



ALEXANDRINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Winter Edition, 2014

Message From Mayor Kym McHugh

Welcome to the Winter Council Newsletter.

Since 2010 Council has been proactive in supporting its vital rural sector through the establishment of the Alexandrina Sustainable Agricultural Round Table, ASART. Council has now allocated \$50,000 towards a Rural Initiatives Grant, which is designed to support projects which promote sustainable rural and primary production initiatives within the Council area.

The application and assessment process has now been completed with six organisations or individuals being successful in obtaining funds.

It was fantastic to see a variety of projects being presented which included a web based marketing tool with associated training, trial crops to see the effects of clay spading and various organic and conventional fertilisers, a targeted training and development program for farmers, vineyard cover crop trials and assistance in the development of plans for a new processing facility. It will be great to see the outcomes of these projects as they develop over the next 12 months and beyond.

All successful applicants were presented with their grants at a meeting of Council held at The Winehouse, Langhorne Creek, on 2 June 2014. To further Council's commitment to its rural areas we will endeavour to hold more meetings at other locations around the district.

The 2014 Heritage Awards presentation night was held in late-May in Middleton.

The awards are a biennial presentation to recognise and acknowledge the contribution of heritage-related projects completed within the Alexandrina Council region.

This event was held as part of the About Time History Festival and was held at the Pioneer Hall in Middleton.

Council presented 12 awards on the night to various individuals and groups. The major award for Best Conservation Practice in a State Heritage Zone was awarded to the Strathalbyn Post Office.

The Post Office's conservation works were undertaken in 2013 and replaced the existing galvanised steel roof, the masonry was repointed where the mortar had deteriorated. The building was then repainted with a colour scheme which is considered to have a positive heritage impact which highlights the stylistic features



Enid Simpson received a Heritage Award for the restoration work undertaken at the Elders building in Goolwa from Mayor Kym McHugh.

of the façade. The project is an outstanding example of how conservation practices should be undertaken to enhance the heritage character of the historic Strathalbyn.

In June Council officially launched its new four-year Environmental Action Plan on World Environment Day.

You can read the Environmental Action Plan document by visiting Council's website at www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/EAP. Read more about the launch event on page 2 of the newsletter.

We are fortunate to live in an area blessed with natural beauty and as a community,

we are proud to be known nationally and internationally for our unique environment. It is one of the key reasons that people are attracted to live and holiday here.

We also know that environmental action is needed at the global, national and local level to respond to changes such as population growth and climate change. At Alexandrina Council we are committed to playing our part.

Kind Regards,

Mayor Kym McHugh.

11 Cadell Street (PO Box 21) Goolwa SA 5214
www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au

T 08 8555 7000 F 08 8555 3603 E alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Council Celebrates World Environment Day

Council celebrated World Environment Day with the launch of our new Environmental Action Plan 2014-2018.

More than 100 people attended the launch event held at Centenary Hall on 5 June 2014.

Key attractions included a Welcome to Country by the Tal-kin-yeri Dance Group and a Community Environment Expo with 26 information stalls showcasing the breadth of positive environmental action taking place across the Council district.

Stall holders included local schools and environment groups, government agencies, eco-tourism operators, local food producers, and representatives of the green building industry.

As well as launching the Environmental Action Plan, Mayor Kym McHugh took the opportunity to thank the many volunteers within our community who take the time to care for our local environment, reaffirming Council's commitment to working with these groups to secure a cleaner, greener future for our region.



The Environmental Action Plan is divided into four chapters: Protecting our water resources, Enhancing biodiversity, Progressively addressing climate change and Living local. It contains an overview

of past achievements and prioritises future actions. Progress against the Plan will be publicly reported on an annual basis. Visit www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/EAP to view the Plan.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL RIVER PORT OF GOOLWA



2015 South Australian Wooden Boat Festival Update

Join us at the Goolwa Wharf for two days of fun, food and festivities as we celebrate the 2015 South Australian Wooden Boat Festival. There will be something for everyone – on land and on water!

