



Alexandrina Alive



Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct

New clubrooms
set to open in
late February

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Message from the Mayor

Summer is here again, a little slower to arrive than usual this year, and I'm simultaneously reflecting on the year that was 2021 and looking forward to an exciting 2022.

Welcome to the latest edition of Alexandrina Alive. It is indeed a lively time with a number of major projects either just complete or ready to break ground.

The Strathalbyn Town Centre Revitalisation project is progressing nicely with three of eight stages now complete, and the Goolwa Oval multi-purpose facility will very shortly become available for both competitive sport and

unstructured leisure activities. I hope that the whole community is able to enjoy this state-of-the-art new multi-purpose building.

In 2021 we unveiled a future vision for Alexandrina's iconic Goolwa Wharf Precinct, with the intention to deliver *"a place to experience a vibrant riverfront township rich with culture and history"*. We are currently considering community feedback and other important inputs to finalise a preferred option to progress in early 2022. Meanwhile, one of the first elements of the broader Precinct improvements, the Chart Room, is open and hosting an exciting business pop-up program.

Business Alexandrina had a successful 2021, mentoring nine nominees in the SA Tourism awards, culminating in one

gold, and a Hall of Fame recognition, and one silver award (Beach Huts Middleton and Kimbolton Wines, respectively). This success reflects the larger program of business support, grants, experts in residence and more offered by Business Alexandrina.

Keep your eyes on Council's website and publications for an exciting calendar of events and works, and enjoy the rest of summer – perhaps with a stroll along one of our beautiful beaches, or a dip in the Strathalbyn Pool!

Mayor Keith Parkes

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

Above (LtoR): Mayor Keith Parkes, Tara Nash, Cindy Westphalan, Shaye Clark, Nicole Clark, Vicki Clark, Jane Burke and Dave Palmer. Guests at the 'Our Local Alexandrina' business networking event at the Chart Room, Goolwa Wharf Precinct in November.

Front Cover: Molly March and Marlo Bellison enjoying a play in the sand at Horseshoe Bay, Port Elliot. The Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club redevelopment is now complete and we are thrilled that Council's support for this project in partnership with Surf Life Saving SA and the South Australian Government will see benefit for the community, local business and the region's overall economy.

Chart Room launches Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Alexandrina Council is excited to launch a new business pop-up program in the recently renovated Chart Room, one of the first elements of the broader Goolwa Wharf Precinct revitalisation to be completed.

Alexandrina Council is offering the historic Chart Room to local businesses and start-ups as a flexible and accessible short-term space, enabling them to test and showcase their goods and services, and plan future strategies.

The pop-up program is designed to be a win-win for the business and broader Goolwa community. It's a way to activate a previously unused state heritage building to support new and emerging businesses to explore their ideas and concepts with minimal risk.

It is also expected to contribute to increased growth in the region's tourism industry, encouraging visitors to explore the waterfront area, and adding to a general appreciation of the historical significance of the Goolwa township.

The draft Master Plan for the broader Goolwa Wharf Precinct, of which the Chart Room is an early element, was released for community comment in late 2021, and aims to create spaces that are accessible, connected, inviting and attractive, and to encourage exploration of the wharf and surrounds.

New landscaping, shared use paths, signage and lighting will provide a new level of amenity for the area, along with consolidated parking, upgrades to the historic wharf shed to enhance business and retail spaces, and renewals to the Signal Point building to create a flexible, multi-use space.

A significant amount of initial scoping work has been completed, and in early 2022, Council will refine the Master Plan based on community feedback, and continue with more detailed design work for the project.

> For more information visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/goolwawharf



Thank you for keeping your dogs on a leash



In South Australia, you must keep your dog on a 2m, or shorter, leash unless in an area marked by Council signage. You might also notice new temporary signage on Alexandrina's busiest beaches as part of the Dog and Cat Management Board (in partnership with Alexandrina Council) to encourage 'dogs on leash' awareness over the busy summer period – let's keep both our people and our pups safe!

Hooded Plovers hatching

We are excited to announce that two Hooded Plovers have hatched on an Alexandrina beach! Listed as a vulnerable species nationally, there are fewer than 800 of these birds left in South Australia. You can help protect the Hooded Plover by keeping your dog on a leash while at the beach, walking below the high tide mark, and moving quietly away if you're lucky enough to spot these cuties!





