

MEDIA RELEASE

2026/27 Community Grant recipients announced

20 August 2026

Alexandrina Council has awarded \$126,078 of grant funding to 48 clubs, organisations, artists, businesses and individuals to undertake projects and initiatives that contribute to Council's vision for a create a 'Liveable. Green. Connected.' community.

The funding is from Council's 2026/27 Grant Program which was approved by Council Members at their August Ordinary Council Meeting on Monday night.

Applications for the program opened in May and closed in June and were recently assessed by Council's Grant Assessment Panels against competitive criteria for each of the five categories covering business, environment, heritage and two streams of community wellbeing.

"The applications for this year's Grant Program were a diverse range of projects spread across the region," said Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes.

"Our community is creative, initiative-driven and passionate which all contribute to our long-term vision of a 'Liveable. Green. Connected.' Alexandrina and I look forward to seeing these projects come to life in the coming months.

"Projects range from business improvement, conservation and planting initiatives, community event support, public art projects and funding to help restore heritage buildings.

"This year our environment grants were undersubscribed so Council has resolved to reallocate the remaining \$3,922 in funding for our community-led Tree Planting Project.

"We have one grant round still open. Council's Small Grants Program will remain open until all funds are allocated. If you were unable to apply in time for the other grants and are eligible for a small grant, I encourage you to apply."

Council approved the allocation of \$20,000 for the 2026/27 Business Initiatives Grant budget to the following applicants:

- **Strathalbyn Tourism Association \$2,500** – to fund an architect to prepare compliance plans and documentation.
- **Newman's Farm Pty Ltd \$2,500** – for business identification and directional signage.
- **SouthRun Airport Transfers \$2,500** – to enhance their digital presence and local tourism integration of airport shuttle and private transfers.
- **Bleasdale Vineyards Pty Ltd \$2,000** – to enhance their digital library.
- **First Step Health Collective \$2,000** – to develop a digital library, website and content.
- **Yeo Haus \$2,000** – for digital growth and market expansion.
- **Artworx Gallery & Gifts Goolwa \$2,000** – for website enhancements.

- **Mintz Family Holdings Pty Ltd trading as Merilli1885 \$2,000** – for marketing assets and trade collateral.
- **Kimbolton Vineyards Pty Ltd \$1,250** – to develop a portfolio of photos and videos.
- **Fleurieu Bike Pty Ltd \$1,250** – for tools and equipment for educational workshops.

Council approved the allocation of \$16,078 from the 2026/27 Community Environment Grant budget to the following applicants:

- **Freemans Knob Coastcare \$2,000** – to plant indigenous native plants.
- **River Lakes and Coorong Action Group Inc \$4,000** – for information signage in Clayton Bay.
- **Angas River Catchment Group \$2,723** – for promotional materials and interpretive signage.
- **Cittaslow Goolwa Inc \$3,355** – to upgrade Jekejere Park interpretive signage.
- **Kumarangk Hindmarsh Island Landcare Group Inc \$4,000** – for weed control at Ferryman's Reserve.

Council approved the allocation of \$30,000 from the 2026/27 Community Wellbeing Grant budget to the following applicants within the "Vibrant and Artistic" stream:

- **Strathalbyn Aboriginal Action Reference Group Inc. \$2,000** – for SAARG Corroboree 2026.
- **Goolwa Community Association \$4,075** – for SA round of the Australian National Busking Competition Goolwa Heats.
- **Lost for Words Writers' Group \$3,000** – to publish a writing project.
- **Cittaslow Goolwa Inc \$5,000** – for artist engagement with local schools to create designs of Chrystal Street Garden.
- **Port Elliot Primary School \$2,600** – for a collaborative art and learning project.
- **Patch Theatre Company Inc \$3,500** – for an interactive exhibition for children at Centenary Hall and Strathalbyn Town Hall.
- **SA Jazz Festivals Inc \$2,445** – for the annual Jazz Festival in Goolwa.
- **Plein Air Strathalbyn Committee \$3,690** – for an outdoor painting and art experience event in Strathalbyn.
- **Middleton Community Association Inc \$3,690** – for a public art project in Middleton.

Council approved the allocation of \$40,000 from the 2026/27 Community Wellbeing Grant budget to the following applicants within the "Active and Healthy", "Connected and Inclusive" and "Places and Spaces" streams:

- **Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc \$2,500** – for equipment for a metalworking program.
- **South Australian Athletic League Inc \$2,500** – Goolwa Gift Athletic Carnival.
- **Rotary Club of Goolwa \$5,000** – Community shelter at Rotary Centenary Park.
- **Yundi War Memorial Hall \$2,500** – to improve heating and cooling.
- **Strathalbyn and District Concert Band Inc \$2,500** – 2027 Strathalbyn Bands Festival.
- **Coorong Quays Boat Shed Incorporated \$2,300** – for equipment for community shed.
- **Milang Vintage Machinery Club Inc \$2,500** – Yesterdays 30th Power Rally.
- **Strathalbyn National Trust Museum \$2,500** – Computer equipment and upgrades.
- **RecFishSA \$1,500** – for a clinic teaching children about fishing and the use of fishing equipment.
- **Hope Forest Residents Association Inc \$5,000** – Construction of weatherproof areas.

- **Goolwa Surf Life Saving Club Inc \$2,500** – Delivery of the Alexandrina Coast Youth Leadership & Lifesaving program.
- **Goolwa Aquatic Club \$2,500** – Aquafest.
- **Port Elliot Bowling Club Inc \$2,000** – to replace uniforms.
- **Milang and District Community Association \$2,100** – Milang Youth Hub driving program subscription to access virtual, scenario-based driving experience.
- **Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club \$2,100** – upgrade the security system at the facility.

Council approved the allocation of \$20,000 from the 2026/27 Heritage Grant budget to the following applicants:

- **Jen Engelhardt \$2,500** – Restoration of brick foundation.
- **Gordon Ure \$2,000** - Conservation of 21 Arthur Street, Port Elliot.
- **Michelle Lonergan \$2,500** – Removal of existing wire fence and construction of heritage picket fence.
- **Noteseem Pty Ltd t/a Smith Builders \$2,500** – Renovation of brick cottage and living extension and garage.
- **Milang Historical Railway Museum Inc \$2,500** – Exhibition of the 1881 arrival of Princes Albert and George (later King George V) in Milang.
- **Armfield Wooden Boats Inc. \$2,000** – Restoration of wooden boat vessel 'Meralte' that was used in the 2019 re-make of the film 'Storm Boy'.
- **Judith Aquilina \$2,000** – Development of 'Old Milang' a history book by Alvyn Hopgood, edited by Jude Aquilina.
- **ACN 101 162 056 Pty Ltd ATF Forby Family Trust \$2,000** – Restoration of Goodes General Store, 3 Cadell Street, Goolwa.
- **Milang & District Historical Society Inc \$2,000** – Equipment for artwork in front of the Museum.

For further information about Council's grant programs, visit our website
www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/grants

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