

ALEXANDRINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Summer Edition, 2014

Message From Mayor Kym McHugh

Happy New Year and welcome to our first newsletter for 2014. I hope all Alexandrina Council residents enjoyed a safe and happy festive season.

The New Year always brings new challenges, but more importantly great new opportunities.

Alexandrina Council and the City of Victor Harbor were advised in December that the Coalition Government will honour the \$7.5million funding offer for the Fleurieu Regional Aquatic Centre. This is a fantastic outcome for our communities and we would like to thank the community for their ongoing support and commitment to this project.

While some modifications to the project may be necessary, the councils will not compromise on the key inclusions of the project. These include an 8-lane by 25-metre lap pool, a recreation and therapy pool, kiosk, change rooms, plant room and car parking. Alexandrina Council has recently been recognised for arts and tourism.

The 2012 Regional Centre of Culture Just Add Water was recognised for its community impact at the eighth Ruby Awards. Country Arts SA and Alexandrina Council won the Ruby Award for 'Community Impact Over \$100,000' for Just Add Water 2012 Regional Centre of Culture. This Community Impact award celebrates an artistic or cultural project or event that has had the most significant positive impact on a community or region in South Australia.

We are thrilled to have won a Ruby Award – the 'Oscars' of the State arts and cultural world. The program is a great example of what can be achieved when State, Local Government and the community partner successfully.

Over 100 volunteers generously donated their time during the year – we could never have delivered such an incredible program without the support of our local arts and cultural community, as well as the general public.

In November Alexandrina Council won the Local



Alexandrina Chief Executive Peter Dinning, Mayor Kym McHugh and Country Arts SA Chief Executive Steve Saffell with the arts and tourism awards.

Government Award for Tourism at the 2013 South Australian Tourism Awards. The 2013 South Australian Wooden Boat Festival was awarded a Silver Medal for Festivals and Events and Goolwa Visitor Information Centre was awarded a Silver Medal for Visitor Information Services.

Alexandrina Council will represent South Australia in the inaugural Tourism Excellence in Local Government category at national level at the Australian Tourism Awards.

We are excited to be the inaugural winners of the Local Government Award for Tourism category and

also to be recognised again for the South Australian Wooden Boat Festival and Goolwa Visitor Information Centre. I would also like to acknowledge the businesses in the Alexandrina region that were recognised on the night.

Again, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our local volunteers.

I look forward to a positive year ahead and wish you and your families all the best in 2014.

Kind Regards,
Mayor Kym McHugh.

Navy Visit Reunites Resident with Squadron

The 808 Navy Squadron's visit to Goolwa in November was a special time for an Alexandrina resident.

Douglas Morris, from Strathalbyn, is an ex-808 Squadron member.

He was transferred from Royal Navy to Royal Australian Navy on temporary loan on April 2, 1950 and joined the R.A.N. Squadron 808 at HMS Vulture at St Meryn Cornwell England on April 25, 1950 as part of the 21st Carrier Air Group.

Douglas boarded the H.M.A.S. Sydney on September 3, 1950 at Devonport England and arrived at Jervis Bay New South Wales on December 7, 1950 and the 808 Squadron disembarked to H.M.A.S. Albatross near Nowra. In April 1951, Douglas Re-embarked on H.M.A.S. Sydney and operated in the Far Eastern area involving the Korean Conflict until March 1952. In 1952 he transferred back to the Royal Navy.

Douglas and wife Ruth were special guests at the Navy's Freedom of Entry event in Goolwa.

The Freedom of Entry was reviewed by His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin



Petty Officer Darren Pope from the Navy 808 Squadron with ex-Squadron member Douglas Morris from Strathalbyn.

Scarce AC CSC RANR, Governor of South Australia.

The Freedom of Entry was followed by a Memorial Service at the Goolwa RSL Branch.

After the Freedom of Entry, the 808

Squadron presented Council with a cheque for \$1,251.43 to put towards the Young Emerging Leaders Grants. Council and the Goolwa RSL Branch were also presented with plaques.

