Newsletter | Spring 2022



Alexandrina Alive





SA Wooden Boat Festival

The festival is back in April 2023 with an exciting program of events and activities!

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Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct

Stage Two of the Master Plan soon to be underway.

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Message from our CEO

Welcome to the spring edition of Alexandrina Alive. With Council currently in caretaker mode in the lead-up to the November 2022 Local Government Elections, it is my pleasure to introduce this publication.

Since joining the Alexandrina Council team as the Chief Executive Officer in May 2022, we have progressed some amazing regional projects including: The Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct which is on track to be one of the best sporting and wellbeing hubs on the Fleurieu Peninsula with Stage 2 of the Master Plan underway. In Strathalbyn the streetscape stages are progressing for the town centre revitalisation. We have new playarounds at the Mount Compass Recreation Park and Port Elliot's Horseshoe Bay for youngsters to enjoy as we head into warmer weather. We have just appointed a lead contractor for the Goolwa Wharf Precinct and are currently working on the scope of works and with key stakeholders timing of construction. Milang has seen footpath and storm water management works, and across the region unsealed and slashing programs are in progress.

It is a fabulous time of year, so I encourage you to join me and get out about throughout Alexandrina as our calendar of activities across the region is in full swing. From live performances of jazz and theatre, to art exhibitions and major events. We are also excited to be planning toward the SA Wooden Boat Festival in April 2023 and welcome both volunteers and businesses to be a part of the activities.

Nigel Morris Chief Executive Officer

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Visit Council's community consultation website at mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au **Editor** Nigel Morris Chief Executive Officer

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FSC Recycled certification Printed on 100% Recycled Paper **Above:** Nigel Morris Chief Executive Officer

Front cover: Strathalbyn Town Centre

SA Wooden Boat Festival set to return in 2023!

The award winning South Australian Wooden Boat Festival will be held in April 2023 and celebrates Australia's rich maritime history.

The event attracts a diverse crowd of boat enthusiasts, families, locals and tourists to discover wooden boats of all shapes, the boat builders past and present, as well as a program of festivities which all comes together in Goolwa.

An exciting program of events and activities will be on offer along the Mighty Murray River from 15-30 April 2023, with the main festival held from 28-30 April. The program includes boats races, food and wine showcase, entertainment from local musicians and artists, Ngarrindjeri Indigenous and cultural experiences, competitions and prizes, family friendly events, local produce displays, cruises, train rides and more!

Become a Festival Partner

The SAWBF attracts visitors from near and far to enjoy a weekend of fun, colour, education and creativity along the Goolwa Wharf Precinct and adjoining stretches of the River Murray. The SAWBF will be made possible through business partnerships and assistance from commercial sponsors, the State Government of South Australia through the South Australian **Tourism Commission and** Alexandrina Council are both major sponsors of the 2023 event.

If you are interested in becoming a partner now is the time to contact the **Business Alexandrina** team on **8555 7455** as we ramp up for this fantastic Festival. Upcoming workshops and networking events will be held on how your businesses can leverage off increased visitors to our region.



Visit sawoodenboatfestival.com.au and follow us on socials facebook.com/SAWoodenBoatFestival







Citizen of the Year Awards 2023 Nominations now open!

Alexandrina Council is currently seeking your nominations for the 2023 Citizen of the Year Awards.

Do you know someone who makes a real difference in our community who deserves to be rewarded and recognised for their contributions and outstanding service?

Categories include:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Award for Active Citizenship

Nominations close on 18 November 2022

Submit online at citizenoftheyear. com.au or pick up a nomination form at Council's libraries in Goolwa and Strathalbyn.

Nomination forms can also be downloaded from Council's website alexandrina.sa.gov. au/coty2023

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct Update

The Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct is on track to be one of the best sporting and wellbeing hubs on the Fleurieu Peninsula with the next stage of the Master Plan soon to be underway.

The recreational precinct encourages social connection and interaction for the entire community through traditional sports and unstructured physical activity, right in the heart of the Goolwa township.

Stage One was completed in February 2022 and has delivered a new multi-purpose facility to the Precinct and a fantastic new space for the community and sporting clubs to use. The Master Plan design for Stage Two was presented to oval user groups in March 2022 with recommended changes taken onboard to update the Plan and ensure it is fit for purpose and accessible for all.

