, flags and colour, plus the many stall holders. Food and wine were plentiful and we are appreciative of the selection and the high standard of stalls to peruse at the event.

The entertainment really began full-on at 4pm. Most families had their rugs on the lawns with their little ones, while more senior community members had chairs. It was a great atmosphere to watch performances of the talented balloonists and creative artists, from jugglers, to dancers, musicians, and aerial artists. Children were captivated by the talents and expertise of the artists, especially when the yoyo champion began. It was like those young ones had no idea what a yoyo was. There could be a surge in sales of yoyos in toy shops.

Friday and Saturday evening the Waikerie Football Club was the venue for the talented comedy artists.

Next weekend, March 18-20, the Kingston-On-Murray Institute will host three performances of the Riverland Cabaret. This promises to be a most entertaining event, featuring local artists. An outdoor movie night is planned for Loxton on March 19.

At the Ramco Hall on March 20 the Waikerie Districts Garden Club will welcome all to its popular plant sales and mini market. This is always well attended and a good chance to catch up with friends.

This Thursday, March 17, it's "the wearing of the green", St Patrick's Day. I recall a dear friend



gwenwebber21@gmail.com

telling me years ago that is the day to plant your sweet peas in the garden, so yes, that is in the diary for me to do tomorrow.

The Waikerie Cancer Care Support Group welcome residents to its "cuppa and chat" get together on Friday, March 25, at The Carpenter's Daughter coffee shop in Francis Street, Waikerie at 10am. The February get together was well attended, and it was pleasing to welcome some new friends to the group. There are plans for a local brochure to be printed, so if you have some ideas or items of interest that could be included please bring them to the next get together or get in touch with Virginia Hillier.

The community extends sincere sympathy to Evan and Val Kleemann, upon the recent passing of their son Timothy (Tim). Tim was a much admired and loved brother of Darren and Trenna, their extended families and loved ones. Our thoughts are with Tim's wife Tracy, and their children Kathryn, Thomas and Angus. Tim was a dedicated volunteer of Monarto Zoo.

We acknowledge the recent passing of Esme Fartch. Warrawee residents and her many friends extend sincere sympathy to her family Rosie, Chris, Stephen, Tony and Trevor. Esme will be sadly missed by many.

This Sunday, March 20, members of the Waikerie RSL welcome you to enjoy an afternoon of jazz music at their clubrooms in Thompson Street at 2pm. Invite a friend to share the event with you. It is finger food for afternoon tea. Cost is \$15pp. Bookings are essential (call Ria 0419 031 827 or email waikeriersl@bigpond.com).

Thought for the week: Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own action.

- Dalai Lama





ON LIN'S LAWN: Lin Hodgens, 98, was thrilled when filming of feature film, *Run Rabbit Run*, turned up on her front lawn and driveway, at Warrawee retirement village, in Waikerie. Lin's daughter, Gayle, believes her mum is the last remaining World War II veteran in Waikerie. "So, it was something a bit different for her, rather than surfing the net on her computer and reading and watching the TV." PHOTOS: supplied



VILLAGE ART: At the launch of the Artful Weekend at the Village in Loxton last weekend were Jenny Field, Juliette Griffiths and Chris Kimber, all of Loxton. PHOTO: Nola Schulz

arontine Z ???

- 1. Which US state is named on the label of a Jack Daniels bottle?
- 2. What body part is the hallux?
- 3. When is the state election for South Australia being held?
- 4. Which country is known as the Pearl of Africa?
- 5. Raspberry and blackberry are combined to make which hybrid fruit?
- 6. In computing terms, what does AGP stand for?
- 7. Which 'birthstone' is associated with the month of September?

- 8. In which country would you find Shinjuku railway station?
- 9. What does an anemometer measure?
- 10. Is the human large intestine or small intestine longer?
- 11. How old was Shane Warne when he died?
- 12. Yellowstone National Park is primarily in which US state?
- 13. Kyle Reese is a fictional character from which film franchise?
- 14. Where is the 2022 ICC Women's Cricket ODI World Cup being played?

- 15. John F. Kennedy International Airport services which city?
- 16. Which is the second largest Australian State in terms of area after Western Australia?
- 17. Which US leader defeated the British General, Lord Cornwallis at the Battle of Princeton during the American War of Independence?
- 18. Who is the President of Ukraine?
- 19. Which Dutch painter painted the 'Prodigal Son in the Brothel' self-portrait?
- 20. Which South American country is bordered by Colombia to the north and Peru to the east and south?

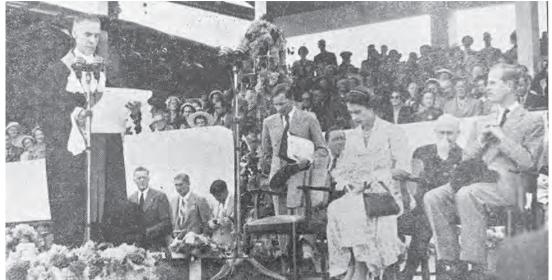
BONUS How old was Henry III when he became King of England **QUESTION:** in 1216? Answer in next week's Quiz.





LOOKING BACK AT 130

SPECIAL ROYAL VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II ON MARCH 25, 1945



MAYOR EXTENDS WELCOME - His Worship the Mayor (Mr. S. A. James M BE) presenting his address of welcome to Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

EEN IN AUSTRALIA THE Thursday, February 11, 1954

Unprecedented demonstrations of loyalty and enthusiasm, exceeding expectations in almost every respect, have marked the arrival of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Australia. Since, with her landing at Sydney on Tuesday last week she became the first ruling monarch to set foot on our shores - a momentous occasion in any country's history - the Queen's presence in our land has been the principle centre of interest throughout the whole nation.

Without a doubt, there is every justification for the tremendous reception being extended to Her Majesty on all sides. The crown is the central symbol of the British form of democracy, which has meant so much, not only to

Angove's Brandy for Royal Banquet

The managing director of Angove's Ltd, (Mr. T. W. C. Angove) of Renmark, has been advised that St. Anges Old Liqueur Brandy will be served at the Royal Banquet in Canberra on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mr. Angove said this week that this would be the only brandy served at the banquet.

This is a further distinction for a renowned product of the SA Upper Murray. St. Agnes brandy has won many prizes in open competition both in Australia and Great Britain.

Royal Visit Medals Berri, Loxton

It was decided at last Thursday night's meeting of the Berri District Council that the council would present Royal Visit medals to all primary school children in the district.

There are between 600 and 700 children attending the six schools in the area.

The council hopes to present the medals to the students before March 25, so that they may be worn on the occasion of the Queen's visit to Renmark

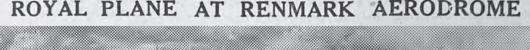
The Loxton District Council has also decided to present Royal Visit Medals to the school children in the district. There are twelve schools in the area, and it is expected that 1,000 medals will be required. They will be presented by the councilors for respective awards before the Royal visit to Renmark on March 25.

the Motherland and Commonwealth of Nations, but to the world at large. Not only has the Queen made an immediate and deep impression because of her earnest devotion to the responsibilities of this high office, but because of her unfailing dignity, grace and charm under all the circumstances of her exacting programme and her optimization of all that is best in beautiful young womanhood.

As they follow the Royal progress through the various states, the people of Renmark and the Riverland districts await with keen anticipation the opportunity of adding their own demonstration of loyalty and affection when they welcome Her Majesty into their midst on March 25.



HER MAJESTY GREETS HER AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE An informal picture of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh during their tour of Australia.







ROYAL CAR ARRIVES -The Queen waves as the car bearing the Royal Standard conveying the Queen and the Duke enters the Renmark Oval.

Thursday, April 11, 1954

Queen Welcomed By Record Crowd of 28,000 People

Renmark and the River districts gave a right royal welcome to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh when they paid their long awaited visit to the town last Thursday.

AT OVAL

Thing the route of the Royal Progress through the streets. From an early hour in the morning, people began flock through at this point by the ens. In the was a minor break- by 14-year-old Janice Sym-trough at this point by the ens. (a Legatee). There was a minor break-this point by the ens. The arrival of Her Ma-iesty at the oval was marked by the raising of the Royal Car turned into Ral Ral Avenue, brough at the Royal Car turned into Ral Ral Avenue, brough turned control by the police, 120 of whom were at he Remark, mostly from Adelaide, for special duty on the day. Attribute the Remark

mostly in cars. On the arrival of the Roy-al plane at the Renmark aerodrome from Adelaide the Queen and the Duke of Edinbursh were met by the State director of the Royal tour (Mr. M. A. F. Pearce), and the weather was mild and pleasantly overcist as the fen bleaming cars in the procession made their way towards the town through vineyards and or-chards along broad, tree-lined Renmark Avenue.

lined Renmark Avenue. Homes and bushuess hous-es were gaily decorated, and strings of pennanis and flags overhead marked the line of route as the Royal Progress commenced at 18th Street, where a large ban-ner bearing the words, "Renmark Welcomes You," and on the reverse "Farowell and Godspeed" marked the entrance to the town prop-er.

entrance to the town prop-er. Crowds lining the route were thickest at the main intersection of Renmark and Ral- Ral Avenues, along which the Royal car passed. Long lines of be-medalled ex-servicemen guarded the roadway, and the river boals "Coonawarra" and "Can-berra" at the nearby wharf joined in the enthusiastic welcome with blasts from their whistles. welcome with their whistles

A record crowd of about 28,000 people came from miles around for this greatest occasion in the region's history-some 15,000 including an assembly of 5,000 school children thronging the Renmark Oyal and another 13,000 lining the route of the Royal Progress through the streets.

The arrival of Her Ma-jesty at the oval was marked by the raising of the Royal Standard, and when positions were taken at the dais, the assemblage joined fervently in the singing of the National Anthem, led by the Ren-mark-Berri Citizens' Band. The Mayor presented an The Mayor presented an address of loyalty on behall of Renmark and the other River districts, and Her Ma-jesty replied. Trull text, page 10)

ARTISTIC DAIS

ARTISTIC PAIS The dais provided a per-fect setting for this cen-tral feature of the visit. B eau tifully proportioned with its 16 foot high catopy and red, while and blue drapings, it had the lower part of the four corner pillars most artist-cally draped with bunches of grapes and the base col-ourfully and tastefully deck-ed with fruits and flowers The Queen, looking, on thought, a little subdued after an air trip which is reported to have belied the mildness of the weather at ground level, wore an at-tractive white frock, sprig-ged with green, a green straw hat trimmed with red and white open-toed shoes. (Continued on page 10)

on the day. A **AT OVAL** A burst of cheering greet-ed the arrival of the Royal car at the oval, where the f entrance was lined by mem-bers of B Company, 10th I Infantry Battalion (the Ade-I aide Rifles) CMF, under Major W. A. Brocksopp and the Renmark Flight ATC, under Flying Officer E. H. Cope. The cheering was inten-i sined as the Queen and the I Duke of Edinburgh enter-ed the beautiful grassed arena-deservedly famed as none of the best in the State -and then made a com-plete circuit inside the crowded cycle track. Mainster of Lands, Repat-region as the Murray Val-ley, the Hon. C. S. Hincks (Minister of Lands, Repat-riation and Irrigation), rep-resenting the State Govern-ment, presented the Mayor of Renmark (Mfr. S. A. James, MBE), resplendent in his new robe of office, and Mrs. James to Her and Mrs. James to Her and Mrs. As the group moved towards the official dais, the Queen was pre-teented with an exquisite posy of Cecil Brunner roses (Continued on page 10)

(Other references pages 3, 11, 13)

THE ROYAL PROGRESS



TOP: This photo shows the Royal entourage proceeding along Renmark Avenue towards the main intersection of the town. The Queen and Duke are travelling in second of the ten cars in the procession. Crowds line the route right up to Eighteenth Street, and beyond. LEFT: The Queen's Dakota Stand by plane bearing the Royal Cipher at the Renmark Aerodrome



Riverland hockey's brightest youngsters have been selected for the South Australian state team ahead of next month's national championships. Pictured are Kyton Rainer (left), Natalia Hocking and Latia Loffler. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff

Riverland's state stars set to shine

THE Riverland is no stranger to producing talented hockey players and that trend looks set to continue, with six of the region's best selected to represent their state at the national championships this April.

Kyton Rainer and Riley Herbert will fly the Riverland flag in the men's under 18 competition, while Natalia Hocking will represent the women's under 18s, along with Aaliyah Loffler, who was selected as a trainon player.