Lower Murray Roadshow Hosted in Alexandrina

In November Council hosted a Lower Murray Roadshow.

The Roadshow was a three-day tour and series of meetings between a select group of senior Federal and State officials and local stakeholders on key economic and social issues affecting the region.

The focus was on three areas - tourism, environment and agriculture value-adding.

The key aims of the roadshow were to:

- improve coordination

across Local-State-Federal governments in terms of funding infrastructure projects and facilitating regional investment (i.e. a shared understanding of an initiative and a process to identify the relevant players and secure their funding support); and

- enable government officials from varying backgrounds to gain an enhanced appreciation of the region, its key issues and constraints, and how Federal/State policies play out at the local level.



World Heritage Bid for Mt Lofty Ranges

Council has joined Adelaide Hills Council, District Council of Mount Barker, Barossa Council and the City of Onkaparinga to prepare a bid to have the Mount Lofty Ranges Agrarian Landscape World Heritage listed.

The other Councils have already prepared a Feasibility Study and Economic Impact Analysis that has indicated that World Heritage listing can be achieved due to its working agricultural landscape and historic settlements. This is a 6-10 year commitment to undertake the necessary research and community and stakeholder consultation to prepare firstly the National Heritage bid and then the World Heritage bid.

A Project Manager has been appointed to assist the Project Management Group to deliver the project with all information about the bid being accessible on the established website <http://mountloftyranges.org>.

Expressions of interest were sought during December and January for interested persons to be on expert advisory groups and focus groups covering the areas of Heritage and History, Economic/food, wine and tourism industries, Landscape planning and natural resource management, community engagement, indigenous heritage and World Heritage Site management.

This is an exciting project for Council and its community and has the potential to generate significant economic growth in the areas of primary production, food and wine and tourism, as well as assisting in the preservation of such an idyllic and unique landscape.

Please contact Sally Roberts, Manager Planning and Development for further information.



New Playground in Goolwa

Situated at the north eastern end of the Goolwa wharf precinct, the Amelia Park playground upgrade was completed in November.

The playground was constructed out of recycled timber and surplus materials stored at Council's works depots.

Features of the playground include an elevated tree house, restored wooden boat, hand crafted seating, natural material edging, rocks and logs and also retains the swing set from the previous playground.

The playground was designed and constructed by Council's recreation services team after being inspired by a recent world wide change in playground design thinking as well as talking to local residents, who frequent playgrounds with children.

The tree house was mostly built out of old jetty and bridging materials. It provides stairs to the landing, a climbing net and wall, a fireman's pole and slippery slide. The area under the tree house provides opportunity for exploration and imagination.

The wooden boat was salvaged from the Goolwa Waste and Recycling Depot. It has been renovated by staff.

The chairs were carved from cypress pine stumps that were removed from another Open Space Project. The chairs provide a place of rest and interest, showing what can be achieved using the stump of a tree as a playground asset.

Citizen of the Year Award Winners

Alexandrina Council congratulates the winners of the Citizens of the Year awards.

Winners Strathalbyn & Region

Citizen of the Year
Mike and Carole Linscott
Young Citizen of the Year
Noella Angel
Community Event of the Year

Christmas Where the Angas Flows

Winners Goolwa & Region

Citizen of the Year
Colin Ekers
Young Citizen of the Year
Tayla Rowett
Community Event of the Year

Cittaslow Smoke-Off

Peel, Pour, Pop Success in Port Elliot

Over 300 children and family members attended Alexandrina's OPAL's October Peel, Pour, Pop Brekky at Lakala Reserve Port Elliot.

OPAL's Peel, Pour, Pop brekky community events aim to educate children and families about the importance of healthy brekky eating and to showcase some of Alexandrina Council's beautiful open space locations.

Lakala Reserve is located on Rosetta Terrace Port Elliot and with plenty of open space, abundance of bird life on the lakes, playground, BBQs and toilet amenities, it is an ideal location to visit and enjoy with the family.

At the Port Elliot Peel Pour Pop Brekky children enjoyed digging for bones in the sand pit, kite making, storytelling and the Treasure Hunt – it is amazing what “treasures” can be found in the park.