Council in consideration of feedback, adopted a revised plan at the 15 August 2022 Council meeting. Construction to commence shortly.

Stage Two is supported by external grant funding with the Federal Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications contributing \$5 million of funding to the total project. The stage is set to be completed in early 2024.

For further updates visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/goolwaoval



Key improvements and outcomes of this collaborative process between Council and Oval user groups include:

- Stage Two works including six combined tennis and netball courts, which includes the upgrade and resurfacing of three existing courts, lighting infrastructure, spectator shelters and storage shed.
- For the cricket enthusiasts, four new cricket practice nets and storage shed will be constructed and for the benefit of the entire Precinct, brand new dedicated oval lighting will extend activities and use of the grounds into the night.
- Sports users and spectators will be delighted with the new multi-function oval scoreboard, sports netting, new goal posts and pads, accessible and mobility compliant public toilets, and a playground with shelters and outdoor furniture.
- The much-loved Goolwa Lions Club Book Shed will be relocated to a new modern shed with potential for growth and shared usage, with easy access from both the oval grounds and Wildman Street.
- There will be further landscaping in Stage Two works including necessary tree removal for an improved boulevard entry statement to access and promote the Precinct and wayfinding directional signage to encourage movement throughout the Precinct and sport specific signage to engage and direct visitors.
- The open space and location of key elements such as the playground will enable different activities to be undertaken across the Precinct at the same time.

Council Elections 2022

Voting papers will be delivered to you via post from 14–20 October 2022*

- make a difference -COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2022

ENROL NOMINATE VOTE

Why should I vote?

On average only one in three people vote in Council elections, so having your say in the upcoming Council elections is now more important than ever. It means you can actively contributing to the future of Alexandrina.

Everyone lives locally, so everyone is affected by local matters

Think about the local community you live in or visit for weekends or holidays and the issues that are important to you. Is it the natural beauty of the region; having access to parks for family and pets; or simply being able to attend a free community event?

Whatever it is, your local council is responsible for managing these community assets, and it should be done in a way that seeks to realise the community's needs and aspirations. Even when the assets are controlled by the State Government – such as major roads – councils play an important advocacy role in representing the voices of our community.

Quality of life within the community

Participating in local government elections can improve the quality of life within your community and for you on a personal level. By voting, you help contribute to the development and wellbeing of our community.

Accountability for local matters

Your voice is louder than you think. Council elections give residents, ratepayers, and businesses a direct voice. Councils are responsible for performance, determining strategic planning, setting budgets, determining rates, and establishing the charges levied on the community. It is important for councils to be reflective of the many diverse voices within our region and be responsive to their needs.

Make a difference

Your vote can make a real difference. The candidates who have nominated to represent you are passionate about connecting with locals and committed to wanting to make the community a better place.

By participating in Council elections, you are helping to shape a Council that has the wider community's best interest at heart.

Authorised by Nigel Morris, Chief Executive Officer, 11 Cadell Street, Goolwa SA 5214.

Please complete the ballot paper and return your vote to the Electoral Commission using the reply-paid envelope provided. Ballot papers must reach the Electoral Commision before **5pm Thursday**, **10 November 2022**.

*You will receive a ballot pack if you enrolled to vote on the council voters roll or are on the state (House of Assembly) electoral roll for Alexandrina Council.

2022 Mayor's Short Story Success

Creative young writers from across the Fleurieu region have been awarded in the annual Mayors' Short Story Challenge.

The award supports the development of language and literacy skills in school aged children from Reception to Year 10. Mayor Keith Parkes and Mayors of our neighbouring council regions presented awards and prizes to the talented young writers and encouraged many others to take the challenge during presentation events held in the local libraries and schools. The 2022 Mayors' Short Story Challenge Winners in the Alexandrina region included Jack Cook, Harry Byrnes, Blue Moore and Elsie McKeand. Congratulations to awards winners and all those who participated.



Pictured (L to R): Alexandrina Council Chief Executive Nigel Morris, Flynn Bicknell, Thea Croft, Catherine Green, Ember Townley (Alexandrina region Overall Winner) and Alexandrina Council Mayor Keith Parkes.



Community Wellbeing Action Plan

The Community Wellbeing Action Plan 2022-26 was developed in conjunction with our community and demonstrates Council's commitment to enhancing our community's wellbeing in a holistic way – by tackling the environmental, social, economic and health factors that influence wellbeing.