Aaliyah's sister Latia was selected in the under 15 division, with Xanthe Hocking accompanying her as a train-on player.

Rayner and Herbert are both now based in Adelaide but managed to play enough games in the Riverland competition to qualify for their respective clubs last year. By contrast, Natalia Hocking and Aaliyah Loffler enjoyed full seasons in the Riverland, and successful ones at that, with the pair featuring heavily in Renmark's A grade championship win.

Xanthe was also part of that impressive Renmark side at just 14 years of age, showing that she has a bright future ahead of her. All six players have some experience at state level and will be keen to build on that during this year's championships.

The under 18s will head to Cairns to take on the nation's best, while the under 15s tournament will be held in Newcastle.

The Riverland hockey season begins just weeks after the national championships finishes, with play set to kick off on Friday, April 29.

Giles poised to tackle inaugural Paringa juniors role

PARINGA footballer and Aboriginal education worker Daniel Giles is locked in as the club's under 9s coach for the upcoming season and he is keen to get started.

Giles is a familiar face to many around the region, having helped kids at a number of the region's primary and high schools, and he hopes this will aid him as he takes on the new role.

"I check up on how the students are going, provide any support that they need and work to embed culture into the curriculum as well," he said.

"I've been around a lot of the kids for a while now and a lot of them know me so that's going to make my job a lot easier.

"The coaching role is going to use the same kind of skills as well, so it should be really good."

Paringa is entering an under 9 and an under 11 team in the RFL junior competition in 2022 and Giles is excited to give the kids a



Paringa Football Club welcomed parents and juniors to the club as it held its registration day late last month. PHOTO: Facebook

chance to play that they otherwise may not have had. "It's really important because a number of kids miss out due to sheer numbers as sometimes one club just has too many players,"

Giles said.

"To be able to have a club here that can take on extra kids, it's great and the kids are going to love it.

"Giving everyone a crack is the main goal. We want to make sure everyone has a shot to run around, kick the ball and learn some new skills, and improve all the handeye-coordination."

Paringa hosted a registration and family day last fortnight, with a number of families heading out for a kick and a catch.

The club is keen to get as many people involved as possible and Giles had a message for those who were weighing up whether or not to get involved.

"It (registration day) was good. We had a great turnout and the kids got the chance to run around and kick the ball and the parents seemed to like it as well," he said.

"Come out for a look and see what we're all about. It's a good chance to meet some new people and we'd love to have you out on the oval."

Jono joins SANFL legends

FORMER Barmera-Monash junior Jono Beech has received one of the SANFL's highest honours as he became a life member last week.

Beech, 31, debuted for West Adelaide back in 2008 after spending part his junior career in the Riverland.

Since then he has gone on to represent the Bloods almost 200 times, with the strongmarking utility set to bring up the double-ton this year as he again runs out in the red and black guernsey.

Beech enjoyed a brief hiatus from West Adelaide when he

was taken at pick number 31 by the Adelaide Crows in the 2016 rookie draft.

He went on to spend two years with Adelaide, playing three times for the AFL side in his time there.

West Adelaide secured his return upon his delisting from the Crows and in 2022, the club and Beech will be looking to improve upon a testing 2021 season.

Beech represented the state on four occasions throughout the 2010s and was named in the SANFL team of the year three times in that period.

Wanderers into the darts finale

THE teams for the Riverland darts grand final are now set, with Monash Wanderers to take on RC Ones tomorrow.

Wanderers earned their spot by defeating Double Jacks last week in the preliminary final.

Double Jacks missed a golden opportunity to go ahead early, being unable to peg out in the doubles matches, allowing Wanderers to kick off the fixture with a 2-0 lead.

The visitors did manage to snag the first singles game of the night, but from then on it was all Monash Wanderers, as the home side ran out 7-1 victors.

The highest peg of the night

came from Monash' Allen Hargreaves, with an impressive 97.

Wanderers and RC Ones will go head-to-head tomorrow night in the last match of the season, with the ultimate prize on the line.

RC Ones finished the regular season in first place and will go into the fixture confident, despite some scratchy form in the last few rounds.

RESULTS Preliminary Final

Monash Wanderers 7 (D. Martin 140, 139, 119, 100, W. Bonham 140, 121, 100 x 2, C. Martin 125, 120, 100 x 4, D. Crane 100 x 6) d Double Jacks 1 (A. Hargreaves 140, 121, 100 x 6, 97 peg out, L. Platten 125, 100 x 3, C. Wagner 123, 100).

Ward wins well

BOB Ward has emerged victorious from the Renmark Rifle Club's 50-metre shoot last week, taking out the handicap event.

Mark Cresp won the offrifle event, shooting well for an aggregate score of 200, with good weather welcoming the five competitors.

RESULTS

50-metre shoot: R. Ward 98.6, 99.5 (8) 200, M. Cresp 110.1, 100.7 (0) 200, N. Lloyd 100.9, 98.7 (0) 198, B. Lacey 95.2, 98.6 (0) 193, G. Bredin 95.3, 95.2 (0) 190.

Darnley Taylor Award goes to Berri junior

BERRI tennis player Maria Tzanavaras has won the prestigious Darnley Taylor Junior Sportsperson Award.

The award is named in honour of the late Darnley Taylor, who was a long-time supporter of Riverland junior sports people, in particular tennis.

- The award criteria is: 1. Achievements.
- 2. Sportsmanship on and off the court. 3. Local club support in coaching or assisting at club activities.

4. Participation in squads, association

matches, participation in tournaments. 5. Must be playing Riverland junior ten-

nis in the year selected.

Maria, 15, said she was a "proud recipient" of the award.

A Riverland Lawn Tennis Association spokesperson said the award was initiated to recognise the involvement and support given to junior tennis by Renmark man Darnley Taylor.

"A long-time member of the Renmark Tintra Club, Darnley was best known for his love of the game and the manner in which it was played," the spokesperson said.

When Darnley passed away in 2000 it was decided to establish an award to recognise those attributes that Darnley believed were important to the player and the game."



Winner of the 2021/22 Darnley **Taylor Junior** Sportsperson Award, Maria Tzanavaras, of the Berri Tennis Club. PHOTO: supplied

Family affair at tennis finales

IT was a genuine family affair at the recent Riverland Lawn Tennis Association senior grand finals at Loxton.

As noted by Kerry Albrecht-Szabo, the four teams involved in the division one and division two grand finals contained eight family duos, trios, or in the case of the Nettle family, quintet.

"What a wonderful family feel it brings to tennis," said Kerry, who took the adjacent photo to remember the occasion.

Cobdogla played Loxton in the division one decider and Barmera in the division two decider. Kerry said cousins featured in the division two game, but are not in the photograph.



The collection of families involved in the recent Riverland senior tennis division one and division two grand finals, back (from left) Justin Bannear, Nigel Battams. Cohen Battams. Steve Burton. Ben Burton. Glen Carter, Hayden Carter, Jo Nettle, Shane Nettle, Sophie Nettle, Tom Nettle, Lucy Nettle, Will Swinstead, James Swinstead, Tasmin Smith and Phil Smith. Front: Katie Bannear, Lachie Marks, Emma Marks, Emily Carter, Sarah-Jane Albrecht and Peter Szabo. PHOTO: Kerry Albrecht-Szabo



SPEEDWAY RETURNS: Riverland Speedway returned last weekend. Pictured are junior sedan competitors Linken Paterson (left), Kaine Richters, Aaron Tranter and Jayden Bryant. PHOTO: Facebook



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EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING CONTINUED ON PAGES 43 & 44



ADMINISTRATOR- EXPORT

Costa is Australia's leading grower, packer and marketer of premium quality fresh fruit and vegetables. We nurture our people, cultivate our growing sites and invest in ongoing research and development. All of the products we grow, and sell are fresh, nutritious, unprocessed and grown on our very own farms or those of our partner growers. On the land, in distribution centres, and out on the roads – Costa people work hard to bring the freshest produce to tables across Australia. But joining our team is about more than just hard work. It's about picking a meaningful, sustainable job that's good for you, and for Australia. Due to continued export growth in the business, Costa is looking for two (2) Export Documents Administrator's to join our team. This role is responsible for the coordination of the end-to-end export documentation processes for the category. A key component of this role is maintaining strong relationships and delivering exceptional customer service to our partners and key stakeholders. Key Responsibilities include:

- Support Costa's culture of care for People, Product and our Community
- Daily creation of export documents for export shipments Maintain compliance with destination country export document
- requirements
- Liaise with sheds and freight forwarders in relation to container loading and distribution
- Liaise with customs and other relevant parties
- Liaise with customers directly as required to provide assistance with customer enquiries and take appropriate action to provide solutions Customer invoicing and debtor recording
- Coding and checking invoices from accounts payable
- Working with management to continually develop and improve
- current reporting processes to meet the needs of the business

General assistance and administration support for Renmark office

Key Attributes and Experience:

- Strong understanding of the workings of an international supply chain
- Intermediate level in Microsoft Excel and Word Excellent interpersonal skills
- Strong attention to detail and ability to prioritise effectively

People are the heart of Costa. Our employees enjoy some of the best benefits and conditions in the industry. From competitive pay to health, wellbeing, and further learning and development opportunities. No matter the role, you'll always benefit from a caring environment that encourages and supports you to thrive, grow and connect. If this sounds like you, Apply Now. Submit your application by going to https://costagroup.currentjobs.co/Job by the 01st April 2022, then keep an eye on your emails (including your junk/spam folder).

DETERMINATION • PASSION • ACCOUNTABILITY • SINCERITY • RESPECT



Quality Controller (Casual-Seasonal Position's)

Costa is Australia's leading grower, packer and marketer of premium quality fresh fruit and vegetables. We nurture our people, cultivate our growing sites and invest in ongoing research and development.

All of the products we grow, and sell are fresh, nutritious, unprocessed and grown on our very own farms or those of our partner growers.

On the land, in distribution centers, and out on the roads - Costa people work hard to bring the freshest produce to tables across Australia. But joining our team is about more than just hard work. It's about picking a meaningful, sustainable job that's good for you, and for Australia.

Costa has exciting and challenging opportunities on our farms across the Riverland region. We are looking for Quality Control Officer's to join our operations for the upcoming 2022 Citrus season.

You will be a key team member in harvest production process on our farms within the Riverland Region. Quality Control Officer's role will mainly involve the in-field inspection of pickers including the fruit they have harvested as well as their safe work practices. This includes a significant amount of walking. To be a successful applicant you must have the ability and preparedness to undertake work in the outdoors in varying weather conditions.

The role requires applicants to work with people from various cultural backgrounds and to work weekends. A driver's license and good communication skills are essential

If you are looking for a career in Quality or just have a great eye for detail. We would like to hear from you! We are looking for someone who has the ability to multi-task vironment with a great can-do attitude

This challenging and varied role will suit a self-motivated individual, with:

- Good written and verbal communication skills, problem solving ability
- Attention to detail, and the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines Must be able to show initiative and able to handle new tasks
- Strong organisational skills
- Attention to detail, and the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines **Competencies/Character Qualities/Values:**
- Determination acting decisively and with a sense of urgency
- Passion challenging the status quo and acting with energy and enthusiasm
- Accountability focusing on outcomes and delivering on commitments
- Sincerity acting bolding in an open, honest, and responsible manner Respect – treating others as we expect to be treated in attitude. communication, and personal safety

Submit your application by going to https://costagroup.currentjobs.co/Job by the 18th March 2022, then keep an eye on your emails (including your junk/spam folder).

DETERMINATION • PASSION • ACCOUNTABILITY • SINCERITY • RESPECT



PEST CONTROL / YARD PERSON

Almondco Australia Ltd is located in Renmark and is one of the largest almond processing and packaging facilities in Australia. With the almond industry currently strong, now is an exciting time to join our growing team!

As a Pest Control / Yard Person you will:

- Change moth, mouse, beetle traps in production/storage areas across 6 sites
- Apply pest control sprays
- Perform general yard tidying/cleaning duties

Required licences:

- Car licence
- Forklift licence

EWP licence (preferred)

- The successful applicant will:
- Have a safety conscious attitude Be able to follow instructions and work well in a team environment
- Be punctual and reliable
- Be able to work quickly and efficiently either supervised or autonomously

This is a full-time position Monday to Friday. To apply for this position, send your resume and cover letter to: andream@almondco.com.au Applications close Sunday, 20 March 2022.

