Dear ratepayers,

I thought I would update you on council happenings in the last couple of months. In June I was invited to attend the Booleroo Lions Club 40 year Birthday handover and propose a toast and speak about council’s involvement with Lions. It was a good night and nice to see so many old faces back in town.

I attended an information day at Port Germein for Rise Renewable’s PUMP HYDRO project, it is a water/solar/storage power producing project. This is a very positive story for Port Germein and hopefully the first of a few more in the pipeline. Your council continues to work hard to make ours a destination council for business and tourism and a great place to live.

In July I attended an information day about ratecapping. The speakers from interstate Councils that have ratecapping were very informative. Minister for Transport, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, Stephan Knoll did an opening address followed by four members of the cross bench taking part in the panel session. A vast majority of Council reps concluded that it would only add another level of expensive bureaucracy and cause unnecessary grief without any benefits, and be an absolute disaster especially for small rural Councils like ours.

After attending the National Assembly of Local Government in Canberra and talking to one of the speakers about getting more people into our regions, I took on board his suggestions and called and invited my 4 neighbouring mayors Whittle/Clark/Slattery to a Mayors meeting to discuss what our common issues are and what we can do to attract more people into our region. We had an enjoyable and productive meeting and are in the early stages of taking this further, but with elections looming quickly it was decided to leave it to the new council to follow up.

I was also very privileged to meet with the Governor of South Australia the Honourable Hieu Van Le and was delighted when he accepted my invitation to visit our council area two weeks later. He and his wife had a great time meeting and seeing our school kids, business leaders and tourist attractions.

Finally I remind ratepayers of our system for reporting everyday issues called RFS (Request For Services) RFS can be submitted either online, by phone, or in person. This is working well, but please be patient as the Tidy Towns crew works on a rotation between all townships.

Councillors received a presentation from Emma Bradbury CEO of the Murray Darling Association (MDA). Councillors decided not to become members of the MDA at this stage.

Colin Nottle
Mayor

September 2018
Newsletter 223
Council is responsible and in control of CWMS in four of its major towns.

Council has been investigating to provide Port Germein residents with a similar service and as such expressed an interest with the Local Government of SA, CWMS Management Committee for funding. Council has been advised it has been awarded seed funding to undertake a feasibility study, public consultation process and complete technical design for a CWMS for Port Germein.

The Wilmington CWMS was installed over 20 years ago and now requires maintenance and repairs for its continued operation. This older system is expensive for Council to operate and Council has been applying for external funding to enable it to upgrade the system to become cost effective.

Under the system the Wilmington Oval was automatically irrigated using recycled water, unfortunately this is now not able to occur. Council understands the sporting facility is an important asset to the community and has been working with the Oval committee to ensure the viability of the facility in the interim.

Councillors at the meeting held 21 August committed to supplying water to fill the tanks at the Wilmington Oval to facilitate watering the oval until upgrades to the Wilmington CWMS are undertaken.

Booleroo Centre CWMS provides valuable water for watering some fairways at the Booleroo Centre golf club. There has been some problems with the watering system and Council is addressing the problems to ensure the watering system is operating before finalising a lease agreement with the Booleroo Centre Golf Club.

The Melrose CWMS has always struggled due to a lack of water from the system and stored in the ponds. Changes in the Health Act require additional licences and pumps to be installed to enable the Mount Remarkable Agricultural Society to blend recycled water with water taken from the creek and then utilised to water the Melrose Oval.

Council deferred its determination for upgrades at the Melrose CWMS until all licences and approvals and quotes are received.

Wirrabara CWMS is the latest system installed using new technology that does not require septic tanks. 50% of Wirrabara residents have connected to date. It is compulsory for properties to connect to the scheme. In due course the system will be used to water the Wirrabara oval with an automatic irrigation system.

The benefits to communities being able to utilise recycled water for irrigation of local sporting facilities is significant and Council is pleased it is able to work with community groups on these issues.

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**Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS)**

Council will be conducting drumMUSTER chemical drum collection at the Willowie Landfill

**Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 September 2018**

**drumMUSTER**

Council will be conducting drumMUSTER chemical drum collection at the Willowie Landfill

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL - Phone 8666 2014**

All containers delivered to the collection site must be:

- Free of chemical residue
- Clean, dry and have lids removed
- drumMUSTER approved containers only, which carry the appropriate logo.
The shelter at the Wirrabara Cemetery has been replaced with a new modern structure and the entrance road resheeted. The works is part of Council's commitment towards the upgrade and presentation of all of its 11 cemeteries. New burial plans have also been finalised.

