

Alexandrina Alive



**Congratulations
to our 2025
Heritage Award
recipients**

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**Council's first
'School Open
Street' event
at Port Elliot
Primary**

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Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the winter edition of **Alexandrina Alive** which includes a flyer outlining a summary of Council's Annual Community Plan 2025/26.

The flyer is a fresh look from our usual four-page budget summary and you may have noticed the Annual Business Plan and Budget has a new name, reflecting our focus on putting our community first.

Your Council Members are committed to disciplined financial management, and you will see from our summary that our rates have been kept as affordable as possible while ensuring our long-term sustainability.

The flyer also highlights some of our key achievements for 2024/25 and includes an image of the Senator for

South Australia, the Hon Penny Wong, and the Deputy Premier of South Australia, the Hon Susan Close MP, who joined Council in marking the completion of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct project.

The Australian and South Australian Governments were our funding partners for this important restoration project, and it was wonderful to celebrate the occasion with the return of our biennial South Australian Wooden Boat Festival to our heritage-listed wharf.

The festival was a tremendous success with 18,000 people attending over the two days including the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Hon Frances Adamson AC, who was kind enough to accept our invitation to open the event.

A big thank you to our festival sponsors, including the South Australian Tourism Commission, and the Goolwa Wharf Construction

Delivery Team (McMahon Services, Gadaleta Steel Fabrication and Goolwa Jetty Builders) who funded the fantastic fireworks display from the Hindmarsh Island Bridge on the Saturday night.

Other 2024/25 achievements include the delivery of our Village Conversations priority projects for Middleton, Mount Compass and Langhorne Creek.

I encourage you to read the summary flyer and to take a deeper dive into our finalised Annual Community Plan.

Thank you to everyone who contributed feedback on the plan during our community engagement, and those who attended the four public meetings.


Mayor Keith Parkes

Above: Mayor Keith Parkes, Council Members, key dignitaries, and Senior Council Staff with the plaque marking the official opening of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct project.

Front cover: Anna Schmidt, Elizabeth Brookman, Anne Brookman and Deborah Nikou embraced the nautical spirit at the 'Little Pirates' kids tent at the South Australian Wooden Boat Festival held at Goolwa in April 2025. The tent offered costumes, craft sessions and activities for children.

The Alexandrina Council and its communities acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk and Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of our Council district.

Contact Council

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Visit Council's community consultation website at mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au

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Best practice heritage projects recognised

Congratulations to our 2025 Heritage Award winners.

Held as part of South Australia's History Festival in May, the Awards Evening was held in Centenary Hall in Goolwa and featured guest speaker, Adelaide-based writer and historian Lainie Anderson.

An initiative of the Alexandrina Heritage Committee, Council announced award winners and commendations across six categories, plus the Mayoral Award, including:

Heritage Gardens and Fencing

Commendation:

- 1 Swale Street, Strathalbyn, Belinda Whittam.

Winner:

- 1131 Goolwa Road, Currency Creek, Diana Keach.

Conservation Practice

Commendation:

- Tamarisk – 577 Port Elliot Road, Port Elliot (Projects under \$50k) Carolyn and Robert Fuller.

Winner:

- Mulberry Cottage – 234 Lines Road, Port Elliot (Projects over 50k) mother and daughter Suzie and Sally Porter.

Adaptive Re-use

Winner:

- Home of Plenty – 261 Myrtlegrove Road, Currency Creek, Shaw family.

Historic Research

Commendation:

- Blue Plaques Project – Middleton Town and Foreshore Association.

Winner:

- 21 Arthur Street, Port Elliot, Sacha and Gordon Ure.

Heritage Tourism

Commendations were awarded to both:

- Merrilli1885 – 153 Deep Creek Road, Currency Creek, Sophie Mintz.
- M V Maranui Gin Flight Cruise, Spirit of Australia Cruises.

Winner:

- Strathalbyn 185 – Strathalbyn Tourism Association.

Lorraine Pomery Service to Heritage Award

Winner:

- Brian Simpson.

Mayoral Award

Winner:

- Mulberry Cottage – 234 Lines Road, Port Elliot, Suzie Porter and Sally Porter.