Splash and Dash Aquathon – Strathalbyn

The inaugural Splash & Dash will be held in Strathalbyn on Sunday March 16 2014. This is a community event for whole families. It is not a timed race, it is about families being together and being active and healthy.



The Peel, Pour, Pop event in Port Elliot was a huge success.

The Splash and Dash involves a swim in the Strathalbyn Community Swimming Pool, followed by a run around the adjoining park - Soldiers Memorial Gardens.

This event is unique in that an adult can participate alongside a child and there is no extra cost for the adult. You can register for this event by going to www.visitalexandrina.com – an early bird rate

of \$10 per child entry applies before February 17th and the first 50 children receive a FREE t-shirt!

The Splash & Dash is being organised by a professional event management company – Event Strategies, and supported by Alexandrina Council's OPAL Program, StarClub and the YMCA.

More information is on page 8.

Food Safety Pamphlet Available from Council

The theme for food safety week this year is transporting food safely.

As part of the activities during food safety week, the Environmental Health team has collaborated with OPAL to develop a food safety and healthy foods information pamphlet.

The focus of the pamphlet was to provide information and tips for the safe transport of food in keeping with the theme of food safety week.

Partnering with OPAL involved producing a pamphlet that also covered healthy foods, in particular swapping sometimes foods with healthy choices.

The Environmental Health team visited Strathalbyn and Goolwa Woolworths stores to promote food safety and distributed bags containing the pamphlets, ice packs, thermometers, soap sachets and other information to the public. This was well received and the cooperation of the Woolworths

stores in this activity was appreciated and Environmental Health look forward to working together with Woolworths in the future.

**Please note: if you are setting up a temporary food stall please contact the Environmental Health Officer at Council or your market organiser to ensure you have all the information required so that your stall is set up correctly and meets all of the requirements under the Food Safety Act.*

Anti-Poverty Week

Alexandrina Council promoted Anti-poverty week 2013 with a non-perishable food drive throughout the region in September, culminating in a presentation of the donated goods to a number of community groups who assist people in need.

Collection points were available in all Alexandrina Council libraries and offices. A great many community members dug deep to support such a worthy cause. Anti-poverty week was held from October 14 – 20.

Donations were distributed to Open Door Community Centre in Goolwa, ADRA in Port Elliot and Emmanuel Community's Pantry Club in Strathalbyn.

Immunisation Program

Alexandrina Council continues to offer free childhood immunisation up to the age of 7 years. Adult immunisation is also available with a fee based on the price of the vaccine. This service is operated by the City of Onkaparinga on behalf of Alexandrina Council.

Clinics will be run at both Goolwa and Strathalbyn on the following dates:

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| February 19 | August 20 |
| March 19 | September 17 |
| April 9 | October 15 |
| May 21 | November 19 |
| June 18 | December 10 |
| July 23 | |

Goolwa clinic will be held at the Alexandrina Council Large Meeting Room, Cadell Street, Goolwa between 10:30 am – 12:00 pm.

Strathalbyn clinic will be held at the Alexandrina Council Library, Colman Terrace, Strathalbyn between 2:00 pm – 3:35 pm.

Bookings are not required, arrive within the scheduled times, bringing Medicare card and Children's Immunisation book. For more information please contact the Immunisation Service at City of Onkaparinga on 8384 0666.



Mayor Kym McHugh and Elected Members presented the Community Halls Capital Grants, Recreational Capital Grants and Small Recreational and Sport Grants in late-November. The grants were given to 17 organisations and halls in the Alexandrina region. Pictured is Mandy Brokenshire from the Mount Compass Sports and Social Club accepting a Recreational Capital Grant from Mayor McHugh and Councillor Grant Gartrell.

Alexandrina Libraries Adult Programs

Fleurieu Waste Seminar Organics Recycling

Thursday 8 February

10am – 11am at Goolwa Library

Thursday 15 February

10am – 11am at Strathalbyn Library

Cost: free. Bookings essential: 8555 7000

Topic explores the hows, whys and wherefores of aerobic and anaerobic composting systems.