Over 600 responses were received from community members representing a broad range of demographic groups (including children and families, youth, older adults, First Nations peoples, people with disability, the Culturally and **Linguistically Diverse** (CALD) community, and the LGBTQIA+ community) and locations across our regions.

Our population is changing. Due to COVID-19 pandemic we are seeing an increase in new residents moving into our region who are still forming connections with their new communities, and a rise in social isolation and mental health challenges, resulting in a need for further focus on connection and wellbeing.

Embedded within the Plan is a commitment to Social Justice Principles (Participation, Equity, Access, Rights), and application of a Community Development approach to how we work with our community (Empowerment, Human Rights, Inclusion, Social Justice, Self-determination, and Collective Action). The Plan defines the priorities of the Community Wellbeing team and will guide how we work effectively with our community and colleagues on wellbeing matters into the future.

To find out more and view the Community Wellbeing Action Plan visit alexandrina.sa.gov. au/wellbeingplan







Council and Community inspired by Alexandrina's Young People

On Thursday 8 September, Alexandrina Council and Goolwa Secondary College (GSC) hosted the 2022 A2040 Youth Forum.

The full day event consisting of five workshop and keynote speaker Amy Springhall, was successful in educating, inspiring and providing Alexandrina's young people with a platform to share what matters to them.

The Youth Forum was part of the greater A2040 Village Innovation Plan place-led, community-fed engagement to shape the future





of their villages and the greater Alexandrina region.

Student leaders from GSC were engaged early in the planning stages, to co-create the program for the day. All GSC students participated as well as student leaders from Mount Compass Area School and Eastern Fleurieu R-12 Campus.

Special thanks to GSC for hosting, event partners David Basham MP, Roar Speech and Ezra Coaching and local facilitators Headspace, Encounter Youth, Wes Maselli and Chris Wilson. Young people can provide further input via a dedicated MySay page mysay. alexandrina.sa.gov. au/2022youthforum between now and 30 November 2022



Learn more about the event and read what was heard alexandrina.sa.gov.au/youthforum2022

We're Listening to the Locals Through the Village Conversations

Village Conversations will be held in the coming months. Alexandrina Council invites you to be part of 'Place led, community fed' engagement in action.

The ideas, feedback and solutions Council heard throughout the 2021 Village Conversations are already guiding Council's short-and long-term strategies, projects and resourcing.

What was heard has laid the foundation for each Village Innovation Plan (VIP)

and we want to hear your thoughts on key actions in the new developed draft plans.

The VIPs will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect the community voice for creating a liveable, green and connected Alexandrina.

Alexandrina Council looks forward to hearing from all residents, volunteers, community groups and business owners about how we can work with community to deliver on the A2040 Community Strategy. No one has better insights and understanding of what a township needs and values than our local community.

Shaping the future of the place you live; work or play is an exciting and ongoing process – thank you in advance and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Strathalbyn Heritage Phone Box Restoration

This heritage telephone box is the last operational heritage red-box payphone in service in South Australia.

With its last restoration in the 1980s, this telephone box was in much need of repair. A local volunteer group set out to remove old paint, repair the rotted timber, reinstall an original door, repaint interior and exterior, install new windows, and recommission the telephone box back into full operation.

Council was approached for the restoration with the group eager to bring the icon back to life. The materials for the restoration were provided by Council, the telephone box is owned by Council and the phone inside owned by Telstra who were entirely supportive of the restoration. The project took the group approximately 150 hours to complete, beginning in April and completing it in June 2022. The completed restoration brought to life the iconic red exterior and restored the interior with a sporadic dark green on pale green pattern. History suggests this renowned green pattern was introduced in the original design to deter people from adding graffiti to the interior as many of the markings wouldn't clearly show compared to a solid colour background.

Throughout the project, there were a number of conversations from passers-by about how people still use payphones. It was the general consensus that they still continue to play an important role as they are useful in emergencies, for children without mobile phones and though not often noticed, an important part of our streetscape.

The restored telephone box is now open to the public. This is a fantastic piece of history and will certainly remain a standout feature of High Street, Strathalbyn.