For further information about heritage in Alexandrina, visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/heritage

Image: The recipients of Alexandrina Council's Heritage Awards and commendations - front from left, Michael Veenstra, M V Maranui Gin Flight Cruise, Spirit of the Australia Cruises; Sally Porter, Suzie Porter, Mulberry Cottage, with architects Isabella James and Jesse Zilm with daughter Auguste; back from left, Philip Shaw, Home of Plenty; Diana Keach, 1131 Goolwa Road, Currency Creek; Sophie Mintz, Merrilli1885 – 153 Deep Creek Road, Currency Creek; Belinda Whittam, 1 Swale Street, Strathalbyn; Rex Keily AM, President of the Strathalbyn Tourism Association; Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes; Mark and Jen Watts from the Middleton Town and Foreshore Association; Robert Fuller, Tamarisk – 577 Port Elliot Road, Port Elliot; Sacha and Gordon Ure, 21 Arthur Street, Port Elliot. Absent: Brian Simpson, Lorraine Pomery Service to Heritage Award winner.

Fleurieu Food Festival 2025

Discover our region's rich food culture at the fourth annual Fleurieu Food Festival this August.

Alexandrina Council is proud to be a sponsor of this popular festival in 2025, along with partners Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island and Fleurieu Peninsula Tourism.

This month-long winter festival highlights the Peninsula's seasonal produce and distinctive culinary offerings.

The Alexandrina region will showcase numerous events highlighting local producers, hospitality venues and tourism operators, including:

- Hectors Modern Australian Kitchen**, Goolwa. A Celebration of Culinary Matriarchy – Oma v Baba
- Canoe the Coorong**. A Bush Tucker and Coorong experience
- Kimbolton Wines**, Langhorne Creek. Wine and cheese masterclass
- Peninsula Providore**, Tooperang. Olive grove long lunch
- Anita Robin, The Foodbuilder**, Goolwa. 'Immerse in Four Countries' strudel tasting
- Strathalbyn Neighbourhood Centre**. The Art of Food Preserving workshop
- Mount Compass gin tasting** at Hays Street Bar & Kitchen, Goolwa.

View the full program at fleurieufoodfestival.com

Image: In the olive grove at Peninsula Providore, Tooperang.





Tree planting season has arrived!

The rain has arrived – and Council has started its annual street tree planting program.

Our Field Services team is focusing on the townships and suburbs with the lowest levels of tree canopy cover including Milang, Clayton Bay, Middleton and Goolwa Beach.

Across the district, tree canopy varies significantly from just under 12% in Milang to nearly 50% in Ashbourne.

Council uses a combination of local knowledge, on-ground observation, and aerial imagery to identify areas with low canopy coverage.

Once a location is confirmed, signs are installed, locations marked and notices delivered to neighbouring residents of Council's intent to plant. Residents have a month to raise any concerns or questions.

Council encourages everyone to consider the long-term benefits of even a single tree. Street trees create cooler environments, enhance liveability and support biodiversity.

Supporting our tree planting program is one meaningful way to contribute to climate action.

➤ For more information about the program – or to request a tree – visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/trees

Image: Tristan, Aaron and Joel from Council's Tree Team with some lemon scented gums and tuckeroos to be planted at Goolwa Beach.

It's time to renew your furry friend's registration!

Dog and cat registrations must be renewed annually. This year's deadline is 31 August 2025 and is valid until 30 June 2026.

Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) is the state database for registering dogs, cats, and breeders and for recording microchip and desexing information.

Renewal notices are delivered to all registered owners in July via their preferred method of contact.



Renew before 31 August 2025

If you already have a DACO account, you can choose to have your notice sent by post, email, or SMS.

The notice provides instructions on how to renew your pet's registration. It's your responsibility as a pet owner to ensure timely renewal and maintenance of your DACO information. Remember – a lost pet that is registered with up-to-date information is more likely to be reunited with its owner than a pet that is unregistered.

➤ Register, renew or update your information at dogsandcatsonline.com.au
Find out more at alexandrina.sa.gov.au/petregistration

Image: Maximus or 'Max' the Bengal cat is a microchipped, registered cat 'resident' in Alexandrina.

Are you looking for your bin collection calendar?

The Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA) is modernising its bin collection calendar distribution to focus on digital circulation and stop the blanket distribution of printed calendars.

Calendar options:

Download the free 'My Local Services' App

For bin collection days and weekly reminders of which bin to put out. It's available in the Apple App Store and Google Play.



Download a council-wide or an address-specific calendar

1. Visit frwa.com.au/collection-calendar-downloads
2. a) Click on your council logo to download a council-wide calendar, or;
b) Type your street address in the search bar, then download your address-specific calendar.

Pick up a printed calendar

Printed calendars are available from Council Customer Service counters and all FRWA Waste and Recycling Depots.

Request a mailed calendar

Visit frwa.com.au/collection-calendar-downloads and fill out the request form at the bottom of the page for a printed calendar to be mailed to you. Alternatively, call our customer service team on **8555 2467** Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 4 pm. Please allow up to 10 days for postage.