The Wharf will come alive on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 February 2015, with regional food and wine, maritime displays, art exhibitions, music and an area for your little pirates to take part in our new children's fun zone.

Plans are well underway for the 14th festival, so keep an eye out for exciting announcements soon!

For further information, including the opening of boat registrations (available in August 2014) visit the festival website www.woodenboatfestival.com.au.

You can now pay your dog registration renewal online!

Simply visit Council's website, www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au, and click on the 'online payments' link.

Every dog three months of age or over is required to be registered by law. Alexandrina Council offers free first registration for all newly-acquired puppies and rescue dogs. To qualify, puppies must be under six months of age and rescue dogs must have been acquired from a registered animal shelter (proof will be requested). This means you can register your new puppy as soon as you bring it home to ensure that it is given every opportunity to be reunited with you should it happen to stray.

Did you know that in the 2013/2014 financial year Alexandrina Council reunited over 80% of reported lost dogs with their owners?

Make sure you can be reunited with your four-legged friend by registering your dog!



Just Add Water Downstream – it's up to us!

Year Three of Just Add Water is funding in 2014. The program is managed by Council in partnership with Country Arts SA and the Federal Government through the Australia Council.

Just Add Water has shown how looking through an arts lens can contribute positively to the way we view all manner of community issues - health, wellbeing, public space, education, environment, civic engagement, our relationships to one another and the vibrancy of our community - not to mention having loads of fun!

Building on the momentum generated by the tremendous groundswell of local support Just Add Water has continued to make a difference to the lives of people in our community, enabling us to discover the value of arts and culture and to develop greater capacity for delivering high quality programs.

Alexandrina is rapidly developing a reputation as a leader in this field – the challenge now is to make decisions that ensure that the legacy from this significant injection of funding is sustained beyond 2014.

Feedback from you has already shown that people of all ages and backgrounds



have explored the opportunities and found many ways to engage in the arts depending on their interests and for many different reasons, and you've tallied well over 100,000 appearances between you at arts and cultural events and projects.

So far these are some of the comments you've made:

- "Putting it really bluntly, (the community) are less scared of art. It's not a thing that happens 'over there with those weirdos'; it's something that 'I'm involved with'."
- "Many people define legacy in terms of tangible things that you can see and count... but they're not

understanding... the quality of life."

- "It's been a lot of fun and some seriously talented people have gained the confidence to come out of the woodwork! The arts genie is well and truly out of the bottle."

As we move toward the conclusion of the three-year funding partnership, it's now time to make decisions about the direction you want your Council to take and the role we want arts and culture to play in the future of our community.

From August to September you are invited to tell us about the direction you would like Council to take in the area of arts and culture. It couldn't be easier – visit Council's website www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au and follow the links to take the survey.

Or, watch out for the Just Add Water logo next time you are out and about in various spots around our community.

It will mean that one of our research assistants is available to help you complete the survey on the spot.

Just Add Water can continue to make a difference to the lives of everyone in the community beyond 2014.

Just how much is up to all of us to decide.

Enrol to Vote by August 8 to Have Your Say in Council Elections

Local Government elections are held every four years, with the next Council Election to be held in November 2014.

If you are already on the State Electoral Roll (in the Alexandrina Council area) to vote in the State Election, then you will automatically be included on the Council Voter's Roll and will receive voting papers by post.

However, if you are a landlord, business lessee or resident non-Australian citizen, you will no longer be automatically included on the Council Voter's Roll. If you have been previously enrolled in that capacity, and are still eligible, you will need to re-enrol.

Enrolment for the 2014 Council Elections closes at 5pm on Friday 8 August 2014.

For enrolment forms or more information visit www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/election.