**For more information
and updates on
the project visit
[alexandrina.sa.gov.
au/GoolwaOval](http://alexandrina.sa.gov.au/GoolwaOval)**

Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct gets moving

Goolwa's sporting clubs and community users are delighted to see the much anticipated new clubroom facilities at the Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct that are set to open in late February.

The \$3.2M state-of-the-art building is the new home of a number of Goolwa's premier sporting clubs, replacing four older clubrooms. Unisex change rooms are located on the ground floor which can host up to four separate teams at once to cater for the growth of women's football, while the top floor features a large seating and social area with kitchen and canteen facilities.

The project is not only delivering Goolwa's sporting clubs with the region's best facilities, we are reimagining the traditional sports precinct to encourage participation in structured activities, such as competitive sport, as well as unstructured leisure activities for a much wider range of people.

Currently over 28% of people in the Alexandrina region live with a disability, so we wanted to make facilities and recreation spaces that are accessible for the whole community.

Alexandrina Council is working with the YMCA and Mission Australia to address barriers for sports participation, and a range of community groups, clubs and individuals will collaborate to deliver innovative and inclusive physical activity opportunities. This includes modified sporting formats suitable for seniors and people living with disabilities, for example, walking hockey.

Late in 2021, Alexandrina Council announced it had won a \$5M federal government grant which will fund 60% of the current redevelopment project expected to be completed by late 2023.

Consultation on the next stage of the redevelopment will begin shortly. The precinct is proposed to include new tennis/netball courts with a spectators area, new oval and court lighting, cricket training nets, a new Lions Club book shop, and an inclusive play area.

The precinct falls under a new management model, with Council managing the precinct holistically for a two year period. This will allow time for sporting clubs and user groups to focus on setting up new management structures and specific sports development activities.

The fantastic new multi-purpose building is due to open in February 2022. The \$8.2M redevelopment is combined funding of \$5M from the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' Community Development Grants Programme; \$800K from the State Government of South Australia and a \$2.4M contribution from Alexandrina Council.

The new building and all the sports facilities, including the oval and courts are available to all sporting and user groups in the community. For further information, contact Alexandrina Council on **8555 7000 or goolwaoval@alexandrina.sa.gov.au**

Regenerating Alexandrina's Economy

Thank you to all of the community members and businesses who took the time to provide input into the development of Council's new 'Economic Development Strategy 2022-27 - Regenerating Alexandrina's Economy'.

The plan acknowledges the symbiotic relationship between our environment, our community, and our economy. We now have a clear pathway to nurture these connections. Economic success in the Alexandrina region is fundamental for our community wellbeing and improving living standards. The Strategy focuses on regenerative economics, a concept where efforts are less concerned

with growth for growth's sake, and more with building a sustainable economy which meets the needs of both people and the environment.

Council is dedicated to providing support to help the region progress and thrive through implementation of the Economic Development Strategy and funding of the Business Alexandrina Program.

Actions from the strategy will guide us towards a more inclusive, innovative, resilient and agile economic development response. This directly responds to the community voice calling for

healthy and sustainable growth, balancing the need for progress with a deep respect for heritage and the environment (A2040 Community Strategic Plan).



To find out more about how we will be directing our efforts towards fostering a resilient and regenerative economy for the Alexandrina region, contact the business support team and view the Economic Development Strategy 2022-27 document online at businessalexandrina.com.au

Ask an expert!

The Business Alexandrina 'Expert in Residence' program is going from strength to strength with two new experts recently announced and available for free advice in the Business Hub.

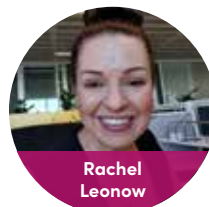
Rachel Leonow is a Regional Business Lead for NBN Co, working to spread the word about how NBN Business Fibre Zones can increase business productivity as well as a number of other new initiatives that aim to help businesses reduce costs.



Angela DiFabio

Angela DiFabio is an innovation strategist and business growth pathfinder, working with Flinders University's New Venture Institute. She has a background in business, finance and non-profit organisations, and helps to generate strategic partnerships for ongoing collaboration.