No Boundaries Station Farm team member

We are a young family operated large scale sheep and cropping farm, striving to build a successful farming enterprise. We are seeking a dynamic team member to work in all aspects of the farm business. We run two farming properties in SA, near Burra and between Karoonda/Loxton. We are seeking someone with a passion for agriculture who is hard-working and self-motivated to join our team. The opportunity exists to become a long-term member of our business for the right applicant.

We are keen to hear from anyone who is willing to work hard, problem solve, show initiative and become an active and involved member of our

Experience in livestock and machinery operations is preferred, however we are prepared to provide training for the right person if necessary.

Must have a full car license. HC license is hugely beneficial.

Farming locations vary from arable sandy soils to station country across a variety of locations

Work includes:

- Machinery operation (tractors, airseeder, trucks, with a variety of machinery from both older to newer equipment) - basic autosteer
 - on most machinery Sheep husbandry (mustering, stock handling)
- Machinery repairs and maintenance
- Farm structure maintenance (e.g., fencing)

Variety of positions available depending on experience, skillset and interest of applicants: ranging from learner farmhand, to overseer and manager Opportunities range from casual, part-time to full-time with plenty of hours available. If you are keen and want to work and learn from an experienced, knowledgeable farmer then this is the place - and if you are a manager who can bring your own knowledge and experience then we'd love to hear from you.

What we will provide:

- House available if required
- Competitive wages assessed to match skill set, experience and abilities - ranging from \$25-\$35/hour - with potential for post-seeding and post-harvest bonus based on successful output
- Varied work environment, do something different every day,
- opportunity to learn all on the ground aspects of a farming business 20 minutes to Burra and services

If you are passionate about a career in agriculture, physically fit, enjoy living in the bush, flexible with your time, and keen to take on a role full of variety including both machinery and stock work - then we'd love to hear from you

For more details phone: Steph 0421643322 or Simon 0407817133

Please email resume to: sjs.schmidt@gmail.com



ECOLOGIST Graduate Entry Level

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.

The Trust is seeking an enthusiastic person with a relevant degree level in the social science of environmental studies, natural resource management or related discipline, to be responsible for delivering the Trust's environmental watering program. This includes planning and co-ordination, monitoring and reporting, and compliance. The position is also responsible for initiating, planning, co-ordinating and participating in, related floodplain restoration activities and engaging with the community and other stakeholders. Initially, this new full-time position is for a 2 year fixed term.

Key to success in this role will be a passion for the riverine environment and the ability to develop and implement projects and activities that maximise the health of our floodplains for the benefit of the community.

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

Applications close on Monday 4 April 2022



Jobs Jobs Jobs

Looking for work? MADEC Harvest Trail Services can help you find the right role in harvest and horticultural jobs - call us now! Did you know you could access up to \$6k back if you temporarily relocate for Agriculture work? Ask us about AgMove

Need Horticultural or Harvest workers?

We find workers for your jobs! We are Federally funded under the Harvest Trail program. MADEC will provide workers with a legal right to work in Australia - We do your VEVO checks for you and Facilitate AgMove Relocation Reimbursements for eligible Agriculture Work -Ask us about AgMove - and WHS inductions are undertaken and Crop Specific inductions are available, all at No cost to Employers or Workers

08 8986 1900

harvestrenmark@madec.edu.au

bz11045



CONTINUED ON PAGES 42 & 44



AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION

EXPERIENCED AIR CONDITIONING INSTALLER

An excellent opportunity for an experienced Air Conditioning installer is currently available with Devilee's Air Conditioning and Refrigeration.

Established in 1961, Devilee's Air Conditioning is a reputable and respected company providing job security and enjoyable working conditions. An above award salary, a well-maintained company car, fuel card, phone and full uniform will be supplied to successful applicants.

CONTACT US TODAY if you have experience installing commercial and/or residential air conditioning. A mechanical plumbing qualification or Air conditioning trade qualification is preferred but not essential.

For a confidential discussion please call Michael Hentschke on 0408 262 518 or forward your resume to fiona.devilee@devilees.com.au.



JOIN OUR

DIRECTORY **DISTRIBUTORS** WANTED

EARN EXTRA \$\$\$\$\$

Distribution of the Renmark Yellow Pages telephone directory is due to commence on 26th March 2022 and we are seeking reliable distributors to assist us with the deliveries.

Excellent opportunity for Individuals and Families to earn some extra cash and Community, School, and Sporting Groups to raise some extra funds.

Must have a suitable vehicle (ute, van or trailer preferred). Full instructions and support given.

Must have an ABN.

GIVE IT A GO - GET FIT AND EARN EXTRA \$\$\$\$ AT THE SAME TIME.

Email info@mrad.com.au or call 0429 214 229 for further information.



BERRI RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK - JOB VACANCIES

POST COVID- Berri Riverside Holiday Park is looking to add to our existing team. We are a Holiday Park that is proudly owned by the

Berri War Memorial Community Centre which has been in operation since 1972. Berri Riverside Holiday Park is 'Your Destination of Choice"

CASUAL CLEANERS

As we ramp up to busy season and due to growth, we are looking for casual cleaners to join our hardworking Team of Cleaners.

Hours are dependent on volume of activity in the park – but it is essential that you are available to work **THE BUSY HOSPITALITY** HOURS - which include weekends and

holidays, including public holidays. In order to be the perfect fit for our team delivering spotless work is required. Our Park prides itself in the reviews we receive from our guests, continuously awarding us with top

marks for cleanliness. Your hours - working approx. 25 hours per week.

Essential for these positions – Valid Drivers License and you are required to be Physically fit and able to carry out the duties.

KIOSK / COFFEE BARISTA

Our Kiosk /Coffee Shop and Mini Golf is getting busier and busier – we are looking for a candidate to participate in the shared shifts to run our Kiosk successfully.

Are you well presented, hard working and enjoy working with lots of different people? Ideally you will have had experience having worked in a coffee shop as a Barista - we pride ourselves in the coffee we serve to our quests.

The role entails sales of refreshments, taking payments for Mini Golf, and assisting with Pizza evenings.

Your hours - working approx. 20 – 25 hours per week Valid Drivers License is essential

IZ11047

JOIN OUR TEAM, HOP ON BOARD TO BE A PART OF ALL OUR NEW AND EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

PLEASE CALL MERLE ON (08) 8582 3723 FOR A CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSION AND EMAIL YOUR RESUME TO <u>manager@berriholidaypark.com.au</u>

Staractechnologies

Front End Loader Operators Casual

Tarac Technologies has a vintage vacancy for experienced front end loader operator commencing in February and working potentially, until early June. We offer regular rotating shift work, as we run a 24/7 operation during vintage. This is a great opportunity and we would be particularly interested in speaking with people who would be available every year at about the same time.

You will need to be fit and healthy, a competent, experienced and qualified loader operator and available to work a set, rotating roster, 7 days a week over day, afternoon, and night shift. A urine-based drug test, a pre-employment medical examination, and a full police check (less than 12 months old) will all be required prior to an offer of employment being made.

We are particularly interested in talking to people who have some (or all) of the following: FEL License and considerable FEL

- experience (Essential)
- Intermediate Boiler Operator ticket
- Forklift License (Essential) Confined Space ticket

We offer a friendly and supportive working environment and wages that are well above award

If you are interested in this position, please apply above or send your application to jobs@tarac.com.au

Only people who are eligible to live and work in Australia will be considered.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



Branch Coordinator

About Us

Meals on Wheels is South Australia's largest community-based volunteer organisation and is responsible for 84 branches, 7000 volunteers and 100 staff delivering 4000 daily meals and supporting 11,000 people annually.

About the Role

The Branch Coordinator role is both hands on and also provides training and supervision to ensure that volunteers produce quality, nutritious and well-presented meals, delivered safely to our customer's homes.

We currently have two positions available:

1 x 20 hours a week based in Renmark 1 x 15 hours a week based in Waikerie. Positions are permanent part time 5 days a week

We are looking for a Branch **Coordinator who can:**

- Demonstrate excellent supervisory skills and the ability to coach and develop people.
- Has the ability to maintain positive team relationships with volunteers, staff and other stakeholders.
- Possess an effective operational understanding (or ability to quickly learn) of Meals on Wheels operations.
- Has coordination, organisation, time management and logistic skills.
- Has an ability to prioritise and organise work to meet conflicting demands.
- Provide administrative assistance to support the branch & maintain database

Cooking experience desirable All Meals on Wheels SA employees must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19

Please direct any inquiries to Freecall 1800 854 453 & ask for Rosslyn or email resume to rosslyn@mealsonwheelssa.org.au

BZ11038

Flinders

Administrative Assistant (ANZAHPE)

JR000003886

About Flinders

Our bold vision, captured in our Strategic Plan: Making a Difference: The 2025 Agenda, is to be internationally recognised as a world leader in research, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of Australia's most enterprising graduates.

We recognise the key to our success is exceptional people and we're seeking an outstanding individual to join the team of our transformed university.

About the Position

The Australian & New Zealand Association for Health Professional Educators (ANZAHPE) is a not-for-profit member organisation and is the peak body for practitioners involved in the education and training of health professionals in Australia and New Zealand. The ANZAHPE office is hosted at Flinders University as part of an agreement between Flinders University and ANZAHPE.

Under routine direction the Administrative Assistant (ANZAHPE) will provide administrative support to the Executive Officer, Committee of Management, ANZAHPE journal board, Fellowship and Professional Development Committees, and ANZAHPE members.

The position may be located at any Flinders Rural Remote Health Campus in South Australia or metropolitan site, but responsible for working across a geographically dispersed team which will require an understanding of working within the remote context.

Key Position Responsibilities

The Administrative Assistant is accountable for:

1. Provide administration support to the ANZAHPE Executive Officer and Committee of Management.

2. Working within a framework of established polices and work systems to:

Provide support and assistance for the planning and organisation of ANZAHPE Committee meetings

• Provide administrative support for the

• Provide administrative support to the

ANZAHPE Fellowship scheme

correspondence associated with journal

submissions, and liaison with the Editor

Assist with ANZAHPE website updates

Assist with preparation and publication of

communications for ANZAHPE members

and relevant parties associated with

• Provide support and assistance for

ANZAHPE journal including

and Editorial team

and maintenance

ANZAHPE

ANZAHPE Events

the ANZAHPE e-Bulletin

Assist with written and verbal

Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the ANZAHPE Committee of Management.

- College of Medicine and Public Health
- Fixed term, part time (FTE 0.6) opportunity
- Higher Education Officer Level 3 + 17% Superannuation
- Applications close: 11:59pm Wednesday 30th March 2022

How to Apply Further details including how to apply online can be found at our Jobs@Flinders website: https://www.flinders.edu.au/employment





BUDDY BUNYIP BIRTHDAY LIST





of the South Australian region, have a passion for driving Australian owned, locally crafted spirits and sharing that enthusiasm with visitors, demonstrated leadership skills and the ability to multi-task and work well under pressure. Experience in a similar position is preferred.

To apply or obtain further information

50Bday

HBDay1

Bighdays

HBDay2

*Please note logos

are not guaranteed to

appear in colour

Please submit your covering letter and resume before Sunday 20 March 2022 to resume@bickfordsgroup.com or by applying directly to the Visitor Centre, Corner of 23rd Street and Renmark Avenue Renmark SA 5341. For further information on the Company, please visit our websites www.23rdstreetdistillery.com.au and www.bickfordsgroup.com. Confidential enquiries can be made to HR at 8182 1813.

Everyone at the Bickford's Group of companies strive to deliver upon the corporate values of integrity, empowerment, collaboration, pride and accountability.

David Beaton Chief Executive Officer

Australian Road Rules 230 and 238

for the Riverland Cabaret Fringe events:

Murray Hall building.

(1) Dolan Street from River Terrace in Kingston

Pursuant to Section 33 (1)(b) of the Road Traffic

Act 1961, hereby make an order directing that

persons taking part in the Event be exempted (in

relation to the roads) from the duty to observe

For further information contact Greg Perry 8584 8000

gperry@lwdc.sa.gov.au

on Murray to the end of the Kingston on

1.Tennesee 2.Big toe 3.March 19th 2022 4.Uganda 5.Loganberry 6.Accelerated Graphics Port 7.Sapphire 8.Japan 9.Wind

answe

speed **10**.Small intestine **11**.52 years of age 12.Wyoming 13.Terminator franchise 14.New Zealand 15.New York City 16.Queensland 17.George Washington 18.Volodymyr Zelenskyy 19. Rembrandt 20. Ecuador **BONUS QUESTION ANSWER (from last** week): Sahti beer is most likely to be found in Finland.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

CONTINUED FROM PAGES 42, 43 & 44



EXPERIENCED SHOP ASSISTANT

Required for busy coffee shop. 20-25 hours per week.