FRWA thanks residents for their support as our region moves to a more sustainable process.

Port Elliot Primary pedals into first School Open Street

Port Elliot Primary families showed full throttle support for Council's first 'School Open Street' event.

A School Open Street is a temporary car-free zone near a school that provides a safe and welcoming place for children and their families to walk and ride to school.

This first event, held in April, aligns with Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan, Community Wellbeing Action Plan, and our A2040

community vision to be 'Liveable. Green. Connected'.

By creating a pedestrian-friendly space on Cameron Street by the school, the event promoted walking, cycling, and healthier lifestyles while reducing reliance on vehicles.



It also complemented the State Government's #Way2Go program at the School, which focuses on improving bike and road safety. Council will be exploring more School Open Streets. Let us know if your school would like to be involved!



Top image: Pictured at the School Open Street event is Port Elliot Primary School Principal Cathy Knight, Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes and school students Quinn Parkes, Sandy and Alba Breslin and Mariah Dunkley. Below image: Martin and Sahara Carlson.

Ageing well in nature

Are you part of an outdoor community group that caters to Alexandrina residents over the age of 50, and do you value connection, community, and the great outdoors?

Council would like to hear from you to become involved in a new program to promote the health benefits of engaging in the natural environment as you age.

Council has received an Age-Friendly SA Grant from the State Government to run a 'Wellness in Nature' project for residents over the age of 50.

Our new program is designed to:

- Welcome new members to your group
- Reduce loneliness through shared outdoor experiences
- Promote wellness by embracing the healing power of nature.

My Aged Care Info Session

The Department of Health and Aged Care is hosting information sessions to learn about the changes to accessing aged care services.

The sessions will also cover government-funded navigator services and supports.

Where Goolwa Council Chambers

When Thursday 11 September, 10am to 11.15am

Where Strathalbyn Library Community Room

When Thursday 11 September, 1pm to 2.15pm

Need a ride?

If you are transport disadvantaged, you may be eligible to access support to attend medical appointments with Medi Ride or go shopping via the Community Shopping Bus.

The Southern Communities Transport Scheme (SCOTS) provides a door-to-door community bus service on Fridays for coastal residents between Hindmarsh Island and Port Elliot to travel to the Victor Central Shopping Centre for a few hours of shopping.*

The Hills Community Transport (HCT) offers a monthly community bus to visit shopping centres outside of Strathalbyn along with transport to medical appointments both locally and to Adelaide.*

Council and neighbouring councils provide funding support for these services. For more information visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/transport

*Eligibility criteria applies.
Image: HCT volunteer driver.



➤ For further information visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/olderadults



Wharf comes alive for festival

More than 18,000 people attended the 2025 South Australian Wooden Boat Festival (SAWBF) in late April, showcasing the revitalised Goolwa Wharf Precinct and celebrating the craftsmanship of wooden boat building and the riverport's rich history.

The SAWBF returned to the wharf after a brief hiatus at Coorong Quays while restoration and upgrading work was underway at the heritage-listed site.

The 2025 festival enjoyed one of the largest attendances in the nearly four-decade history of the biennial event.

The festival was officially opened by the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency the Hon Frances Adamson AC.

Senator for South Australia, the Hon Penny Wong, and the Deputy Premier of South Australia, the Hon Susan Close MP, joined Mayor Keith Parkes for the official launch of the completion of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct project.

This multi-million-dollar restoration project was led by Council and made possible thanks to \$3.75 million in funding from the Australian Government and an additional \$1.25 million from the Government of South Australia.

The Australian Government also provided \$980,000 through the Murray-Darling Basin Economic Development Program to create the permanent interactive exhibition 'Yuntulun Ku:li-war', the centrepiece of the upgraded Signal Point Experience Centre within the Precinct.

More than 100 wooden boats came to Goolwa – new and vintage, under sail, steam, motor and paddle made an appearance.

The fireworks from the Hindmarsh Island Bridge, sponsored by the Goolwa Wharf Construction Delivery Team, including McMahon Services, Gadaleta Steel Fabrication and Goolwa Jetty Builders, delighted the Saturday evening crowd.

The 19th SAWBF was supported by the South Australian Tourism Commission and was run by Council in collaboration with the SAWBF Committee.

Learn more about the festival at sawoodenboatfestival.com.au



Image: Deputy Premier, the Hon Susan Close MP, left, Senator the Hon Penny Wong, and Mayor Keith Parkes unveil a plaque at the South Australian Wooden Boat Festival to mark the completion of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct project.

Scams Awareness Presentation

SA Police are hosting Scam Awareness Presentations at Alexandrina Libraries. Aimed at helping residents to be smarter with their data and to learn how to spot a scam.