'The Hub' is supporting local businesses to grow through collaboration. The space provides first-class training, co-working and meeting spaces, and one-on-one access to the



Rachel Leonow

Expert in Residence as an important part of the broader Business Alexandrina support program.

The Business Alexandrina support program focuses on helping business owners and operators to build the skills they need to help their businesses prosper.

This support is offered via physical workshops, networking events, business advice and coaching. Activities are run both in 'The Hub' and across a number of satellite sites throughout the region.

> To find out more, or to make an appointment with an expert, visit businessalexandrina.com.au or call 8555 7455

Make your idea a reality!



Applications open for the next round of Alexandrina's grants program on 1 February 2022, following a significant refresh of the program.

The annual grants program offers individuals, groups and organisations the opportunity to access financial and in-kind assistance for initiatives, projects and activities within the region.

It's a way Council can support the community to deliver activities that respond to local needs, to encourage active citizenship, and to create meaningful opportunities for social and cultural interaction.

Alexandrina Council undertook a significant review of its grants program in 2020–21, which included a community survey, a comparison with 10 other local council grant programs, and a series of conversations with key stakeholders.

Overall, the review showed an 81% community satisfaction rating with the existing grants program. The review identified improvements such as a more streamlined, user friendly application process which have now been implemented.

The new grants program reflects a simplified category structure, and includes grants that directly contribute to four of the five A2040 action areas – climate response, appropriate growth, community inclusion and environmental innovation.

Grants will be offered in the following categories in 2022:

- > Business initiatives
- > Community environment
- > Community events
- > Community wellbeing
- > Local heritage
- > Vibrant communities
- > Youth sponsorship.

For more information or to discuss your project ideas, please contact Council's Grants Officer on 8555 7000.



Grant guidelines will be available for download in early 2022 at alexandrina.sa.gov.au/grants

Drop in for a dip



Alexandrina Council and the YMCA are pleased to share that the swimming season at the Strathalbyn Community Swimming Pool is well and truly underway.

The heated outdoor pool is located in the centre of town, with playground nearby, so it's a great spot to visit with kids.

The pool is open for lap swimming early every day, and for general admission for the remainder of the day when the weather is 23 degrees or warmer.

The 2022 season has been extended through to 15 May so there'll be plenty of chances to go for a dip.



The pool is managed on behalf of Alexandrina Council by the YMCA, and prices, times and other details are available on sa.ymca.org.au



Join the Agribusiness Conversation upcoming event

In line with Alexandrina Council's new **Economic Development Strategy 2022–27**, Council is looking to connect with farmers and other agribusiness professionals to re-invigorate and re-focus what we do to support the agribusiness sector.

In June 2020, the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries accounted for 24% of businesses operating in the Alexandrina Council and 15% of people employed, with a total export value of over half a billion dollars.

Based on the importance of a sustainable agricultural sector to the region's economy, Council recognises that agribusiness must continue to be supported as a key, value-adding local industry built upon our region's natural assets.

Wide consultation in the region has given voice to a strong community desire for healthy and sustainable growth, balancing the need for progress with deep respect for the environment.

Following the success of our A2040 Village Conversations, Alexandrina Council would like to invite all local farmer and other agribusiness professionals in the Alexandrina region to the Agribusiness Sector Conversation.

David Evans, SA Regional Coordinator at Grain Growers Ltd will be facilitating the evening with key stakeholders from Regional Development Australia and State Government in attendance.

Agribusiness Innovation Conversation upcoming event

**March/April* 2022
at the Tooperang Hall**

Following the completion of our A2040 Village Conversations we would like to invite all local farmers and agribusiness professionals in the Alexandrina region to the Agribusiness Sector Conversation.

This will be an opportunity to share ideas and understand what Council can do to support economic growth in the agribusiness sector. Council will also be providing more information on the revitalised Alexandrina Sustainable Agriculture Roundtable (ASART) and how you can get involved.

Keep an eye on Council's website for this upcoming event.

**Date to be confirmed pending easing of COVID restrictions.*



For further information, please email
business@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Village Conversations and Village Innovation Plans

Thank you to everyone that participated in and embraced the 2021 Village Conversations!

The Village Conversations represent a shared ambition and ongoing consultation approach so that together we can realise our vision for Alexandrina's future.