- Customer Service
- Fast paced environment
- Barista experience preferableCash handling experience
- Cash handling experience
 Some weekend work required

Please call Greg on 0439 849 186 or email greg@renmarkbakehouse.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICES



2022/23 Community Support Funding Applications are NOW OPEN

The opportunity exists for individuals, clubs and members of the community to lodge "Community Support Funding Applications" for consideration by Council as it prepares for the 2022/23 budget year.

Community Support Funding Application forms are available on Council's website and offices in Loxton and Waikerie. Closing date for applications is 5.00pm Friday 18 February 2022.

LZ13834

David Beaton Chief Executive Officer



1A Pinkerton Rd, Naracoorte
 08 8762 3055

pphs.com.au **f**

SOLD FOR LEASE FOR SALE UNDER CONTRACT

Looking to buy a property? Looking to sell a property? We can help you, we do this everyday. Contact the PPHS Team today! www.murraypioneer.com.au Wednesday, March 16, 2022 PUBLIC NOTICES NEWS 45

ALMOND

Former Citrus Australia director Ben Cant was earlier this year appointed Almondco's new group operations manager. PHOTO: Hugh Schuitemaker

Ben's sights on almond industry growth

HUGH SCHUITEMAKER

GROWING exports and focusing on the development of local staff are the goals for a senior Riverland horticulture figure who has joined a major co-operative.

Renmark-based Almondco recently announced Ben Cant had been appointed the company's new group operations manager.

Mr Cant – who has previous experience with Citrus Australia and Costa Group – said challenges facing the local almond industry were similar to those he had encountered in the citrus field.

"I've spent 24 years in the citrus industry, and that was mainly in senior management capacities," Mr Cant said.

"I'm transferring a lot of that knowledge across to the almond commodity. The industry is very similarly focused with a push towards exports, to facilitate growth in the sector.

"There's the same challenges around labour, the supply chain, water, and infrastructure."

Mr Cant expected difficulties surrounding the shipping of almonds – caused by Covid-19 restrictions – to continue during 2022.

"For us as a processor and exporter we're still seeing issues in the availability of shipping containers, trying to get spots on the vessels for those containers, and actually getting the almonds delivered in a timely fashion," he said.

"There's sometimes up to a two-week wait for vessels to come into the ports, and that's causing some challenges.

"It does affect our cash flow when our product takes two weeks or four weeks longer to get to our customers."

Mr Cant said providing ongoing development for staff would be a priority for the company.

"We will continue to invest in good people in key positions, and upskilling our existing employees," he said.

"For hulling and shelling that's a sixmonth operation, but after that... is a 12-month operation, so a lot of those are permanent positions.

"I'm looking forward to assisting with upskilling all of those people, and really investing back into the people, and the local community.

"As we continue to mechanise we're



Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone and Almondco managing director Brenton Woolston at last month's announcement of an \$8.1m state government loan that will allow the local business to build a 10,000 square metre warehouse, creating jobs and increasing production capacity. PHOTO: Deirdre Graham

going to have a higher level of automation and robotics... that's all about employing graduates and an example of how we'll bring skilled positions back to the region."

Mr Cant said increasing Riverland



almond production would require Almondco to continually expand its operations.

"I was involved in a key time for the citrus industry," he said.

"We more than tripled the export output of that industry, and that had a hugely positive impact on stabilising prices to a point where there was a much more reliable return for growers.

"I'm not saying I can triple exports for almonds... but I look forward to continuing export growth.

"Almondco as a business is looking at roughly doubling its throughput in the next five years, so to facilitate that growth we've got to develop more export sales, and the value-added products."

Last month, the state government announced a multi-million dollar loan would allow Almondco to increase its production capacity and create new jobs for the region.

The \$8.1m loan will help Almondco build a 10,000 square metre warehouse at its Renmark processing quarters.

Chaffey MP Tim Whetstone said the initiative would generate 20 construction jobs and another five logistical roles for the Riverland.



Your home is your *castle*, and Autumn is the perfect time to start preparing for Winter with a high-quality solar installation from **YES Solar**.

Go solar with YES, and stick it where the sun shines!



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Facebook/Riverland Funerals

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We're all in this together.

DONATE 13 SALVOS (1372 58)

1300 669 569

SIGHT FOR

OUT OF 5 PEOPLE WHO ARE

The Fred Hollov

ONATE NOV 300 352 352

JUST \$25

Advertising classifieds deadline: Monday 3pm

Classifieds



FUNERALS

WILLISS.

Family and friends of Josh Williss are invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted entirely at the Berri Football Club on Monday, March 21. 2022 at 11am.

In lieu of flowers if desired, a donation to the Leukemia Foundation in Josh's memory would be appreciated. Donations may be made at the service.

Riverland 💒 **FUNERALS**

Berri and Renmark 8582 1333 Member AFDA

IN MEMORIAM

ANDERSON (Gillen), Christopher John. 21/9/1982 -16/3/2021 One year has passed today. In loving memory of my darling son. Loving you, missing you and thinking of you every day.

Fond memories are mine to keep. Always cherished and never forgotten. Until we meet again.



SPRY, Mick 'Spryzie'. 2/6/1969 -17/3/2012 10 years gone and missed every day. Stayin' staunch. Mick L. K.O.M





FOR SALE

ALUMINIUM bow ladders, 2 year guarleg 3 pickantee, Pinyon ing ladders, Engineering. Phone 85866057.



BOAT - 30ft carvel hull traditional wooden river cruiser DL111S. 3 cylinder turbo Volvo Penta in excellent running order. Solar and batteries, stereo, TV/ DVD player, double bed and bed above. Can send photos if interested. Genuine reason for sale. \$6800 must sell. Phone 0428840529.

CAMPER trailer, chainsaw, \$7500: \$1100; bow ar-Phone \$500. row, 0498543982.

CARAVAN 2002 Roadstar 16ft poptop. Single axle rollout awning with annex sides, double bed, reverse cycle heat/ air-con, gas stove/grill, 3-way fridge, TV/DVD. \$14,500 ono. Phone 0428448861.

DINGHY - 8hp, 15hp and 18hp, all in good condition, no further use. Priced to sell. Phone 0418839383.

> FIREARMS -Adler action Shotlever gun. Like new. \$650, plus other rifles for sale, all with scopes. Negotiable. Phone 0408338085. Sale must take place in the presence of and be witnessed by a licensed dealer in firearms, an authorised officer of a recognised firearms club, an authorised Public Service employee or a Police Officer, in accordance with section 15B (9).



MOBILITY scooter. 140XL, Pathfinder red 4-wheel . Brand new, never used. Purchased 2021. Need gone, Price \$4500 Contact Nikki ono. 0421143214.

ROSES - Brad's Roses. New arrivals of roses are now available. Phone 0417855014.

STORAGE free. Pay **RENMARK** West - 1 5 months in advance bedroom, and get one month lounge and room, free on all sites. Renkitchen to rent. Phone Sam mark Central Storage 0488050482. 0417859516.

GARAGE SALES

FOR SALE

STORAGE - we have

expanded and now

This means we will

give you a good price

to fill them. From \$75

mark Central Storage.

TURMERIX is avail-

age and delivery is

free. Contact Connie

VARIOUS - Genuine

prices, Italian hot-

plates, two sets\$200

and \$300; unique old

desk with lift-up lid

\$50; Elna sewing ma-

chine \$40; large beige

floor mat \$40. Phone

FORD Zephyr MK2, 6

cylinder, 1958 model.

ster, paint work, all

in very good order.

AA038J. Phone Ken

0409387606

more details.

MERCEDES

\$8500.

SUBARU

istration

BOAT -

0403126925.

0431385078.

condition.

85864060.

2001, C200 Compres-

sor, immaculate con-

dition. 113,000kms.

Registration W00590,

85822331 after 6pm.

RX25 Sports, 2002,

All-wheel drive. Excel-

lent condition. Reg-

\$7250 ono. 6 months

registration remaining.

Phone 0417882378.

Tyres,

0413124754.

locally.

0488050482

0427847567

Didgeridoo,

vacant sites.

month. Phone

Ren-

Post-

after

various

MOTOR

VEHICLES

body uphol-

for

Benz,

Phone

Liberty

WTD271,

WANTED

suitable to

TO LET

1 bath-

available

live on. Require 20ft

plus in size. Phone

TO BUY

have

per

able

3pm.

BERRI - 7 Huckstepp Saturday, Court. March 19 from 8am. Moving sale. Grab a bargain while you are out to vote.

BERRI - 39 Fuller Road. Saturday, March 19, 8am, no early birds. 2-seater dining table with chairs, old rosewood gramaphone, other antiques, household goods, books etc.

BERRI - 1025 Old Sturt Highway. Church of Christ. Saturday, March 19, 2022 8.30am - 12 noon. March market and car boot sale.

GLOSSOP - Hardwick Road, Saturday, March 19 from 7:30am. Variety of old wares, shed stuff, rustic items, handbags and lots more. Nil early birds.

WAIKERIE Lions Auction, March 19. Clearance sale, Lions Den. 9am start. Crockery, kitchen glassware, utensils, hot roll warner, auto bain marie, toaster, kitchen cupboards, 2 kitchen tables, fridge, coffee machine, 6m ladder, single and double beds, lounges, wardrobes and much more. Further entries invited. Contact Alex 0429846940 or David 85413836.

> PUBLIC NOTICES

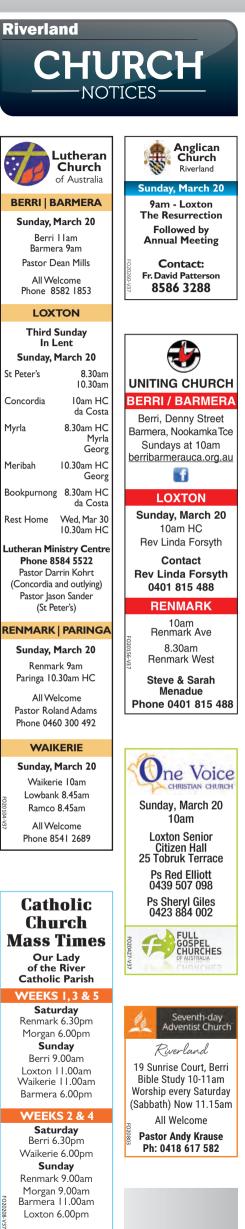
AGM - Wunkar Community Soldiers Memorial Hall. To be held Wednesday, April 13, 7pm at the Hall. All welcome. Apologies to Jody 85874115.

TRANSFER memories from VHS, slides or video camera tapes to DVD and/or an external drive. Riverland local. Phone 0439887214.





Bins. You throw it We tow it. For all your rubbish removal needs at competitive prices. Great alternative to skip bins, range of sizes available. Book a trailer bin today! Contact David 0400576230.



Volunteers Notice Board FREE SERVICE Looking for **Volunteers?** The Murray Pioneer, can help. Email or fax the name of your organisation, the type of volunteer needed and contact details to: vour Periodic States Provide Automatic Providence Providence Providence Providence Providence Provide Automatic ProvideAutomatic Provide Aut business, and we will print your is smart request Free of Charge! business. **Loxton Show Society** Conveners needed for the 2022 show for the following sections: Log Chopping, Amateur Winemaking & Brewing, Scarecrows and Vintage Machinery, & Vehicles.

Advertising

By advertising

with the

Group of

Newspapers,

you can be

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Loxton launches into cricket grand final

LOXTON stamped its authority on the Riverland A grade cricket competition with a dominant win at home against Berri in last weekend's qualifying final.

Ben Hoffmann won the toss and elected to bat, with Tyler Hobby returning to the top of the Loxton order, opening with Jake Albrecht.

Hobby was dismissed after 10 balls without troubling the scorers, which brought Josh Deren to the crease to join Albrecht.

The pair have been in good form of late and began compiling runs for the home side, with both batters reaching the 40s before being dismissed.

Deren fell just one run short of a half-century before he left the crease, with Loxton travelling well on 111 after just 26 overs.