Pictured (L-R): Josiah Shepherd, Jace Brand, Allan Pomery, Elyse Johnson, Joyce Zaharuiko, Ruth Johnson, James Leigh, Luke Johnson, Martin Zaharuiko. (Edward Green not pictured in group photo)

Cat By-Law

The Cat By-Law will commence operation four months after the day on which they are published in the Government Gazette, in accordance with section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1999. This is expected to be on 8 January 2023, however, remains subject to approval from the Legislative Review Committee and Parliament before Alexandrina Council can introduce the By-Law. Council will provide further details when a decision is made with respect to the By-Law. The Council's Register of By-Laws is available for inspection on the Council's website at **alexandrina.sa.gov. au/bylaw**

A certified copy of a by-law of the council in force at a particular time can be purchased for a fixed fee at the Council's offices.





Heritage Talk - Kids!

During the July school holidays, Council's Heritage Advisory Committee facilitated the first ever heritage talk for kids!

The talk focussed on historical farming practices, in particular the process of dairy production and butter making.

Children participated in an engaging session where they learnt about all the different facets of how dairy is produced by a cow and a little about the dairying industry in South Australia and Australia generally.

This part of the session also explored how different dairy products are processed in a factory and what this means for the resulting product.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM

Following this, the children explored with the presenter how butter was made prior to modern technology, using equipment such as a milk separator and a manual butter churn. Each of the participants took turns turning the handle to make the milk pass through the separator, to separate the cream from the milk. Once the cream and the milk were separated, the cream could be placed in the manual butter churn for the butter making to begin. Again, the children were engaged, each of them having multiple opportunities to turn the handle on the churn as fast as they could to make as much butter as possible!

Each of the children were provided with a take home activity to have a go at manually making butter at home a different way.

If you didn't make it to this session, keep an eye out for this activity again during the school holidays in 2023!

Are you Bushfire Ready?

Residents are encouraged to be prepared and bushfire ready heading into this year's fire danger season.

Take the time to read Councils 'Bushfire Management General Advice' guide available online at Council and CFS websites **alexandrina.sa.gov.au/fire** and **cfs.sa.gov.au** or contact the bushfire information hotline **1800 362 631**.

Properties must be prepared prior to the Fire Danger Season and maintained throughout the Fire Danger Season. Generally these dates are:

- Mount Lofty Ranges 1 December 2022 - 30 April 2023
- Murraylands 15 November 2022 - 15 April 2023.

Please note these dates are subject to change. To determine which district you are in or to determine the precise dates for the Fire Danger Season each year please refer to the CFS website **cfs.sa.gov.au**

Are you living in a bushfire risk area? Danger could be on your doorstep.

The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System is your simplified survival tool, telling you how dangerous a fire would be if it broke out. And what you need to do to stay safe each day.





Summer Bin Collection Update

Alexandrina Council is committed to reducing waste and diverting waste from landfill, so to help our community recycle more, we will now double the collection of yellow Recycling and green Food Organics Garden Organics bins over the six week summer holiday period.

Beginning the week of 19 December 2022 and finishing the week of 27 January 2023

The six weekly collections of yellow recycling bins and green bins (in eligible townships) over the peak of summer will commence on your normal collection day. General waste to landfill 'Blue bins' (including those with any EC Exceptional Circumstances 'Red bins') will continue to be collected fortnightly during this period.

Over the six week Christmas and New Year holiday period, recycling and food waste increases, therefore it is important to provide Weekly Recycling and Green bins

New Summer Kerbside Collection



more capacity for residents to use their recycling and green bins during this time. The increase to weekly collection will increase capacity by more than 200% over the six week period to provide a better service to residents and visitors.

This change follows a two year Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA) review into the best way A link to the FRWA community trial summary, bin audits, survey and waste data that have helped inform our community waste and management needs for this increased service can be found on their website, visit

frwa.com.au

- 1440 litres of extra capacity
- 242% increased capacity of waste disposal
- Plus blue and red bins will continue to be collected fortnightly

to provide more opportunity for households to recycle more and reduce waste sent to landfill. It was found that the majority of waste going to landfill is food and packaging and this extra waste is generated over the busy summer period.



What's happening in our Libraries?

The Alexandrina Libraries team are excited to be offering a diverse range of opportunities for the community to Connect, Learn and Thrive!