Where Strathalbyn Library, 1 Colman Terrace

When Monday 4 August, 10am

Where Goolwa Library, 11 Cadell Street

When Wednesday 6 August, 10am

For more information, visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/libraries

Agriculture in Alexandrina

Agriculture in Alexandrina is more than just 'farming', our sector is diverse and includes the production of grain, dairy, beef, lamb, poultry, eggs, olives, vegetables and wine, just to name a few.

The agricultural sector is one of the biggest components of Alexandrina's economy, contributing 16.5% of the region's total annual output, equating to a value of more than \$428.68 million and is the largest regional export market out of the Fleurieu Peninsula, with Alexandrina producers supplying more than 62% of all products exported out of the region. Highlighted in the Fleurieu Food Festival article (Page 2), our amazing produce is the hero of the annual Festival, held across the region throughout the month of August. For more information, scan the QR code or visit fleurieufoodfestival.com



Grants Program now open

Applications for Council's 2025/26 Grants Program opened on 28 July and close 8 September 2025. Subject to budget approval, the following categories may be on offer:

- Business Initiatives Grant
- Community Environment Grant
- Community Wellbeing Grant
- Heritage Grant.

For more information, visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/grants

Project updates

Strathalbyn Town Hall

Upgrade works on the Strathalbyn Town Hall are complete.

The project has transformed the historic building into a more modern, multi-functional venue that can cater to a diverse range of activities, events and user groups, while staying authentic to its heritage.

The building upgrade includes installation of air conditioning in the main auditorium, reconfiguring the front foyer and balcony areas, new A/V and stage lighting, disability and accessibility compliance enhancements including a platform lift to the stage and accessible toilet modifications, refurbishment of existing toilets, roof and floor structure repairs, an extension to the existing stage and installation of a solar power system.

Council is seeking expressions of interest to use the hall. For more information visit

alexandrina.sa.gov.au/StrathHallEOI

Fleurieu Regional Aquatic Centre Pool Maintenance Work

The Fleurieu Regional Aquatic Centre is celebrating its eighth anniversary this year and commencing 30 June will embark on an important pool maintenance project to ensure the long-term future of the popular facility.

Jointly owned by Alexandrina Council and City of Victor Harbor, councils will stagger the closure of the three pools for these essential maintenance works. Each pool is expected to take four weeks, barring any unforeseen issues with the project and is anticipated to be completed by October.

Throughout the rolling closure of each pool, the YMCA will relocate classes and programs to available pools wherever possible, ensuring minimal disruption. Membership suspension options will be available during the works.

For regular project updates visit fleurieuaquaticcentre.com.au/maintenance

Middleton Public Toilet

Council is working on concept designs to replace the public toilets behind the Middleton Arts and Craft Hall. This project was included for consideration in the draft Annual Community Plan 2025/26.

Strathalbyn Parking

Council has installed two 'Long Vehicle Parking Zones' within Strathalbyn to help bus drivers and vehicles with trailers and caravans to park near the town's two main shopping precincts.

One zone has been installed at the northern end of High Street adjacent the Kenny Blake Memorial. The other zone has been installed on the southern side of South Terrace between Catherine Street and Rankine Street.

Asset Renewal Projects

At its March meeting, Council approved the delivery of 10 additional renewal projects, valued at \$790,000, to be funded from savings and efficiencies made in the delivery of the 2024/25 capital renewal program.

All projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025.

The identified capital renewal projects approved by Council include:

- The Langhorne Creek Public Toilet Wastewater System and dump point.
- The Bristow-Smith Playground renewal in Goolwa.
- Air conditioning renewal for Centenary Hall, Goolwa.
- Addressing building compliance at the poultry shed at the Strathalbyn Showground, including addressing the non-compliant truss nail plates.
- Replacement of the roof at the South Coast Regional Arts Centre, Goolwa.
- Reseal of Enterprise Road, Nangkita.
- Port Elliot Soldiers Memorial Gardens Pathway Renewal.
- Aberdeen Park Linear Pathway Renewal at Strathalbyn.
- Lang Street Pathway, Milang.
- Port Elliot Old Council Chambers, white ant treatment and renewal of hardwood flooring.

Strathalbyn Cemetery Toilet

A new single toilet block is planned for construction in the Strathalbyn Cemetery. Council has completed an initial scoping report and preliminary design process to establish the general design and costing of the project. The construction of a new toilet block was included as a capital project in the Annual Community Plan 2025/26.