The conversations were held over eight two-week engagement periods, and gave the community the chance to share their thoughts, ideas, and solutions via Council's My Say portal, village-based face-to-face 'drop-in' sessions and facilitated events.

Summary 'Snapshot' reports are now available on each township's My Say page.

Visit mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/villageconversations and select your township to view snapshot report.

These reports summarise the values and ideas that were heard during the consultations and are a great way for those that did not attend to immerse themselves in the key takeaways for their village.

A special thank you to the community-nominated visionaries who reviewed these documents and helped to shape them into their final formats.

While the snapshots don't capture people's input verbatim; the authentic insights contained in them will be used to inform decisions about short and medium-term projects, initiatives and services.

The outcomes of the Village Conversations will also have a long-term impact, by being woven into important guiding documents such as our financial plan, asset management plan, and other long-term strategies.

Based on our learnings from 2021, Council will design and deliver the A2040 Village Innovation Plan (VIP) Framework in 2022 - stay tuned for updates!

Village Conversations

What's next?

- ✓ 2021 Village Conversations
- Design, decide A2040 VIP Framework (early 2022) - Current
- 2022 Village Conversations
- Village Innovation Plan (by 2024)



> Get involved, be involved, stay involved

1. Head to alexandrina.sa.gov.au/villageconversations to find your township's Village Conversation page
2. Click on the image
3. Enter your email in the 'Stay Informed' section
4. Check your inbox to confirm your email.



Disability Access & Inclusion Plan 2021-24

We are pleased to announce that Alexandrina Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) has been adopted.

It formalises our commitment to provide services and facilities that are inclusive for all people who

live in, work in or visit our region, including the 28% of residents who have a disability. The DAIP provides us with a mechanism to assist people to actively engage and contribute to the life of our community and promote cultural diversity.

> You can read the DAIP at alexandrina.sa.gov.au/plans

Fleurieu's designated jet ski area

Alexandrina has established a family-friendly spot for a day on the water at the new Goolwa Jet Ski Park.

The purpose built area is located along Barrage Road in Goolwa towards Beacon 19 boat ramp, and approximately 300m before the Goolwa Barrage car park.

New signage has been installed at the Jet Ski Park and at nearby boat ramps for visitors to locate the area easily.

The fabulous riverside spot has all the facilities you need to enjoy your time in Goolwa, while your friends or family take to the water by Jet Ski.



The area has car parking, toilets and a small beach to launch. The fantastic upgrade also includes; two smart picnic benches with solar powered charging and Free Wi-Fi, as well as a sheltered picnic bench, and landscaped surrounds for a lovely spot along the mighty Murray River.



➤ For more information visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/jetski



Our Local Alexandrina is a place to connect shoppers with the amazing local products, produce and experiences the Alexandrina area has to offer. Visit our website and social pages to discover and explore our regions hidden gems.

ourlocalalexandrina.com.au





**Mark in your
calendars for a
fun-filled weekend
- 17th South
Australian Wooden
Boat Festival -
28 to 30 April 2023.**

South Australian Wooden Boat Festival 2023

Recognised as South Australia's Best Festival at the 2019 South Australian Tourism Awards, it's never too early for the organising committee to plan and develop another vibrant Festival.



Goolwa will continue to host the most impressive freshwater wooden boat festival in Australia in 2023.

**Did you know
the festival was
established in
1987 by a group of
local wooden boat
enthusiasts?**

The festival held biennially attracts local, national and international visitors. With an array of on and off-water activities, the mix of water, fun, wooden boats, food, wine and entertainment is irresistible! Join us in celebrating Australia's rich maritime history and the past and present boat builders.

View wooden craft of all shapes, sizes and ages – from canoes and rowing skiffs to sail boats and steamers – they all will gather in 2023 at the River Port of Goolwa for the South Australian Wooden Boat Festival.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this entertaining and informative two-day biennial festival: boats aplenty and an exciting mix of both on-water and land-based events and activities.

Presented by the Alexandrina Council, The SA Wooden Boat Festival appeals to a diverse crowd and includes young and older demographics. Sponsorship opportunities are available and will offer great benefits so please contact the committee to discuss partnership opportunities.



For more information, follow the activities on social media [@sawoodenboatfestival](https://twitter.com/sawoodenboatfestival) and at the official website sawoodenboatfestival.com.au or email info@sawoodenboatfestival.com.au

COVID update

Alexandrina Council has made some changes to planned activities due to COVID.