Author Event - John Bartlett

Saturday 8 March at 11am

Goolwa Library– Community Chambers

Cost: free. Bookings essential: 8555 7000

Meet Writer's Week featured Author, John Bartlett, and join us for light refreshments.

Bartlett's novel Estuary is a sensitive investigation of the meaning of belonging and otherness in contemporary Australia, evoking images of the Coorong and Murray.

Novel Estuary will be available for purchase and signing.

Harmony Day Film Festival - Simultaneous Screening

Friday 21 March

Sessions every hour on the hour

Goolwa & Strathalbyn Libraries

BYO popcorn!

Cost: free.

Bookings not required.

Harmony Day is a day of celebration and reflection of Australian society, a day to tell stories and welcome new faces.

Colourfest celebrates Harmony Day each year by offering a selection of diverse Australian short films.

Meditation for a Healthy Mind

Saturday 12 April

12.30pm – 2.30pm Strathalbyn library

Cost: \$5. Bookings essential: 8555 7000

Debunk the mysteries of meditation in this practical and informative session.

Learn the theory behind the practice of meditation, and discover for yourself how to use this ancient relaxation method.

Strathalbyn Skate Park Construction to Start

Alexandrina youth have a new place to meet and practice their skating and BMX tricks with construction of the Strathalbyn Skate Park to start in January.

Convic Skateparks Pty Ltd has been awarded the construction contract for the building of the facility following an open tender process. As the global leaders in skate park solutions, Convic has crafted more than 600 action sports facilities around the world.

Works will commence on this exciting community project in early-January 2014, with an estimated completion date of April 2014.

"It is fantastic to see that the sustained effort of both community and Council to deliver a youth community project such as this is now coming to fruition," said Alexandrina Mayor Kym McHugh.

"This is a facility that all of the community can be proud of. The landscaped areas and lawn terraces will provide a fantastic community space.

"We will continue to work hard behind the scenes to ensure this project will deliver a well considered, high value space that will be built by leaders in the Australian skate culture."

Project will deliver;

- a modern, integrated and multi-use skate facility catering for skate, BMX and inline user groups;
- high levels of landscape treatments, utilising and complimenting the



Students from the Eastern Fleurieu School were involved in the planning process for the skate park facility.

- surrounding landscape as a 'feature';
- durable, maintainable and 'skate-able' materials and treatments throughout;
- passive viewing areas, refuge spaces and shade facilities for user or visitor groups alike;
- integrated spaces that can host both unstructured gatherings and small organised youth events;
- modern street furniture, signage, security lighting and locked power source for minor events;
- safe and efficient pedestrian linkages to North Parade and Braemar Drive

respectively; and

- high levels of natural surveillance.
- The Strathalbyn Skate Park concept was first raised by the community for Council's consideration in 2005. Since that time community groups, Council and youth organisations have investigated the potential for a specific youth attraction within the Strathalbyn township. This project aims to provide a dedicated youth facility for Strathalbyn and surrounding districts, with the express purpose of encouraging youth to be active and take pride in their community assets.

The Fire Danger Season is Here

Are you Bushfire Ready? Do you have a Bushfire Survival Plan?

If you live in the Alexandrina Council and have answered "no" to the above two questions, now is the time to prepare a Bushfire Safety & Survival Plan. Kits are available from Alexandrina Council or your local CFS (CFS Bushfire Information Hotline 1300 362

361). CFS and Alexandrina Council urge all property owners to assess their fire risk, clean up and maintain their property throughout the fire danger season.

Mount Lofty Ranges – 1 December to 30 April annually
Murraylands – 15 November to 15 April annually

(subject to change dependant on weather conditions)

Unregistered Dog Door Knock

Alexandrina Council's Community Safety team have commenced their annual unregistered dog door knock.

The door knock increases the overall number of dogs on Council's registration database and ensures that dogs can be more readily reunited with their owners. Registration of all dogs is compulsory each year, with registration renewals

giving dog owners until 31 August to register their dogs without penalty. If registration has slipped your mind, please make it a priority. Discounts on registration fees are available for concession holders, microchipping, desexing and for working dogs. Please present evidence of these at the time of registration to receive the discount.