Middleton Boardwalk

Project works in Tokuremoar Reserve, Middleton, were completed in early June 2025. The works renewed decking on the nature boardwalk between Newell Avenue, Middleton, and Redcliff Street, Goolwa. The boardwalk is part of the Encounter Bikeway.

Chiton Rocks Public Toilet

Council has replaced the old septic system at the public toilet near the Chiton Rock Surf Life Saving Club with a new pump station and connection to the main wastewater system.

This work was done in preparation for the construction of an upgraded facility which is included in the 2025/26 capital works program of the Annual Community Plan 2025/26, subject to approval.

Clayton Bay Toilet

Council contractors have commenced the construction of the Clayton Bay public toilet. The concrete footings, block walls and structural steel components of the build are complete. The project is scheduled for completion before the third quarter of 2025.

Clayton Bay Boardwalk

Renewal works were undertaken on the Clayton Bay Nature Boardwalk to renew the timber decking and replace several posts. Signage was also updated and reinstalled. Works were complete in May 2025.

Port Elliot Obelisk

Repairs on the historic Obelisk at Freeman's Knob at Port Elliot are expected to proceed in the coming months.

The Obelisk was damaged by lightning in December 2023, sustaining significant structural damage to the top and western face.

Work was delayed last year due to the complexity of the repairs needed for the internal structure of the landmark.

Following consultation with engineers and a heritage advisor, Council intend to proceed with the repairs of the Obelisk during the third quarter of 2025.

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





Women of Letters*

A 1947 handwritten letter from Daisy Bates to Mary Norman-Bail, found inside a second-hand book, sparked a journey of discovery for artist Christine Goodwin. It culminated in a multimedia exhibition featuring ceramic flowers symbolising the women's personalities and passions.

When 19 July to 31 August

Where South Coast Regional Art Centre, Goolwa

Gallery hours Wed to Fri 11am–4pm, Sat & Sun 10am–3pm

Enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au



One Night of Adele

The UK's No.1 Adele tribute, starring The Voice UK finalist Naomi Johnson, is making its way to Goolwa for a spectacular performance. One Night of Adele is more than just a tribute—it's an experience, capturing the magic, the emotion, and the powerhouse vocals of one of the greatest artists of our time.

When 17 August, 2pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 3.5 hours, including interval

Cost^ All tickets \$60

Age All ages

Bookings trybooking.com

Alexandrina Youth Theatre and Film

When Mondays during school term, 4pm–6pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 120 minutes

Cost^ \$50 per child per term

Ages 12–18 years

Bookings and enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Yuntulun Ku:li-war*

When Permanent exhibition

Where Signal Point Experience Centre at The Goolwa Wharf

Gallery hours Wed to Sun 10am–4pm

Enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Prima Materia*

When 2 August to 31 August

Where Signal Point Experience Centre at The Goolwa Wharf

Gallery hours Wed to Sun 10am–4pm

Enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Decadent 80s

When 8 August, 8.30pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 3 hours

Cost^ Table of 4 \$148, Table of 8 \$296, A seat at a table sharing with others \$39

Ages 18+

Bookings trybooking.com

Jump'n Jive Adelaide

When 22 August, 2pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 70 minutes

Cost^ All tickets \$22

Ages All ages

Bookings trybooking.com

The Masters Apprentices - The Encore's Encore!

When 24 August, 3pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 110 minutes

Cost^ Adult \$50, Concession \$45, Youth (under 18) \$25, Group 6+ \$45

Ages All ages

Bookings and enquiries 8555 7000 or events.alexandrina.com.au

Goolwa Band - Annual Concert

When 31 August, 2pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 2 hours

Cost^ All tickets \$15

Ages All ages

Bookings trybooking.com

David Kerr & Ian De Gruchy*

When 6 September to 12 October

Where South Coast Regional Art Centre, Goolwa

Gallery hours Wed to Fri 11am–4pm, Sat & Sun 10am–3pm

Enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Post World*

When 13 September to 23 November

Where Signal Point Experience Centre at The Goolwa Wharf

Gallery hours Wed to Sun 10am–4pm

Enquiries 8555 7000 or aace@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Best of Broadway, by Greg Hart

When 19 September, 2pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Duration 70 minutes

Cost^ All tickets \$22

Ages All ages

Bookings trybooking.com

Feelin' Groovy - The Songs of Simon & Garfunkel

When 21 September, 2pm

Where Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Cost^ Adult \$50, Concession \$45, Youth (under 18) \$30, Group 6+ \$45

Ages All ages

Bookings trybooking.com

*Free event!

^Transaction fee applies

Keep up to date
by visiting Council's
website [alexandrina.
sa.gov.au/events](http://alexandrina.sa.gov.au/events)

