



# District Council of Mount Remarkable



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

**There is certainly a buzz about the place. Since being elected Mayor, I have wasted no time in being up and about.**

Over the last quarter I have visited a number of Progress Groups, attended numerous community groups meetings, and appeared at an array of community events. The vibe I am sensing is positive. People have been welcoming, and I thank you all for taking the time to engage with not just me, but also my fellow elected colleagues.

Since the General Election held late last year, a Supplementary Election was recently held, which has now concluded. A vacancy which required to be filled in the Willochra Ward received six nominations, which is truly encouraging. I thank all candidates who put their names forward, all of which showed a positive ambition to represent our community. With the Supplementary Election now concluded, I congratulate the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan on his election as a Councillor for the Willochra Ward.

As a team, I can assure you we are not sitting idle. With a full elected complement, supported by an administration that is as equally engaged and passionate, we are keeping the 'remarkable' momentum alive.

We have dealt with some big items already, being the Northern Passenger Transport Network Service, the Melrose Caravan Park and the Melrose Post Office. This demonstrates the seriousness of Council, and the capacity in which we are building to ensure we are sustainable, and focussing in areas that we need to deliver, both now and in to the future.

We are approaching our 23/24 annual budget, and we will be using the data collected from all of the work undertaken in the past two years to address our existing asset base. With assets to the tune of \$100m, we are keen to make sure our focus is on maintaining them, and renewing them. This is critical, and further enforces the change management cycle which is well underway and playing out already.

I look forward to continuing being out and about with other members of our team, and we look forward to sharing with you our successes and our strategic approach to ensuring we remain remarkable.

*Mayor Stephen McCarthy*



*Telowie Gorge*



## COUNCIL NEWS

**Upcoming Ordinary Council meeting dates**  
Community Question Time 5.30pm - 6.00pm  
Ordinary Meeting of Council 6.00pm

- » 16 May - Melrose Council Chambers
- » 20 June - Wilmington Bowling Club
- » 18 July - Melrose Council Chambers
- » 15 Aug - Melrose Council Chambers
- » 19 Sept - Booleroo Centre Bowling Club
- » 17 Oct - Melrose Council Chambers
- » 21 Nov - Melrose Council Chambers
- » 12 Dec - Port Germein Community Hub

**Audit & Risk Committee**  
Next meeting Friday 9 June 2023

To access copies of current and past Council and Committee meeting agendas and minutes click here:

[Council Agenda and Minutes | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

[Committees | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

**Media Releases**  
Media releases issued since the previous newsletter are available here:  
[Latest News | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

**Newsletters**  
Previous issues of newsletters are available here: [Council | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)





## ANZAC DAY 2023

Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand that is observed on 25 April every year to honour the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who fought at Gallipoli during World War I, as well as the sacrifices of all those who have served and died in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations.

Every year our district holds various dawn services to honour the memory of our ANZAC soldiers. This year our Elected Members represented the District Council of Mount Remarkable by laying wreaths in Appila, Booleroo Centre, Wilmington, Wirrabara and Port Germein.



*Cr Danny Keller and Paul Wurst  
chairman of Appila Improvement  
Assoc and CFS Captain*



*Colin Becker, Cr Danny Keller,  
Paul Wurst and Rev Ted White,  
2023 Anzac Day, Appila*



*Booleroo Service*



*Wirrabara Service*



*Wilmington Service*



*Wilmington Service*



*Cr the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan,  
Wilmington*



*Mayor Stephen McCarthy and Cr Sheriden Tate, Port Germein*



*Port Germein Service*



## MAYOR'S BUSINESS LUNCH

Mayor Cr Stephen McCarthy hosted the inaugural Mayor's Business Lunch on 2 February in Melrose.

The luncheon was attended by local and regional business owners and leaders, who discussed various issues and explored solutions and opportunities for collaboration and support.

The initiative was well-received by the attendees, who appreciated the opportunity to get together informally and expressed interest in doing so again in the future.

The luncheon was an opportunity to establish meaningful connections with the business community and to demonstrate the Council's commitment to its strategic objectives of economic development and growth in the district.

Council will continue to develop its offerings in the business and economic development space by enhancing and continually building on the information about the District that specifically aligns with existing and future business opportunities.



*The Mayor's Business Lunch was a great success and was well received by the attendees.*

## NEW WILLOCHRA WARD COUNCILLOR

The Electoral Commission of South Australia (ECSA) confirmed in March that former South Australian Deputy Premier and Cabinet Minister of the former Marshall Government the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan was successful in being elected as the Willochra Ward Councillor. Cr the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan was sworn in as a Member of Council on 21 March in Wirrabara.



*Cr the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan with Mayor Stephen McCarthy and CEO Sam Johnson*

## AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE – INDEPENDENT MEMBER - VACANCY

Applications are sought from a suitably qualified and/or experienced person to join Council's Audit & Risk Committee as an Independent Member.

To be considered for this position, you will have appropriate business or financial management skills, reporting knowledge and experience, and be conversant with financial and other reporting requirements. Whilst not essential, experience within local government, in particular finance, risk and governance, will be highly regarded.

The appointment will be made by Council in accordance with the Audit & Risk Committee's Terms of Reference which is available on Council's website along with other information about the Committee:

[Audit & Risk Committee | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

Remuneration as determined by Council at its July 2021 Ordinary Meeting is \$800 per meeting for independent members and \$1,000 for the Chairperson (excluding GST).