Ben Hoffmann and Will Gutsche made their way to the middle and, thanks largely to the platform laid by the top order, were able to free their arms and bat naturally.

A bizarre bowler's-end runout brought Hoffmann's innings to an end, with his partner in crime Gutsche finishing on 61no.

The Tigers' total of 211 was daunting and Berri never looked like chasing down the mammoth score, with openers Nathan Scadden and Evan Penaluna falling for under 20 runs each.

Jake Durdin picked up the key wicket of Brad Rosenzweig and the home side was flying, with the visitors managing just 56 runs at the halfway point of the innings.

Frontline bowler Luke Zdanowicz put the match firmly out of Berri's reach, ripping through the visitor's middle order and securing the win for his side.

Loxton now has the luxury of a week of rest, while Berri will need to defeat Renmark North to secure its spot in the grand final.

The Bluetongues' confidence will be skyhigh for the preliminary final clash with Berri after they comfortably defeated Waikerie Ramco on Saturday.

Ben Files returned to the side and cashed in against a young Waikerie Ramco attack, compiling a chanceless 101no after opening the batting.

The left-hander was at his brilliant best, finding the boundary 10 times in his innings including a massive six at the expense of Shaun Ouinn.

Renmark North's captain Liam Jackson partnered Files at the crease for the majority of the innings, before eventually falling for 83 at the hands of Patrick Liebich.

Waikerie Ramco has struggled for form with the bat all year and the Bluetongues' total of 210 was always going to be a tough ask.

The visitors managed to put in one of their better performances with bat in hand for the year, losing just four wickets, but fell well short of the target.

The Bluetongue bowlers were on-song and managed to restrict their opponents to just 115 from their 40 overs.

The B grade saw the two favoured sides win their way through to the next round, with Monash taking down Brown's Well in the elimination final and Wunkar blitzing Renmark North in the qualifier.

Renmark North looked to be in control at the innings break, having bowled the top side out for just 116, but the Wunkar bowling attack had other ideas.

Relentless line and length negated Renmark North's scoring ability and the travelling side cracked under pressure, eventually dismissed for just 63 runs.

The Bluetongues will now have to defeat Monash on turf next week to avoid bouncing out of the finals in straight sets, while Wunkar will enjoy a week off leading into the grand final.

RESULTS

A grade Elimination final

Renmark North 1/210 (B. Files 101no, L. Jackson 83, P. Liebich 1/21) d Waikerie Ramco 4/115 (N. Andrew 38, S. Taylor 35, A. Werner 24, S. Bradbrook 2/36, T. Coombs 1/11, Z. Gallo 1/12).

Qualifying final Loxton 4/211 (W. Gutsche 61no, J. Deren 49. B. Hoffmann 47, J. Albrecht 44, B. Oakley 1/25, L. Cotter 1/49) d Berri 118 (J. Fielke 31, B. Rosenzweig 20, E. Penaluna 15, B. Oakley 14no, T. Jolly 13, N. Scadden 10, L. Zdanowicz 4/14, B. Hoffmann 2/14, J. Durdin 2/37, B. Lynch 1/12, J. Albrecht 1/19).

B grade

Elimination final Monash 2/128 d Brown's Well 124. (Individual scores not provided) Qualifying final

Wunkar 116 (K. Smith 34, T. Eagle 14, L. Evans 13, J. Pontt 12, M. Falting 11, B. Lennon 4/24, J. Smedley 3/26, D. Aston 1/19, B. Williss 1/33) d Renmark North 63 (B. Blackwell 23, K. Smith 3/8, K. Evans 3/23, R. Smith 2/7, M. Leigh 2/18).





Ben Files (top) and Liam Jackson put together a mammoth opening stand for Renmark North in its elimination final win over Waikerie Ramco last Saturday. Files finished unbeaten on 101, while Jackson compiled 83. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff

Riverland cricketers pay tribute to Josh Williss



Josh's cricket bat and a Berri Cricket Club hat were rested on the stumps for the duration of the touching tribute. PHOTOS: Pete Linke



Berri and Loxton Cricket Clubs stood together for a minute's silence, paying respect to beloved community member ai cricketer Josh Williss, 25, who pass after an 11-month battle with cancer.

The two clubs were joined by B grade sides Renmark North and Wunkar, with both teams observing the minute's silence from the sidelines.



2023 titles secured

THE Riverland will host the state junior softball championships for the second time in four years in 2023, after it was named as the desired venue earlier this month.

The region hosted the championships in 2019 but that instalment was the first time the Riverland had done so in over a decade.

Riverland Softball Association's carnival co-ordinator, Michelle Bradtke, said the association was looking forward to the chance to grow the game further in the region.

"It certainly puts us on the map to others who may not know too much about our sport," she said.

"We don't attract any funding like some of the popular summer sports, but we pride ourselves on the family atmosphere and inclusion.

"We are hoping this will encourage other people to find out a little bit more about the sport we love and hopefully join one of our local clubs for the season to come."

Ms Bradtke spearheaded the Riverland's

push to secure the event and knows how much work it is going to take to get the region ready for the carnival.

"As the saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child and an event like this is no different; It will take our executive team up to a full 12 months to prepare," she said.

"We are hopeful that we can get some really good sponsors to get on board to help with some of the big costs that are involved in an event of this magnitude.

"Considering the last one we held had in excess of 30 teams, you can only imagine the money that this brings to our local area, but this all comes at a cost and one which we would really appreciate a hand with.

"Many who attended the last event have gone on to stay in our region over the holiday period and were unaware of what our area offered until coming up for the last event we hosted."

This year's championships were held in Mount Barker under the banner of the Hills Softball Association, with Riverland teams



The Riverland last held the state junior softball championships back in 2019 and will do so again in 2023. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff

putting in a strong showing.

In 2023, they will get the chance to put in a repeat effort on their home turf, something Ms Bradtke says the kids will relish. "We have such an array of really talented young juniors coming up through our ranks," she said.

"Having these sorts of events on home soil is always a great source of excitement for our young players."

Softball's best rise to the top

RIVERLAND softball is now at the business end of the season, with just three teams remaining in each division after last week's round of semi-finals.

In the senior competition, the beginning of finals marked a change in the format of games, with the removal of a time limit and the games scheduled to go to seven innings. However, both senior semi-finals finished

after just four innings, with the run-ahead rules bringing the games to a halt.

Noah Paull backed up his man-of-thematch performance from the previous week with yet another strong outing.

He managed to pick up a grand and a three-bag hit in the same inning.

Evan McAllister joined in the fun, picking up an RBI four-bag hit of his own as Loxton secured the week off and a spot in this season's grand final.

Loxton's opponent will be decided this week as Berri takes on Cobdogla.

Berri will be full of confidence after trouncing clubmates Berri Red in the second semi-final.

A mixture of the long weekend and isolation protocols left a number of teams without regular players and Berri Red without its usual pitchers.

Berri took advantage and blasted a massive 22 runs in the first four innings, bringing the game to an early end.

The C grade saw a hotly contested semifinal end in victory for Berri by a single run over Loxton Green.

It was a rematch of the previous week's minor round fixture and Berri turned the tables, thanks largely to an impressive performance from youngster Breah Cooper, who picked up a four-bagger hit.

Cobdogla Blue kept its season alive with a



Jade Pech takes an impressive catch for Cobdogla as teammate Jo Gregory watches on during last Saturday's senior semi-final.

win over Loxton Blue by 10.

Association secretary Monica Haaja starred, picking up best-on-ground honours thanks to a grand slam four-bagger in the second inning.

Cobby Blue will face Loxton Green in a do-or-die preliminary final this week for a spot in the C grade grand final.

SENIORS

Loxton 12 d Cobdogla 1. Best: Loxton – N. Paull, E. McAllister, K. Lawson. Cobdogla – J. Pech, C. Smith, D. Passmore. Berri 22 d Berri Red 2. Best: Berri – C. Venning, K. Hibberd, T. Morris. Berri

Red – J. Howe, D. Collard-Campbell, D. Venning.

Berri 15 d Loxton Green 14.
Best: Berri – A. Collard, S. Sampson, B. Cooper. Lox
Green – J. Hucks, J. Hansen, E. Hogg.
Cobdogla Blue 17 d Loxton Blue 7.
Best: Codogla Blue – M. Haaja, G. Dyer, E. Pech.
Loxton Blue – G. Wagner, B. McAllister, B. Geraghty.



Ashlee Hibberd's Berri picked up a convincing win in its semi-final against clubmates Berri Red. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkopff

Final
McAllister
impressed
for Loxton,
registering
an RBI four-
bag hit in
his side's
victory over
Cobdogla.



Murray Pioneer

Barmera bounce into division one basketball final

BARMERA has pulled off an upset win over a fancied Loxton outfit in last Thursday's Riverland A grade basketball second semi-final.

The Supercats went into the fixture having lost just one game for the entire season, but Barmera started the game like a house on fire, getting out to an early lead.

Jack Sullivan picked up nine points in the opening quarter, with the Lakers' offence flowing, but it was the defence that really stood out.

Loxton was held to just eight points in the first quarter and 10 in the second, with Barmera shooting out to an 18-point lead at half time.

The Supercats tried to claw their way back into the contest in the final term, but it was too little too late as the Lakers ran out 12-point victors.

The win means Barmera now enjoys a slightly longer break, with Loxton heading to Renmark tonight to take on the Steamers.

Renmark dealt with Waikerie comfortably in the elimination semi-final, maintaining a margin of around eight points for the majority of the contest, before pulling away at the end.

Judd Hansen started the game hot and finished with 22 points, including two three-pointers.

Declan Johnson had the green light to shoot from deep and helped himself to four threes for the match on his way to 20 points.

Renmark's bigs were effective defensively, restricting Jack Parfitt to just 12 points on the night.

The women's division one fixtures saw Waikerie edge out Loxton in a nail-biter, with the game needing overtime to separate the two sides.

The match was even throughout, with the margin at the end of each quarter no more than two points.

Hannah and Sienna Lehmann were the stars of the show for Waikerie and Hannah's experience saw them over the line in the overtime period.

The win kept Waikerie's season alive as it now takes on Barmera in

Jack Parfitt of Waikerie and Josh Brine of Renmark jostle for position in last week's do-or-die semifinal.



the preliminary final tonight, with a spot in the grand final on offer for the winner.

The other semi-final saw Berri win its way into the big dance, defeating Barmera by eight points after leading down the stretch.

Claire Schupelius exploded for 21 points, while Bella Gates chipped in with 14, including three shots made from beyond the arc.

The winners of tonight's preliminary finals in Renmark will progress to the grand final on Friday night in Berri.

MEN Division one

Renmark 20 31 46 67 Waikerie 9 25 38 53 Points: Renmark – J. Hansen 22, D. Johnson 20, A. Haynes 9, Z. Gartery 5, C. Gartery, R. Curtis 4, B. Rover, J. Brine 2. Waikerie – L. Exton 14, J. Parfitt 12, S. Smyth 8, K. Ling 7, D. Leuders 6, B. Fridd 5, K. Hahn 1.

22 36 Barmera 55 69 8 30 18 Loxton 57 Points: Barmera - J. Sullivan 20. D. Millard 18, A. Smith 9, L. Phillips 8, R. Haigh 7, K. Wright 5, S. Allder 2. Loxton C. Lange 13, R. Kennedy 12, J. Will 11, B. Whitelaw 10, T. Wagner 5, B. Tregeagle 5, L. Francis 1.

Division two: Allstars 34 d Tigers 30; Berri 47 d Waikerie White 40. Division three: Loxton 48 d Warriors 26; Barmera 39 d Waikerie Black 31. Division four: Loxton 36 d Supercats 26; Blazers 54 d Berri 32.

WOMEN Division one

Waikerie 14 26 38 46 58 12 26 40 Loxton 46 52 Points: Waikerie - S. Lehmann 21, H. Lehmann 17, A. Curtis 10, T. Fridd 5, Y. Liu, K. Barnett 2. Loxton - B. Hahn 12, S. Smith 11, E. Foulds, M. Hogan 7, T. Tickle 5, S. Edwards, L. Uren 4, A. Modlinski 2.

Berri 18 39 51 64 Barmera 9 24 39 56 Points: Berri – C. Schupelius 21, B. Gates 14, L. Gregoric 9, C. Foulds, A. Westley 8, E. Eleftheriadis 3, E. Westley 1. Barmera -C. Wutke 16, T. Dillon 14, A. Wutke 13, T. Hill 7, L. Hill 4, K. Stavrou 2.