As a part of the 2018/2019 Capital Works program Council committed towards improving the drainage around Wilmington. Council has commenced works on the water course by the Wilmington Bowling Club, laying large rocks into the bed of the water course and directing water under Horrocks Highway and out of the town. The creation of the large swale will address the continued erosion of the water course and enhance the appearance of the northern entrance into Wilmington.

Summer is fast approaching and Council is working to ensure the swimming pools open as usual. Council will be looking to engage pool operators and pool attendants during the month of October. If you are interested in any of these positions please check the Council website, facebook page and local paper when applications open.

Council is again seeking to enter into a lease agreement with the Department of Education for the Wilmington Swimming Pool and is working with the Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool Committee to ensure their lease is current.

Council was successful in an Office of Recreation grant and with the support of the Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool Committee will paint the Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool, upgrade the change rooms and install solar power. The works will commence during October and will be a great addition to this important Council and community asset.

Works: roads, contracts & tidy towns

Each month the Director Works provides a report to Council on the months operations. The report is detailed and includes a map of roads graded, construction and operations during the month. The report can be viewed in full in the Council Agenda which can be downloaded from the Council website www.mtr.sa.gov.au.

During August the works team have carried out a number of operations including but not limited to:

**Re Sheeting Program:**
- Carting completed on Alexis Road Wilmington
- Carting commenced on Cooatto Road Wilmington
- Carting completed on Gunyah Road Wilmington
- Re Sheeting commenced on Gunyah Road Wilmington
- Re Sheeting completed on Alexis Road Wilmington

**Patrol Grading:**
Approximately 28 roads received patrol grading during August including some Category 1 & 2 roads due to occasional rain events. Refer to the September Council agenda for a full listing.

**Contractors:**
- Flood Damage works to various roads completed in August 2018
- Sealing to Car Park Area at Booleroo Main Street
- Construction of new Shelter Shed at Wirrabara Cemetery

**Capital Works/Tidy Towns:**
- Civil Works to Fish Cleaning Station at Weeroona Island
- Booleroo Airstrip inspection
- Floodway Repairs to White Cliffs Road Booleroo
- Repairs to Access driveway at Mount Ferguson Drive Weeroona Island
- Civil Works to Telstra Pit at Wilmington
- Tree trimming to Port Germein, Booleroo and Melrose Footpaths
- Interment of ashes at Melrose and Port Germein Cemeteries
Council Inspections

As per the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* Council’s Fire Prevention Office is required to inspect all properties within our townships and issue notices/expiations to owners of non-compliant properties.

- 1st Inspections will take place in mid September, to ensure that properties meet the requirements of the act prior to the commencement of the Fire Danger Season
- A Bushfire Hazard Reduction Compliance Notice will be sent to the owners of any properties that do not comply at the time of the 1st Inspection. Property Owners will be given 6-7 weeks to comply (MUST comply before the start of the Bushfire season)
- 2nd Inspections will take place in early November after the commencement of the Fire Danger Season. Any non-compliant properties will be issued with an Expiation Notice of $315.00 and be given a minimum of 14 days to clean up their properties.
- 3rd Inspections will take place at the end of November. Any properties that remain non-compliant will be cleaned up to the required standard by Council, and Property Owners will be charged for the work as per Council’s Fees and Charges.

Prepare your Property

Dates for the 2018-19 Fire Danger Season will be declared and gazetted in October 2018. The start date for Flinders may be early given the dry winter and available fuel.

Pursuant to the *Fire & Emergency Services Act 2005*, the owner of private land in the country must take reasonable steps to protect property on the land from fire and to prevent or inhibit the outbreak of fire on the land, or the spread of fire through the land and minimise the threat to human life from a fire on the land.

Ratepayers are reminded that under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (Act)* the onus is on the landowner to take reasonable steps to manage fuel reduction prior to the commencement of the Fire Danger Season.

Updates on the fire danger season start dates, information on being prepared and how to prepare your property are available at [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au).

PLEASE KEEP DOGS ON LEASH IN OUR PLAYGROUNDS

Council has in place several By-laws made under the Local Government Act 1999 and provide governess of many areas of Council operations. In accordance with the By-law No. 5 of 2015, **DOGS BY-LAW 2015** and Council’s Dog and Cat Management Plan “A person must not allow a dog under that persons control to be or remain within 5 metres of children’s’ playground equipment;”

After receiving a number of complaints and observations of dogs off leash in playgrounds Council will be placing signage on all of its playground fences to advise dog owners it is an offence to have a dog off leash within Council playgrounds. You risk a fine of $187.50 if your dog is off leash.