Enquiries and written applications for the Independent Member Vacancy are invited by interested persons and should be mailed or emailed to:

*Jacqui Kelleher, Director Community & Corporate  
District Council of Mount Remarkable, PO Box 94, Melrose SA 5483  
postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au or phone 08 8666 2014.*

Applications are to be received by 12.00 noon on Friday 5 May 2023. Council will determine the appointment of an independent member at its 16 May Ordinary Meeting.

## MELROSE CARAVAN & TOURIST PARK – NEW LESSEE MARK FILLERY

The Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park, previously owned and operated by Council, now has a new lessee as approved by Council at its January Ordinary Meeting.

Mark Fillery is the new lessee as approved by Council at its 17 January 2023 Ordinary Meeting. Council's decision to sell the business was based on financial evidence considered in 2020, which demonstrated concerns about Council's ability to continue to effectively fund, maintain, and operate the Park with limited resources.

The agreed purchase price for the business was \$1.2M, with a lease term of 35 years and rights of renewal initially for 5 years and then 6x5 years. An annual market review will take place, and rent payable is \$80,000 + GST, which will be reviewed based on CPI adjustments.

All previously confidential Council reports related to the sale of the leasehold and operations of the Park are now available on the Council's website in accordance with the confidentiality provisions surrounding this matter.

Council will remain the custodian of the land through the current care and control arrangement and freehold owner of a small portion of the park, while receiving an annual lease income that is commensurate with a fair market return for the asset. Under the new lease arrangements, the current business name, website, and phone number of the Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park remain the same.

Since taking up the lease, Mr Fillery and his partner Julieanne Ramsey have established connections within the local community and plan to make improvements to the Park's amenities and manager's residence.



*Melrose Caravan and Tourist Park Lessee Mark Fillery with his partner Julieanne Ramsey.*



## POSTAL SERVICES IN MELROSE

The incoming prospective postal agent for Melrose has advised Australia Post that it has made the decision not to proceed with its interest in taking up a postal agency agreement to be an agent for the Melrose community.

The Melrose Licensed Post Office will finish operations at 4.30pm Friday 2 June 2023, with residents able to continue to access postal products at the Booleroo Centre and Wilmington Post Offices.

Australia Post has advised PO Box holders that all mail on hand after 4.30pm Friday 2 June 2023 will be relocated to Booleroo Centre Post Office where it will be available over the counter.

Council is assisting Australia Post with leads and contact details of other businesses in Melrose so that it may engage with them to ascertain if there is an appetite for someone to grow an existing business through diversifying and taking on a postal agency.

**Any community member or business interested in taking on the postal service as a Licensed or Community Postal Agent is encouraged to get in touch with Australia Post by calling 13POST (13 7678).**



## COUNCIL GRADING PROGRAM

Monthly Patrol Grading Reports can be found at:

[Infrastructure | District Council of Mount Remarkable \(mtr.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au/infrastructure)



## SUCCESSFUL GRANT FUNDING

Council has been successful in its application for consideration in Round 4 Funds of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, allocating \$453,865 for the Council. The grant will be available from July 2023 for projects to be completed up until 2025.

This funding is in addition to funding totalling \$4m over the past three years and demonstrates Council's strong commitment to working with external funding bodies to deliver on essential community infrastructure and projects. Council has achieved funding from both State and Federal Governments, which has assisted in projects like the Willowie Transfer Station, the Bluff Lookout, community facility upgrades, roads, airport upgrades, and more.

Council has also applied for further grant funding with respect to playground upgrades and bridges, and if successful, the total tally of successful grant funding outside of normal operating grants received in the past three years will be over \$6 million.

## FIRE PREVENTION IN THE DISTRICT

Weekly fire prevention inspections undertaken have identified estimated fuel loads ranging between 2.5 – 4.5 t/ha. In addition 11 Schedule 9 permits (which range from hot work permits, burning of land, permits for slashing of properties, and comfort fires) have been issued.

Regulating through permits ensures that activities are carried out safely and with minimal risk to the community.

Further information about fire prevention and permits is available here: <https://www.mtr.sa.gov.au/services/fire-prevention/fire-prevention> or by contacting Council's Fire Prevention Officer on 08 8666 2014.



### CONTACT US

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MOUNT REMARKABLE

3 Stuart Street  
PO Box 94  
MELROSE SA 5483

**P:** (08) 8666 2014  
**E:** [postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au)

[www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

Like us on Facebook and stay up to date with news and events  
[facebook/mountremarkable](https://www.facebook.com/mountremarkable)

### COUNCILLORS

#### TELOWIE WARD



**Mayor Stephen McCarthy**  
**M:** 0407 900 556  
**E:** [srmccarthy@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:srmccarthy@mtr.sa.gov.au)



**Cr Phillip Heaslip**  
**M:** 0436 462 148  
**E:** [pmheaslip@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:pmheaslip@mtr.sa.gov.au)



**Cr Sheriden Tate**  
**M:** 0422 330 639  
**E:** [state@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:state@mtr.sa.gov.au)

#### WILLOCHRA WARD



**Cr Lesley Till (Deputy Mayor)**  
**M:** 0466 066 571  
**E:** [ltill@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:ltill@mtr.sa.gov.au)



**Cr Danny Keller**  
**M:** 0428 305 987  
**E:** [igkeller@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:igkeller@mtr.sa.gov.au)



**Cr Colin Nottle**  
**M:** 0427 672 180  
**E:** [cenottle@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:cenottle@mtr.sa.gov.au)



**Cr the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan**  
**M:** 0428 735 005  
**E:** [dvanholstpellekaan@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:dvanholstpellekaan@mtr.sa.gov.au)

*A Remarkable Experience...*