Division two: Barmera 38 d Renmark 36; Catstars 18 d Lakers 14. Division three: Steamers 43 d Loxton 16; Berri 32 d Tigers 15. Division four: Berri 32 d Loxton19; Waikerie 33 d Tigers 12.



Barmera's Liam Phillips attacks the rim amidst heavy traffic in his side's win over Loxton last Thursday. PHOTOS: Grant Schwartzkooff





Berri's Claire **Schupelius** shoots over Barmera's Ashlee Wutke. **Schupelius** scored 21 points to send her side to the division one women's grand final.

LOXTON Wednesday, March 9 Men

Stableford: S. Semmler 36, D. Sunman 34, K. Wagnitz 34, B. Skinner 33, H. Kara-Ali 33, S. Patching 32. NTP – 2nd K. Wagnitz 380cm, 12th B. Skinner 1570cm, 15th A. Hucks 535cm. Birdies – 5th H. Kara-Ali. **Women**

Stableford: L. Rowe 38, M. Tyler 36, J. Patching 33, D. Harman 31. NTP –

RIVERLAND GOLF RESULTS 15th J. Patching 877cm. M. Maczkowiack, 5th K. V Saturday, March 12 B. Proud.

Men Stableford: A grade – M. Maczkowiack 38, K. Wilksch 37, P. Campbell 36, K. Dunstan 36, B. Whitelaw 36. B grade – D. Johns 39, K. Wagnitz 39, S. Semmler 36, A. Hucks 36, J. Goldsworthy 33. NTP – 2nd B. Semmler 800cm, 5th H. Kara-Ali 571cm, 12th P. Campbell 292cm, 15th B. Proud 201cm. Birdies – 2nd M. Maczkowiack, 5th K. Wagnitz, 15th B. Proud. Women

Stableford: S. Pendle 42, K. Nolan 38. NTP – 15th S. Pannell 490cm.

BERRI

Wednesday, March 9 Stableford: S. Wade 36, I. McHugh 35, P. Mudge 34, J. Adams 33, R. Keightley 33, T. McHugh 33. Saturday, March 12

Stableford: T. McHugh 39, B. Frahn 36, A. Thurmer 36, E. Day 35, I. McHugh 35, W. Adams 34, K. Wyman 34, M. Clifford 34, J. Brand 34. **Sunday, March 13** Stableford: I Bradshaw 36, G. Tognon 35, B. Eckermann 32. Monday, March 14 Two-person ambrose: L. Mudge/P. Mudge 64.75, T. McHugh/I McHugh 65.25, P. Cummins/AM Crease 65.25.

Come and try hockey, in Berri

BERRI Hockey Club is holding two "come and try" days later this month.

Urging locals to "give hockey a go", the club will host the initiatives at Glassey Park, Berri, on Monday, March 21, and Monday, March 28.

The junior sessions are from 5pm to 6.15pm, while seniors run from 6.30pm to 7.45pm, with hockey sticks provided.

College launches its new rowing program

ST Francis of Assisi College has joined forces with the Renmark Rowing Club, giving its students the opportunity to try their hand at rowing on the Murray.

Stephanie Turnbull is the college's appointed rowing coach and says she is looking forward to the opportunity of getting the kids involved in the sport.

"It was all planned towards the end of last year so when students were enrolling it was discussed that there would be an opportunity for them to be involved in rowing," she said.

"We are offering rowing as part of the PE curriculum to all of the year 7 and 8 students.

"We've developed a partnership with the Renmark Rowing Club to use their facilities and equipment so the college will actually have its own rowing program."

The partnership between the college and the club is mutually beneficial, with the students getting a place to practice and the sport continuing to grow in the region.

"The rowing club, being a smaller community club, is always looking

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for ways to grow its member base," Ms Turnbull said.

"It's just a great opportunity for everyone and it opens the door to give all students in the school a taste of the sport."

Classes at the club kicked off last Thursday, with the year seven and year eight students getting in the boats and on the water already, admittedly in tough conditions.

"We introduced it to all the students during school and had our first class come down on Thursday, with two others to come down this week," Ms Turnbull said.

"It was great. It was pretty windy but obviously it's a sport where you have to contest with the elements. The students that did get out on the water seemed to have a great time.

"We live on a beautiful body of water in the Murray River so it's great to give kids a chance to try a different sport and pick up some new skills."

Weekly sessions will continue throughout the term, with a long-term goal of having a St Francis team competing at regattas later this year front of mind for Ms Turnbull and the school.



Supported by the Renmark Rowing Club, St Francis of Assisi College kicked off its new rowing program last week. PHOTOS: Facebook



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Riverland-born hockey star Riley Herbert (pictured) has been selected alongside fellow Riverlander Kyton Rainer in the men's under 18 state hockey side for the national championships in April. PHOTO: Grant Schwartzkopff



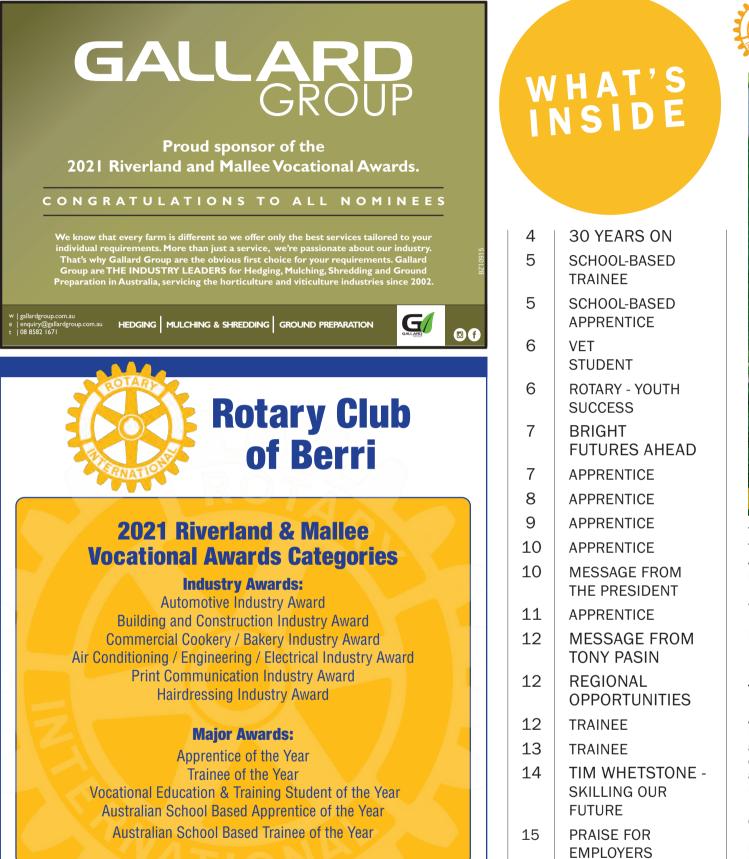
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RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS



FO21135

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PAST WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FINALISTS

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Murray Pioneer

2020



JAKOB JOHINKE-MILICH

TWO Riverland apprentices shared the glory as joint winners of the 2020 Apprentice of the Year award at last year's presentation night.

Journalist Elyse Armanini caught up with Madison Lailey and Jakob Johinke-Milich to talk about the win and the benefits of the Rotary Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

How did it feel to be acknowledged as the 2020 Apprentice of the Year?

M: Being acknowledged as Apprentice of the Year last year was a huge achievement for me. I felt very accomplished in the hard work I put in over the four years of my apprenticeship, and it has given me the confidence to move forward in my career.

J: I was in disbelief. Unfortunately, I couldn't attend the awards night because I was unwell, but when I got the phone call it brought a smile to my face. To this day, it is still a great feeling to have the award displayed in my home.

FO21137



Apprentice of the Year





2019 Apprentice of the Year, Aidan Kenyon (middle), presents the 2020 trophy to Nikki Bates (left), on behalf of her son, Jakob Johinke-Milich, and Madison Lailey.

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Rotary Club of Berri

Would like to thank the following people:

Committee: Vicky Andriske Karen Inglis Kerry Woolston Bruce Richardson

Apprenticeship & Traineeship Judges: Julie Robertson Sheree Chappel David Crouch School Based Apprenticeship, Traineeship & Vocational Education & Training Judges: Kymette Dixon Trevor Noble Kimberley Rapson

Did it have any impact on your work or did it give you more confidence in the workplace?

M: Winning this award has greatly boosted my confidence at my workplace, giving me the ability to believe that I can achieve anything I put my mind to. Seeing people's reactions and talking about the award with my peers makes me feel great and leaves me with a sense of pride.

J: The only real impact it had at work was that I was referred to as Apprentice of the Year instead of Jakob when I got a difficult job completed.

Why do you think the awards are important for apprentices and trainees in the Riverland?

M: I think that this award is very important for apprentices and trainees to gain recognition for all the hard work they have put in throughout their apprenticeship. It's an amazing achievement and something to be extremely proud of.

J: I think it's a really great way to acknowledge apprentices and trainees of their hard work and what they have achieved through the year. I believe that the awards are another way of striving for their own next goal in life.

Would you encourage other apprentices to put their hand up to be nominated?

M: I greatly encourage all apprentices and trainees to apply for this amazing award. It is a lifelong achievement and will forever be something that makes you stand out among your fellow apprentices and trainees, and also solidifies your name in Riverland and Mallee history.

J: Definitely. It doesn't hurt to enter and even if you only make it to the finals, that's a great achievement on its own.



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2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards 3

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FO21134

Apprentice of the Year, 30 years on

ELYSE ARMANINI

THE region's apprentices and trainees will be recognised for their hard work and commitment at an annual awards ceremony next week.

Winners of the 2021 apprentice, trainee and VET student of the year, among other awards, will be announced at the Rotary Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards, held at the Berri Hotel on Friday, March 25.

First started in 1982, the awards recognise apprentices and trainees, from all walks of life and many different industries, for their determination to go above and beyond in their field. Mr Doecke completed his two-year horticulture apprenticeship with Kevin and Greg Twigden at Frankleigh Fruits in Taylorville.

"Apprenticeships and the awards give you confidence," he said.

"It's a bit of a funny one though. You need confidence already to be well-presented to win the award, because that's one of the things (the judges) are looking for."

Mr Doecke is the Loxton-based innovation and development manager for fertiliser company, Omnia Specialties, and has worked in the horticulture industry for 27 years.

I think it's important to also recognise the employers and all the effort they put in, because they're doing it, not for themselves, but for the industry.

The guest speaker for the evening will be 1992 Apprentice of the Year winner, Andrew Doecke.



Julie, Peter and the team at Calperum Station congratulate rangers

William Morgan and Ceobahn Webber

on being finalists in the 2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

Well deserved recognition for a job well done.

The Riverland Ranger Program at Calperum is proudly funded by the Australian Government in partnership with Australian Landscape Trust and Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board. "It's certainly been an interesting industry to work in. There is always something going on," he said.

"Things have changed so much; just in terms of the level of sophistication, the things you can measure and the technology, because 30 years ago the machines didn't exist."

Mr Doecke encouraged people thinking about apprenticeships and traineeships to take the opportunity if it arises.

"People used to say that if you've done a trade, you're too dumb to go to university, or something like that... that was the attitude back in the day," he said.

our 2021 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards Finalist



Andrew Doecke (right) accepting the Apprentice of the Year award for horticulture in 1992. INSET: Andrew Doecke now.

"Time is proving that is not the case, and that a lot of people who have university training can't get a job... but trades-

people are doing very well for themselves. "I think opportunities like the awards are good to challenge yourself and sit in front of an interview panel and get asked tricky questions.

"I think it's important to also recognise the employers and all the effort they put in, because they're doing it, not for themselves, but for the industry."

Mr Doecke said the keys to success for apprentices and trainees are consistency, resilience and taking the good days with the bad.

"Celebrate the wins when they come, but also have the resilience to buckle down when things aren't going well," he added.

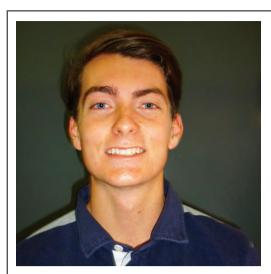


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2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards



JAMES GOODMAN School: Berri Regional Secondary College Industry: Education Course: Certificate III in Education Support Employer: Hosted at Monash Primary School RTO: MADEC Australia

Working with other professionals at Monash Primary and Preschool has provided valuable experience for James as he completes a Cert III in Education Support as a school-based trainee. James recognises that learning how to implement planned education programs will be valuable when he is a primary school teacher.