Goolwa's River Boat Centre and PS Oscar W will reduce passenger numbers to run at 50% capacity for all cruises. The Riverboat Centre will be open from 10am to 3pm Wednesday to Sunday throughout January 2022.

Signal Point Gallery is closing for redevelopment effective from 10 January 2022, however Goolwa's South Coast Regional Art Centre (SCRAC) remains open.

Visit Council's website for the latest covid updates and any services effected alexandrina.sa.gov.au/coronavirusresponse

We apologise for any inconvenience; if you have any questions about our COVID-19 response, you are always welcome to call us on **8555 7000** or email coronavirus@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Major project updates



Port Elliot parks irrigation renewal

A number of parks in Port Elliot are having new irrigation systems installed over summer – with subsurface systems being replaced by overhead sprinklers. This includes Commodore Reserve, Continental Park, Harbor Masters Reserve and Strangways Reserve. Public access will be maintained during the school holiday period. Works were supported by grant funding from the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources – Drought Communities Program and Council.

Strathalbyn Town Centre Revitalisation

Strathalbyn's streetscapes are being upgraded with a total \$10M investment. The town's most popular areas will have new plantings, trees, furniture and attractive landscaping. The intention is to harmonise the town's infrastructure, promote a sense of place and provide ample wayfinding signage for visitors. Three of the eight stages are complete and work on upcoming stages will continue throughout 2022. For project updates visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/strathalbyntc

Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Our vision is for the Goolwa Wharf Precinct to be "A place to experience a vibrant riverfront township enriched with culture and history". Following community consultation, further economic analysis and design work is being undertaken and will be presented to Council in early 2022. For project updates visit alexandrina.sa.gov.au/goolwawharf

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





The Dridan Collection*

A solo exhibition by David Dridan. David Dridan, OAM, has generously donated a substantial collection of artworks to Alexandrina Council. Some are his own pieces, tracking a prolific career dedicated to depicting his beloved and diverse Australian landscape, and some are his acquisitions of other artists' work.

When: 13 February – 13 March

Location: South Coast Regional Art Centre, Goolwa

Enquiries: jaw@alexandrina.sa.gov.au



Adelaide Writers' Week 2022: A Better Picture

Experience Australia's largest literary festival streamed live from Adelaide, straight to the Goolwa and Strathalbyn Libraries.

When: 7–10 March, 9.30am–6pm

Location: Goolwa and Strathalbyn Libraries

Enquiries: libraries@alexandrina.sa.gov.au



The Goolwa Caravan*

The Goolwa Caravan returns in 2022! All manner of physical comedy, acrobatics, and music will delight audiences from age 9 to 90.

When: 13 March, 10.30am

Location: The Garden of Honour, next to Goolwa RSL, BF Laurie Lane



HELLO: Erin Jae's - Tribute to Adele

Adele is one of the biggest names in the world of music with songs such as 'Someone Like You' to 'When We Were Young', 'Hello' and 'Rolling in The Deep' to name a few. Featuring Erin Sowersby as Adele and Musical Direction by Ray Lindon with their fabulous 6-piece band.

When: 18 March, 2pm

Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Alexandrina Council Collection*

15 January–12 February

Location: South Coast Regional Art Centre, Goolwa

Enquiries: jaw@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Concerto Rhapsody

– Adelaide Hills Chamber Players

20 January, 7.30pm

Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Bookings:

adelaidehillschamberplayers.com

BUBLÉ

Will Metzer Big Band and

Special Guests

5 February, 2pm and 7.30pm

Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Days of Disco

18 February, 2pm

Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

A Night at the WOPERA

12 March, 8pm

Location: Centenary Hall, Goolwa

Bookings: events.alexandrina.com.au

Middleton Jazz in the park

26 March

Location: Abbotts Reserve, Middleton

Southern Surf Festival

29 & 30 April, 1 May

Location: Middleton Point

Enquiries: southernsurffestival.com.au

We welcome the government's easing of COVID-19 restrictions and are working hard to resume our services and reopen our venues.

We thank you for your understanding as we transition our facilities to operate safely for staff, volunteers and the community.

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

*Free Event!