Council encourages community members and visitors to enjoy our many parks and playgrounds with their dogs. But dog owners need to respect the work that goes into the presentation of our parks. Community volunteers garden and tidy the parks and to have dogs running over garden beds and digging up the bark chips and soil is very disappointing and frustrating. Further we must protect children from parasites and diseases that can be transmitted from dog litter. Always remember to pick up after your dog. Council provides free waste bags located in all towns.

For more information on good dog management visit [http://gooddogs.au.com/fact-sheets](http://gooddogs.au.com/fact-sheets). Councils Animal Management Plan is available for viewing or download from Councils website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au). The plan includes information on dog friendly parks, off leash areas within townships and general advise for being a good dog owner.
**DON’T PUT IT IN THE BIN!**

Fire extinguishers cannot be placed in any household bin. As fire extinguishers are highly pressurised cylinders and classified as a hazardous waste item, they must be disposed of properly and safely.

Fire stations will ONLY accept domestic BCF (yellow body) fire extinguishers and domestic foam (containing PFAS) fire extinguishers (red with a blue band)

Fire Extinguishers can be disposed of at Council’s Landfill and Transfer Stations.

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**Recycle your used light globes**

Householders should not place compact fluorescent globes or other fluorescent tubes in their kerbside recycling bin. The mercury powder contained in them is a significant contamination concern for the broader recycling industry and can harm the environment.

So where can you deposit your light globes and tubes for recycling?

Householders are able to take a wide variety of household light globes including halogen, incandescent and fluorescent globes to **Mitre 10** and **True Value Hardware** stores for free.

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**Recycling Bin**

**Tips on how to be a good recycler**

Placing incorrect items in your recycling bin contaminates recyclable material, increases recycling costs, puts workers in recycling facilities at risk and can damage recycling machinery. Contaminants such as plastic bags and foam trays have to be removed from the recyclables and sent to landfill. Unfortunately some contaminants such as food and drink remnants can ruin recyclable material, resulting in this material being sent to landfill. [http://www.recycleright.sa.gov.au/](http://www.recycleright.sa.gov.au/)

**Tip 1.**

Its paper, so why can’t shredded paper go in the recycle bin? Shredded paper filters through other recyclable materials such as glass jars, plastic containers and cans causing contamination issues. The shredded pieces are too small to be picked out once mixed with other materials. For this reason it can’t be placed loose in your yellow lidded recycle bin.

However, shredded paper can be placed into clear plastic bags and then placed into the recycling bin. The plastic bag must be CLEAR so the pickers at the recycling depot can see what’s inside, they will then tip the shredded paper into the paper bin. Woolworths, Coles or any opaque plastic bags are not acceptable. Only CLEAR plastic bags can be used.

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**Hardwaste Collection**

**October 2018**

All waste must be on the footpath by 5:00pm the day prior to the collection date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington / Bruce / Hammond</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>Tue 16/10/17</td>
<td>Wed 17/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booleroo Centre / Appila</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>Thu 18/10/17</td>
<td>Fri 19/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melrose / Willowie</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>Mon 22/10/17</td>
<td>Mon 22/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Germein / Weeroona Island</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>Tue 23/10/17</td>
<td>Wed 24/10/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirrabara / Murray Town</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>Thu 25/10/17</td>
<td>Fri 26/10/17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For further information about what can be included as hardwaste visit Council’s website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au) or contact the Council Office on 8666 2014.
DID YOU KNOW? Council’s OPAL Activity Trailer is FREE to hire. The trailer is packed full of more than 30 fun games and activities that engage kids in teamwork and physical activity. It’s perfect for community events, kids parties, play groups and more.

Contact Council today for more information or the book the trailer for your next event.

Have you got what it takes?

Becoming a councillor presents the opportunity to influence local directions and create long term, positive outcomes within your community and for fellow residents. Being a councillor is a rewarding challenge; one which requires commitment, responsibility and accountability. Council held a successful information session on 28 August on what is involved being a councillor, the district and the election process.

Nominations opened on 4 September and close at noon on Tuesday 18 September. Nomination packs can be collected from the Council Office at 3 Stuart Street Melrose.