SAKINA QAMBARI School: Renmark High School Industry: Hospitality Course: Certificate III in Hospitality Employer: Renmark Club RTO: TAFE SA

As a school-based trainee, Sakina is undertaking a Cert III in Hospitality at the Renmark Club. By being exposed to the various sectors within hospitality Sakina has gained valuable skills and experience. She is considered an outstanding hospitality staff member, with great work ethic, motivation, and initiative to succeed.



SCHOOL-BASED TRA

CEOBAHN WEBBER School: Renmark High School Industry: Conservation and Ecosystems Management Course: Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystems Management Employer: Calperum Station (ALT) RTO: GrowSmart Training Ceobahn is completing a Cert III in Conservation

and Ecosystems Management as a school-based trainee with the Australian Landscape Trust at Calperum Station. She values the support from the staff and the opportunities to explore the possibilities within this industry, while in the real world of work.





SARAH KASSEBAUM School: Glossop High School Industry: Hairdressing Course: Certificate III in Hairdressing Employer: Jarah's Hair Salon RTO: TAFE SA

Sarah has a school-based apprenticeship with Jarah's Hair Salon in Berri and is studying Cert III in Hairdressing. She strives to be the best and seeks out extra training opportunities to add to her skill set. Starting to build her own clientele has given Sarah a huge sense of achievement and reinforces her passion for her career.



AMY CORNELIUS School: Renmark High School Industry: Hairdressing Course: Certificate III in Hairdressing Employer: Cindy's Hair and Beauty RTO: Clip Joint Education

Amy is completing a Cert III in Hairdressing under a school-based apprenticeship with Cindy's Hair and Beauty Salon in Berri. Amy plans to increase her knowledge by completing Cert IV and V in Health and Beauty. Amy values working as a team and being immersed in the positive mindset of the salon.



CALLAM IRLAM School: Loxton High School Industry: Hospitality Course: Certificate III in Commercial Cookery Employer: Loxton Hotel RTO: TAFE SA

Callum has proven himself to be an outstanding chef at the Loxton Hotel, where he works as a school-based apprentice while completing Cert III in Commercial Cookery. Callum values the positive atmosphere and support he receives from his colleagues and is constantly working to improve his skills.

RIVERLAND & MALLEE



NATHAN CASEY School: Berri Regional Secondary College Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care RTO: MADEC Australia

Nathan completed his Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care while completing year 11 at Glossop High School in 2021. His bubbly personality, energy and motivation on placement secured him employment with the Riverland Early Learning Centre in Renmark. Nathan plans to complete a Diploma and Degree in Primary Teaching.



CHANTELLE MILLER School: Waikerie High School Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing) RTO: MADEC Australia

Chantelle has completed two certificates while at Waikerie High School, Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care in 2020 and Cert III in Individual Support (Ageing) in 2021. Achieving these qualifications show Chantelle's determination to work with children with a disability in the Riverland. Chantelle's career path through the VET in Schools Program is a testament to its value for the region's young people.



JARRA GIBBS School: Loxton High School Industry: Community Services Course: Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing)

RTO: MADEC Australia Having a kind and compassionate nature, Jarra

chose to complete Cert III in Individual Support (Ageing) in the VET in Schools Program in 2021. Her respect and care for the elderly was recognised on her placement at Loxton Riverview Lutheran Rest Home where she now has part time employment as a carer. Jarra plans to continue her studies to become a registered nurse.



Congratulations to our nominated MADEC students

James Goodman Nathan Casey Chantelle Miller Jarra Gibbs

All the best from everyone at MADEC!

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f in

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Rotary focused on youth success

SUPPORTING a diverse range of skills among Riverland youth is a key part of a local Rotary club's work, according to the chairperson.

Rotary Club of Berri Awards chairperson, Bruce Richardson, said developing leadership abilities in young people was vital to the survival of Riverland industries.

"It's really important to invest in youth, because they are our future," Mr Richardson said.

"If we can keep our youth in the region and promote their skills, it ensures a future for the Riverland. Unless we keep people in those industries they will disappear, (so) it's very important we keep those people we need to maintain businesses in the area.

"Rotary is very much about looking after the junior members of our com-

munity (and) we run other programs that focus on leadership training."

Mr Richardson said the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards celebrated the importance of trainees and apprentices to local businesses.

"It's a great opportunity to bring those leaders in the community together to recognise success," he said.

"Any kind of reward for success is always a boost for the confidence and the knowledge you're doing the right thing.

"Our club is always on the lookout for interested people to become involved in supporting the youth programs in the Berri area."

If you are interested please contact the secretary of the Rotary club, details of which are on the club website (www. rotaryberri.org.au).



Congratulations to all school-based trainees and apprentices across the region.

Your hard work and dedication does not go unrecognised!

Bright futures ahead

HOSTING the annual Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards is important for the region's future, according to the Rotary Club of Berri's Bruce Richardson.

"A lot of work, especially this year under Covid conditions, goes into staging the night but in the end it's worth it," Mr Richardson said.

"Seeing the response and the faces of the finalists when they are recognised by everyone present is really special.

"Some of the skills that these young people have are just amazing and it's important to recognise the contributions they make not only in the work environment but also the community."

Mr Richardson said the awards night was an encouraging experience for the region's young apprentices and trainees.

"The ceremony is a great confidence boost for the young people of our region and something great to add to a resume," he said.

"We've had past winners go on to win other awards and excel in their chosen career path and it's just really nice to see."



Occupation: Mechanic Age: 28 Industry: Automotive Training Year: Third year Employer: Rosenthal Automotive RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I already have one trade in the automotive industry, and I enjoy it so much that I have now branched off into another one because my passion is cars.

TOM AZZOPARDI



KELSEY WADE Occupation: Graphic Design and Prepress Age: 21 Industry: Print Training Year: Fourth year **Employer:** Print DNA RTÓ: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? My former media arts teacher mentioned a graphic design apprenticeship. It was the best opportunity I could have ever hoped for, and I've come so far in my career because of it, thanks to such an incredible work environment and mentoring network.



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\$



RIVERLAND & MALLEE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



PETER TREVORROW

Occupation: Autobody Repair Age: 30 Industry: Automotive Training Year: Fourth year Employer: SMGT hosted by Riverland Collision Centre RTO: Motor Trader Association of SA (MTA) Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I have always had a passion for this industry, and I am learning something new every day.



REILLY GILGEN

Occupation: Welder Age: 20 Industry: Engineering Training Year: Fourth year Employer: MayFab Engineering Pty Ltd RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted a school-based apprenticeship as I was a more hands on student. My pop taught me how to weld when I was 14 – that is where my passion for the trade began.



RILEY THOMSON Occupation: Electrician Age: 21 Industry: Industrial / Irrigation Automation Training Year: Third year Employer: LecLogix Riverland and Mallee Pty Ltd RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I have always had an interest in hands-on tasks and enjoy different challenges, so I knew becoming an electrician would be the right choice for me.



BLAKE GUPPY Occupation: Carpentry Age: 22 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth year Employer: SMGT hosted by GJ **Gardner Homes** RTO: North East Vocational College (NEVC) Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted to experience how rewarding it was to start building something from scratch. It's incredible to be able to build a family's dream home to the highest quality, and working with



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Congratulations to finalist Reilly Gilgen

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2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards





ALEX TSENTIDIS

Occupation: Chef Age: 22 Industry: Hospitality Training Year: Third year Employer: Renmark Club RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted to grow my skills and knowledge about all things food related. Becoming an apprentice helps expand those skills and knowledge further by being able to work side-by-side with experienced chefs.



ADEN SHAW Occupation: Carpenter Age: 27 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Michael Kregar Building Pty Ltd RTO: North East Vocational College (NEVC) Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted to enhance my opportunities within the construction industry after completing a cabinet making apprenticeship. I decided to complete an adult apprenticeship in carpentry to gain new skills, experience

and knowledge.



TRENT ECKERMANN Occupation: Chef Age: 22 Industry: Hospitality Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Renmark Club RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I attended TAFE to explore food further and found I really enjoyed what I was making. After talking to my teachers, both chefs, I just wanted to jump straight into the industry after I finished school.



JESSE BANNISTER Occupation: Carpenter **Age:** 24 Industry: Construction Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Michael Kregar Building Pty Ltd RTO: North East Vocational College (NEVC) Why did you decide to become an apprentice? An apprenticeship was the best opportunity to get into the workforce while also achieving valuable education that supports not only a job but a life-long career path.



Congratulations

Trent Eckermann

Alex Tsentidis

Sakina Qambari

on your nominations

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The MKB team are proud to have two finalists!

Congratulations and best wishes

Aden Shaw & Jesse Bannister

z10877



RIVERLAND & MALLEE APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



ZOE HARRINGTON

Occupation: Baker Age: 22 Industry: Retail Baking Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Barmera's Bakery

RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I have always had a love and passion for baking. My apprenticeship extended my knowledge and skills while studying and getting paid. I am now qualified and a proud member of Barmera Bakery's team.





Occupation: Chef Age: 24 Industry: Hospitality Training Year: Fourth year

Employer: Eleni's at Mallee Estate RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted to complete an apprenticeship to develop my skills and training in the kitchen, as it may lead to career opportunities in the future.



YUSUF (JOEY) HUSEYIN Occupation: Plasterer Age: 19 Industry: Construction Training Year: Third Year Employer: Statewide Group Training hosted by Rockford Homes Pty Ltd RTO: North East Vocational College (NEVC) Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I was struggling with school, so I decided to leave and try

my hand at a trade.

Barmera's 🙀





COHAN JENKE Occupation: Electrician Age: 19 Industry: Electrical Training Year: Third year Employer: YES Group SA Pty Ltd RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I'm a hands-on learner and I quickly came to love the work and learning, and instantly knew this is what I wanted to do. The workplace environment and the people involved have given me the opportunity to learn more

than I ever thought.

KIEREN KRUGER Occupation: Mechanic Age: 25 Industry: Automotive Training Year: Third year Employer: MiTech Automotive RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I decided to become an automotive apprentice because I enjoy the work. I want to make sure I have a qualification for the future, because there will always be a need for mechanics.

Message from the president

APPRENTICESHIPS and traineeships are vital to any community and by providing apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities, local businesses not only ensure their own survival into the future, but also help our community keep some of its best talent at home.

The Riverland and Mallee has more than 550 apprentices and trainees currently in training. This includes apprentices in traditional trades as well as those undertaking traineeships in horticulture, agriculture, retail, clerical, health care, child care, transport, hospitality, information technology, management, wine production, fitness, food processing, animal care, beauty and real estate.

In recent years, financial support from both federal and state governments has enabled local businesses to up-skill and train many of their employees. This has provided opportunities for all Australians to not only achieve nationally recognised qualifications in their industry, but also to be recognised for skills they have developed during their entire working life.

Apprenticeships and traineeships continue to be the major form of vocational training in Australia, and it is our privilege through the Rotary Club of Berri to be able to support and encourage young people starting off on their lifelong career paths.

I would like to thank Kerry Woolston, Bruce Richardson, Vicky Andriske and Karen Inglis, members of the awards committee, for their work in organising the event.

Thanks also to the judging panels and the MC, Bruce Mellett, for their contribution to making these awards a successful event.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Berri, I would like to wish each finalist the best of luck in their chosen career, and good luck in this year's awards.

Congratulations Zoe Harrington On your nomination for 2021 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards Best wishes from us all here at Barmera's

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MARK CAMERON

Occupation: Painter Age: 30 Industry: Painting Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Ricky Hamond Painting RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I started going for a job with Ricky as a labourer. He gave me the opportunity to do a mature age apprenticeship, so I took it.

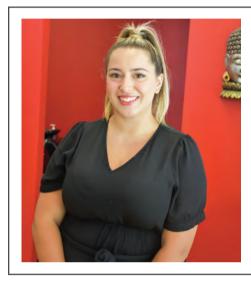


LUCAS ZIMMERMANN Occupation: Electrician Age: 21 Industry: Electrical Training Year: Third year Employer: Nippy's RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? To acquire a specialised skillset, and gain knowledge from on-the-job training. I value learning on the tools while putting my knowledge into practice in my daily tasks and I get to work in my field of passion.