Veronica Teague from Wildlife Welfare Organisation (SA) Inc., Alexandrina Council General Manager Engineering and Open Space Simon Grenfell, Rena Robinson from Wildlife Welfare Organisation (SA) Inc. and Clancy Retallick Coordinator of the Victor Harbor Natural Resource Centre with a fishing line tackle bin in Goolwa.

Fishing Line Recovery Scheme

The Fishing Line Recovery Scheme project has recently been rolled out by Alexandrina Council, in collaboration with Wildlife Welfare Organisation (SA) Inc. and the Victor Harbor Natural Resource Centre.

This initiative is in response to the many rescue calls for seabirds and terrestrial birds entangled in fishing line and tackle that Wildlife Welfare Organisation (WWO) have attended over the years.

The fishing tackle bins have been specifically designed as a practical environmental solution for the recovery of lost and discarded fishing line that litters recreational fishing hotspots and poses life threatening situations for aquatic and terrestrial birds.

This recovery program has been

used successfully in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

The use of these fishing tackle bins is to attempt to address problems connected with lost and discarded fishing line and tackle where it could pose a threat to our wildlife and environment

Displayed at the recovery bin station is an accompanying education sign to assist fishers in what action they should take should a bird be hooked or entangled in fishing line. The bins are emptied on a regular basis where the contents are audited.

Other items such as bait bags and packaging still need to be deposited in general waste bins.

For further information regarding the recovery fishing tackle bins please call Wildlife Welfare Organisation on 0434 114 628.

Rural Initiatives Grants

Since 2010 Council has been proactive in supporting its rural sector through the establishment of the Alexandrina Sustainable Agricultural Round Table, ASART. This group, made up of representatives from the key agricultural industries within the Council area, elected members, SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board, staff and Chaired by the Mayor, has been instrumental in the preparation of a rural brochure and assisting with the policy development of Council's Rural Areas Development Plan Amendment. It is also providing our rural sector with a conduit to Council to ensure that issues impacting on them are recognised and acknowledged.

To further enhance the role of ASART and to provide opportunities for our rural sector to further develop their enterprises or undertake research the Rural Initiatives Grant has been established.

A total of \$50,000 is available with grants up to \$10,000 being awarded upon completion of an application form and meeting the criteria established. Details are available on Council's website www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au with applications currently being sought until 28 February 2014. Please contact Sally Roberts, Manager Planning and Development for further information on 8555 7000.

Heritage Incentive Grants

The Alexandrina Council is pleased to announce the availability of the 2013 - 2014 Heritage Incentive Scheme which is open to application from 2 December 2013 to 9 May 2014.

The Scheme will offer four grants of up to \$4000 to the owners of Local Heritage Places, Contributory items or properties located within Conservation Policy Areas pursuant to the Alexandrina Development Plan. Examples of projects previously awarded include the conservation and restoration of building exteriors, re-pointing or repair of stonework, salt damp restoration and the reinstatement or repair of original fencing may be eligible for the grant. Applications will be assessed for eligibility by the Heritage Advisory Committee.

For further information on the Alexandrina Heritage Incentive Scheme, please contact David Zanker on 8555 7000 or david.zanker@alexandrina.sa.gov.au. Additional information can be found at www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au under the Building and Development section.



Opal SPLASH & DASH AQUATHON

in Strathalbyn

SWIM IN THE POOL & RUN THROUGH THE PARK

Sunday 16th March 2014 – 9.00 am race start
(compulsory registration 7.45 – 8.45 am)

Ages 7–10 yrs: 100m swim – 650m run

Ages 11–15 yrs: 200m swim – 1.3 km run



This event is not timed, it is about families being together and being healthy and active.

Entry includes the option of having an adult participate with a child!

For more information, entry and payment details go to

www.visitalexandrina.com

Enter by
17th February
for \$10 and receive a
FREE T-Shirt* **Limited Stock*