- The 'Ngarrindjeri peranbun prap' (Ngarrindjeri adult sharing group) series of workshops, bringing Ngarrindjeri culture, language and history into focus.
- 'Being Digital' is a state-wide program to promote digital assistance and learning that our libraries offer to adult South Australians. Upcoming sessions include information on Smart Homes, streaming on demand entertainment, and using accessibility options on devices especially for the sight impaired.
- 'Reading aloud' group called Fellowship of the Page will be commenced in September for adults who like to hear a story, to listen in real time and to participate in reading aloud themselves. Held initially at the Goolwa Library.
- 'Library tours' for pre-school, kindy and school classes are available, to introduce the younger members of our region to the world of reading.
- Brick Builders United is a social group for primary school children, building creativity and connection through blocks and friendship. During school term at the Strathalbyn Library and new members are welcome.

Alexandrina Libraries membership is Free! Stay connected with us via socials and our website event updates. You can also keep an eye out for us at a 'Library Pop-up' near you!

Follow us facebook.com/ alexandrinalibraries Call us 8555 7000 Visit us online alexandrina.sa.gov.au/ libraryevents

Major Project Updates

Strathalbyn Town Centre Streetscape

The contemporary new wayfinding signage for the Strathalbyn Town Centre project was the Highly Commended award winner at the National Signage Awards in July. Stage 3 of the 8 stages is progressing on schedule for the High Street precinct including intersection upgrades, improved pedestrian connectivity, new footpath paving, additional lighting, garden beds, trees, and street furniture. Stage 3 is scheduled for completion in late 2022 and mid 2023 for remaining stages. For project updates, visit **alexandrina.sa.gov.au/strathalbyntc**

Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Priority essential asset renewal works will commence in late 2022 for the pre-construction phase. Council's consultants, Leed Engineering, will be working closely with stakeholders to develop a timetable for the construction phase that allows continuing access by the public, and maintains business operations during construction. We are also very conscious of the need to continue to activate the space during construction, particularly for the upcoming SA Wooden Boat Festival in April 2023. On ground works will commence once the detailed works program is established. For project updates, visit **alexandrina.sa.gov.au/goolwawharf**

Langhorne Creek Public Toilets

New toilets on Bridge Road, Langhorne Creek, adjacent the Town Hall will be constructed and expected to be completed in November 2022. The public toilets are set to be self-sustaining and environmentally friendly and will primarily run off the collected rainwater with power being supplied from solar panels and batteries.

To keep up to date with projects in Alexandrina visit our website alexandrina.sa.gov.au/projectupdates



What's On



Middleton Jazz in the Park

The picturesque and historic town of Middleton is the place to be on Saturday 5 November 2022, when the town comes alive with the sound of jazz as it hosts a stellar line up of world-class musicians. Relax on the lawn with local food and refreshments on sale (no BYO).

When: 5 November, 11am-7pm Location: Abbott Reserve, Middleton Bookings: middletonsa.com.au

Especially On Birthdays

The Paper Boats' first international co-creation is a non-verbal, visual theatre performance for 3-8 year olds that recreates all the joys, excitement and concerns of a pair of twins and a sixth birthday that one of them isn't quite ready to have. Part performance, part game, part celebration, exploring sameness and difference in an intimate setting.

When: 9 November, 11am and 1:30pm Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Country Music – A Tribute to Alan Jackson When: 5 November, 7.30pm Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Alexandrina Singers Concert When: 13 November, 2pm Location: St Andrews Church, Strathalbyn Bookings: trybooking.com

Made in Australia

When: 25 November, 2pm Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Sgiedse (Sketch)* When: 3 December to 8 January 2023 Location: South Coast Regional Art Centre, Goolwa Enquiries: aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

T'is the Season When: 10 December, 7:30pm Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

A Classy Christmas Crooner When: 16 December, 2pm Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au



PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY Christmas is on the way!

Mount Compass Community Twilight Christmas Market* When: 2 December, 4pm Location: Mount Compass main street

Carols in the Park, Port Elliot* When: 20 December Location: Port Elliot Town Square

Christmas Where the Angas Flows Strathalbyn* When: 16 December, 6pm Location: Soldiers Memorial Gardens, Strathalbyn Goolwa Christmas Carols* When: 18 December Location: Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct

The Mayor's Best Dressed Shop Window Competition* Further details will be made available on Council's website

Off the Bridge Fireworks Goolwa* When: 31 December Location: Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Keep up to date by visiting Council's website **alexandrina.sa.gov.au/events**