LIAM RUSSACK Occupation: Refrigeration Technician Age: 25 Industry: Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Devilee's Air Conditioning RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I wanted to better myself and get more life experience in the same

trade that my father started in.



MARIANTHI (MIA) MINNAS

Occupation: Hairdresser Age: 21 Industry: Hairdressing Training Year: Fourth year Employer: Cindy's Hair and Beauty RTO: Clip Joint Education Why did you decide to become an apprentice? I've always had a passion for hair and making people feel good about themselves. I love my colleagues and lovely clients. I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn while earning an income.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO LIAM RUSSACK ON HIS NOMINATION FOR APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AT THE 2021 RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS.

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2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards 11

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2021 RIVERLAND AND MALLEE

2021 - Riverland and **Mallee Vocational Awards**

at skilling Australians, has

delivered the highest number

of trade apprenticeships on

record—220,000, including

3,160 apprentices and trainees

in training in Barker.

CONGRATULATIONS to all the nominees of this year's Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

The Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards are the largest of their kind in regional Australia, which underscores not only the hard work of the apprentices, trainees and students, but also the dedication of members of the Rotary Club of Berri and the quality of the training experience offered by employers

in the Riverland and Mallee. Apprenticeships and traineeships This record investment, targeted are a highly effective way to

skill Australians to be part of the modern, rapidly changing workplace. Apprentices and trainees gain valuable skills which project them onto lucrative career pathways.

Despite Covid-19 headwinds, Australian apprentices and trainees are finding work at higher rates than pre-pandemic. The higher rates of apprentices and trainees gaining employment is further evidence of the ongoing strength of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) and

Government which has invested \$13 billion in the skills system through the pandemic. This record investment, targeted at

TAFE system under the Morrison

skilling Australians, has delivered the highest number of trade apprenticeships on record-220,000, including 3.160 apprentices and trainees in

training in Barker. Congratulations to the nominees in the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards. I am so

pleased that the hard work and dedication you have shown to your profession has been recognised in this important way. A special thanks must also go to employ-

ers in the region, who not only contribute to their profession and the local economy by employing a trainee or apprentice, but also provide important guidance, education and training to the young people they employ.

- Tony Pasin MP



PROUD SPONSOR OF THE RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Congratulations to all award nominees

Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253 🕙 85312466 🚾 tony.pasin.mp@aph.gov.au 👔 tonypasin.com 🗗 TonyPasinMP Authorised by T.Pasin MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253.

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE RIVERLAND AND MALLEE VOCATIONAL AWARDS. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE NOMINEES!**

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DANICA BEE Age: 19

Industry: Transport/Freight/Logistics Training Year: Second year Employer: Lochert Bros Pty Ltd RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee?

I saw the vast amount of opportunity that the work environment offered, including enhancement on my skills in my chosen career from daily tasks and the customer relationship focus that is greatly driven at Lochert Bros.





WILLIAM GILLETT Age: 19

Industry: Business Training Year:

First and final year Employer: Tim Whetstone MP -Chaffey Electorate Office

RTO: TAFE SA Why did you decide to become a trainee? I thought it would be a fantastic opportunity and would help to grow my connections within the Riverland

PAIGE LAWRENCE Age: 26 Industry: Horticulture Training Year: Second year Employer: SMGT hosted by AgriExchange (Costa Group)

RTO: GrowSmart Training Why did you decide to become

a trainee? Horticulture is different to what I was previously doing and it allowed on-the job-training which was great.

Finalist diversity highlights regional opportunities

ELYSE ARMANINI

MORE than 30 local apprentices, traines and VET students will be celebrated at the upcoming Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

One of three awards judges, Julie Robertson, said the prevalence of Covidrelated obstacles mentioned in finalist interviews was lower than last year. "It was good actually, it was a nice

change from the year before," Mrs Robertson said.

"I think, the year before it was still new and it just affected them so much.

"We did get the sense of resilience coming through with these young people,

which was really nice to see." Mrs Robertson said it was "great to see

the diversity" of the finalists this year. "I think what it indicates is just how

diverse our region is with regards to where the employment and training opportunities are," she said.

'Just those various businesses that are growing and thriving and hiring staff, that's one of the things to me that really is a highlight.

"It just shows how strong our region is and that there is progress - we're tracking in the right direction."

Mrs Robertson said increasing the emphasis on employers and the role they play in the development of trainees and apprentices was a priority for the awards.

"It really is a partnership between the employer, the trainee and the support mechanisms around them," she said.

"I think the employer role is crucial. "It just makes good business sense to be developing young people from within your business framework."





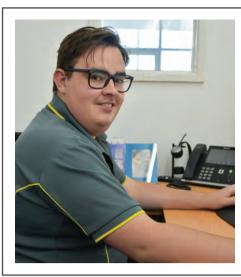


WILLIAM MORGAN

Age: 27 Industry: Conservation Training Year: First year Employer: Australian Landscape Trust RTO: GrowSmart Training

Why did you decide to become a trainee?

I became a trainee to increase my skills and knowledge as a ranger. My experience at Calperum Station has been great and has helped me start my Certificate III training.



ASHLEY POLST

Age: 24 Industry: Information Technology

Training Year: Second year Employer: Pippos Technology Solutions RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee?

To jumpstart my IT career by gaining practical experience with Pippos and theoretical experience with TAFE SA, while completing my certification. Without the opportunity, I wouldn't have been able to advance my career as far as I have now.



TRAVIS O'SHAUGHNESSY Age: 18 Industry:

Employer: District Council of Loxton Waikerie RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee? I became a trainee during my gap year

to gain valuable skills and experience from a professional organisation in my home town. I have loved serving the Loxton Waikerie community.

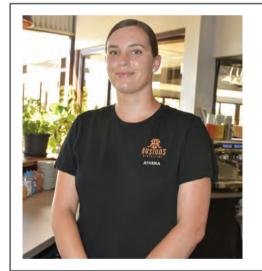


ELIANA MCINTOSH Age: 19 Industry: Business / Agriculture

Training Year: Second year Employer: SMGT hosted by AgriExchange (Costa Group) RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee?

I was excited to put my business admin skills to use in the workplace while also being supported in my studies. I'm so grateful that I have more knowledge and experience because of the opportunity.



ATHENA WAINMAN-RILEY

Age: 29 Industry: Hospitality/Business Training Year: First year Employer: SMGT hosted by Rustons RTO: TAFE SA

Why did you decide to become a trainee?

To help grow and develop my skills in my chosen career path. I'd like to become a librarian, and working in an administrative role will help me along my way.









CONGRATULATIONS

Athena Wainman-Riley on your nomination for 2021 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards





2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards



Congratulations to all apprentice, trainee and vocational education nominees in the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

> Well done to my trainee William Gillett on being named a finalist.



PO Box 959, Berri SA 5343 chaffey@parliament.sa.gov.au www.timwhetstone.com.au

Skilling our future

THE Riverland economy is underwritten by our skilled workforce. The lure of working for a small business undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship is often the difference between the younger generation pursuing a career in the region or seeking employment opportunities elsewhere. Vocational training offer opportunities for young people to pursue careers in their hometowns, allowing the region to maintain a young workforce and support local businesses.

Th Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards play an important role in recognising trainees and apprentices for their hard work and passion. For over 30 years, the awards have been highly valued, acknowledging the hard work and commitment of our budding vocational workforce and to be named an award winner is a true reflection of work ethic and dedication. It's not just the vocational education students who are recognised through the awards but our outstanding local businesses supporting the continual upskilling of the local workforce.

The coming together of our community, businesses and industries to celebrate our passionate apprentices and trainees for the awards is a proud moment every year. The ongoing positive legacy in the careers of the individuals involved in these awards is certainly a measure of success. As a young man, I completed an apprenticeship as a toolmaker at General Motors Holden which has set me in good stead for the rest of my working life.



I am a passionate advocate for continued assistance to our young workers who have committed to their careers through traineeships and apprenticeships. It is these apprentices who will one day start their own businesses and give back to the local economy.

Well done to all involved in the awards, the fantastic judging panel and particularly the Rotary Club of Berri, whose volunteers put in outstanding effort every year to make the awards a success. I'm also proud to have William Gillett, who completed a traineeship in my office, named as a finalist at these awards.

I look forward to being in attendance to see our hard-working apprentices, trainees and vocational students recognised once again. **#RiverlandProud**

Tim Whetstone MP Member for Chaffey



Almondco is proud to be sponsors of The Riverland & Mallee 2021 Vocational Awards

Congratulations to all award recipients

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2020 Trainee of the Year runner-up, Breeann Duncan (middle right), celebrated the awards night with her family, Tim Whetstone and Cassandra Bye.

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Platinum sponsors of the Riverland & Mallee 2021 Vocational Awards, a great event which enhances skills in the Riverland

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14 2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards

Praise for employers ELYSE ARMANINI

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of employers in preparing apprentices, trainees and VET students for the workforce is a priority for the Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards.

Australian Landscape Trust (Calperum Station) general manager, education and business development, and awards judge, Julie Robertson, said the role of employers was "really important".

"Any efforts that an employer puts into these young people does get returned back to them," Mrs Robertson said.

"Education is really important to us (at Calperum). We see these young people show enthusiasm for the work that's being done out here, and then we see them go on to continue on that pathway."

Mrs Robertson said candidates expressed their appreciation to have the opportunity to earn an income while getting work experience.

"It is a lifelong learning opportunity for people to develop a pathway to a career," she said.

"That is crucial, and I think young people are starting to value that, and know they don't have to leave the Riverland.

"The VET system is also an opportunity for people who want to continue on into university, or get a degree down the track. They don't have to choose one or the other."

To employers, and employees, considering nominations for next year's awards, Mrs Robertson's advice was simple.

"Just do it," she said.

"We see the pride nominees have just for being nominated, and that pride grows as they write the application.

"Quite often employers will just write paragraph after paragraph in their reference of what their employee brings to the business, and all their qualities.

"I think that's one of the things these awards give people the opportunity to do."

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students to engage in industry while

completing their South Australian

remaining connected to school.

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5 Riverland Public Secondary

Swan Reach Area School and

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Education sites including: Berri



Trainee of the Year Bianca Shephard

2020

Apprentice of the Year

2019







School-Based Apprentice of the Year Kimberley Rapson School-Based Trainee of the Year Emily Taylor VET Student of the Year Parker Steinert

Apprentice of the Year Aidan Kenyon Trainee of the Year Jessica Matulick



School-Based Apprentice of the Year Charlie Holtham School-Based Trainee of the Year Tahnee Dack VET Student of the Year Jack Monaco VET Post School Student of the Year Caitlin Polack

2021 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards

The Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards aims to promote and reward the most outstanding Apprentices, Trainees and Vocational Education and Training Students in our region. The Riverland Secondary Schools Alliance has a proud history of providing successful vocational education pathways. We congratulate our nominees and finalists for the 2021 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards.

School Based Apprentice

A School Based Apprentice allows senior secondary students to begin an apprenticeship as a part of their SACE. Through this students start vocational training, earn a wage and get hands on experience while finishing school.

Finalists

Sarah Kassebaum (BRSC) Callum Irlam (LHS) Amy Cornelius (RHS)

Nominees

Nicholas Tzanos (RHS) Sophie Wilson (LHS) Archie Holtham (BRSC) Jamie DiCerbo (RHS) Aiden Scordo (BRSC)

School Based Trainee

A School Based Trainee allows senior secondary students to begin a traineeship as a part of their SACE. Through this students start vocational training, earning a wage and getting hands on experience while finishing school.

Finalists

James Goodman (BRSC) Sakina Qambari (RHS) Ceobahn Webber (RHS)

Nominees

Tahlia Arnold (LHS) Jayden Hedley (BRSC) Callum Isaacs (LHS)

VET Student

Vocational Education & Training (VET) students complete training with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Students undertaking a VET course gain industry specific skills that allow them to perform tasks in the workplace.

Finalists

Jarra Gibbs (LHS) Chantelle Miller (WHS) Nathan Casey (BRSC)

Nominees

Charlotte Zimmerman (LHS) Grace Nuske (RHS) Parker Steinert (WHS) Chelsea Humble (RHS) Naish Andrew (WHS)



2021 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards





Joint winners Jakob Johinke-Milich and Madison Lailey





VOCATIONAL AWARDS SUPPORTERS



vocation.berrirotary@gmail.com

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