If you are 17 years of age and enrolled as a provisional voter on the State Electoral

Roll and turn 18 by close of voting, you are entitled to vote and will receive ballot papers. If you have moved house or changed your name, you will need to complete a new enrolment form. These are available at your local Post Office or at www.ecsa.sa.gov.au

Key Dates	
Roll closes	Friday 8 August 2014
Nominations open	Tuesday 2 September 2014
Nominations close	12noon, Tuesday 16 September 2014
Mail out of voting material	Monday 20 October to Friday 24 October 2014
Close of voting	5pm Friday 7 November 2014

Alexandrina Library Programs

Author Event – Sue Donnelly

Saturday 16 August 11am – 12noon Goolwa Library (Community Chambers), 11 Cadell Street, Goolwa

FREE event. Bookings essential: 8555 7000. Sue Donnelly is a wordsmith, storyteller, writer of stories for children and thoughtful image-provoking poetry. Come and hear author Sue Donnelly discuss her poetry collection Heartfelt Moments and stay for light refreshments. Signed copies of her book will be available for purchase.

Caravan and Towing Information Session

SAPOL Road Safety Section will present a Road Regulations and Safe Driving seminar that will look at caravan and towing regulations. Presented by Senior Constable Rob Grinter, this session covers all you need to know about towing caravans and trailers, licences, what to do before you go, and any other questions that you may have.

Thursday 25 September 10am – 11am at Strathalbyn Library, Customer Service and Community Centre, or 1pm – 2pm at Goolwa Library (Community Chambers).

FREE event. Bookings essential: 8555 7000

iPad Workshops

Come 'n Try iPad - come along and have a play as you explore this device.

Monday 7 July and Monday 1 September.

Strathalbyn Library, 10am – 12noon and Goolwa Library, 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Beginners iPad - must have your own iPad for this level.

Monday 4 August and Monday 29 September
Strathalbyn Library, 10am – 12noon and Goolwa Library, 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Internet/iPad assistance

Internet/iPad/tablet/overdrive assistance on Wednesdays at Goolwa library 10am – 1pm.

Internet assistance on Wednesdays at Strathalbyn library 10am – 1pm.

Tablet (iPad/Android) assistance, Thursdays at Strathalbyn Library 10am – 1pm.

These sessions are very popular and regularly booked out. If you are unable to attend, please let Council know by phoning 8555 7000.



Mayor Kym McHugh with Emmerson, Poppy and Hunter at the Forrest Reserve site at Strathalbyn.

Connecting Children to Nature

Alexandrina Council is excited to be underway with the planning and development of two amazing new playspaces for our community.

These playspaces are a result of successful funding applications through the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

The two new playspaces are:

- Forrest Reserve (located on Burkett Drive in Strathalbyn)
- Bristow Smith Reserve

These two playspaces will be more than just a playground, they will be areas that engage our children in creative, imaginative and challenging play and promote the principles of risk benefit and natural play.

The aim of creating these playspaces is to encourage our community and children outside for longer periods of time.

This is an important outcome considering recent data indicates that 63% of South Australian children do not meet the guidelines for sufficient physical activity and are spending on average 4.5 hours a day in front of a screen.

The Forrest Reserve Playspace at Strathalbyn is scheduled to be completed by December 2014 and will feature:

- Slippery dips on the “big” mound – children will love getting up the mound and then choosing a slide to head on down,
- A fying fox – this will be an exhilarating 30-metre cableway,
- Sandpit with restored boat and gang plank,
- Mini bike track – perfect for the young rider on a safe but interesting track
- Cubby areas
- Carved wooden animals lurking in the bush
- Logs and rocks – for balancing, climbing and imaginative play, and
- Natural seating and a drinking fountain.

Council aims to provide a playspace design at Bristow Smith Reserve that provides an area for children of all ages and abilities to be challenged by the inclusion of natural elements. The adjoining foreshore will be enhanced to upgrade the Children’s Swimming Beach area and provide greater connectivity between this area and other sections of Bristow Smith Reserve, via a series of paths. The Bristow Smith Playspace in Goolwa is scheduled to be completed by February 2015.