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ABOUT OUR TREES

The following notes have been taken from a recent Arborist's report following the inspection of trees at Murray Town, Melrose and Wilmington.

Murray Town - *Fraxinus angustifolia subsp angustifolia* (Desert Ash)

Desert Ash is one of the toughest tree species in the world. The trees at the side of the road displayed various stages of decline; the northern most tree has the appearance of rapid and patchy decline. The others still appear to be in fair vascular health but some mature epicormic growth and dead wood is noted throughout the canopy indicating some years of stress.

Melrose - *Eucalyptus camaldulensis var camaldulensis* (Red Gum)

Patchy 'browning' and defoliation is present throughout the towns' predominant eucalypt species. Lerp was found on the affected trees which is an insect that grazes in masses on the sap within the leaves. This often leads to the death and abscission of the leaf in extreme cases. Lerp is mostly restricted to Red and Pink Gum and damage to these tree species is extremely common across south eastern Australia. In some areas it can be seen to proliferate every year in varying degrees depending on the atmospheric conditions. It usually turns up in winter and disappears in summer. Residents of Melrose will notice the fluctuations of infestation severity should correspond with rain fall patterns.

Empirical evidence suggests that unusually wet spring seasons can exacerbate the issue

due to the warmer temperatures. The insects disappear as soon as dry hot weather arrives and usually otherwise healthy trees make a full recovery. Repeated infestation on an individual year after year will impact on the health of the tree.

Wilmington - *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (Tuart)

There is a freshly dead and a couple of declining Tuart on the western side of the road near the entrance of the town. Tuart is an old landscape favourite from the pallet of 'Western Australian Eucalypts once used everywhere' and is one of the most susceptible to a relatively short life expectancy when planted outside its natural range. Many around the States rural and regional towns have already died and been removed. It's quite an achievement for Wilmington to still have a couple of half dead ones on show. The appearance of sudden death in one of these trees is most likely attributed to predisposed decline and recent trenching activity in an unsealed low point adjacent where the tree had some resource investment (roots) due to possible collection of surface storm water.

***Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (Sugar Gum)**

Further down the western side past the Tuarts is a row of planted Sugar Gums with varying degrees of parrot damage to their upper canopies. Numbers of parrots are often artificially expanded in rural areas due to cropping and the amount of easy feed around for them. Corella and Sulphur Crested Cockatoo are particularly destructive on mass they seem too strip the outer foliage for fun and perhaps some moisture. They often target patches of cambium lower on trunks and stems and within branch crotches where they maybe accessing some food value from the living vascular cambium and its latent epicormic buds. The result of constant repeated parrot grazing is the 'stag headed' tree tops seen on some township trees and trees within creek lines. Lerp in small doses was noted on the Sugar Gums in Wilmington. Observing it on the Sugar Gum indicates it must have been a particularly heavy outbreak in the area.



Lerp on Sugar Gum leaves sampled from Wilmington



COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Council Office: Tel: (08) 8666 2014
1300 726 252
Fax: (08) 8666 2169
Email: postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

Postal Address: PO Box 94
Melrose SA 5483
Street Address: 3 Stuart Street, Melrose

COUNCIL MEETING SNIPPETS

Meeting snippets are written following each Council meeting and may not reflect follow-up decisions etc. Please refer to the Council Minutes & Agenda Reports available on the Council website for full details.

NOVEMBER ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2013

Solar Farm Feasibility Study - Draft Report

Nic Jacobson from IT Power Australia Pty Ltd made a presentation to Council on the draft reports "Solar Farm Feasibility Report" and "Council Actions Option Paper" undertaken by IT Power Australia Pty Ltd.



Melrose Licensed Post Office

A further report will be provided to the December Council Meeting for consideration following discussions with Australia Post.

Rural Health Team - Request for Parenting Room

Council has offered the Rural Health Team a property in Stephen Street, Booleroo Centre for use as a parenting room.

Council and State Arterial Roads - Rural Speed Limit Review

Council will forward feedback to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure advising that Council is not in favour of the proposal to reduce the speed limit to 100 kms/hr on the following roads:

- Horrocks Highway, travelling north from Wilmington
- Horrocks Pass Road from the Augusta Highway to the entrance of Horrocks Pass
- Willowie Road
- Horrocks Highway travelling north from Melrose to Wilmington
- Horrocks Highway travelling south from Melrose to Murray Town
- Horrocks Highway travelling south from Murray Town to Wirrabara
- Wirrabara to the Council boundary.

Council will also advise that it supports the speed limit review for Nukunu Yarta Way from Murray Town to Booleroo Centre.



Street Lighting

Council will further explore solar options for the provision of Street Lighting within the Council area.

Dog and Cat Management Plan

Council adopted the draft 2013 -2018 Dog and Cat Management Plan that was tabled at the September Ordinary Meeting of Council.



NOVEMBER SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2013

Weeroona Island Boat Launching Facility

Council held a special meeting to discuss correspondence received from Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure in which he advised of an allocation of \$355,000 from the South Australian Boating Facility Advisory Committee to develop a boat launching facility at Weeroona Island.

Council agreed to accept the funding for the boat launching facility at Weeroona Island on the terms outlined.



KANGAROOS

Council has been advised that kangaroos have been shot, maimed and left to die on Rodgers Road (formerly known as Nowhere Else Road). Anyone found to be involved in such cruelty will be reported to the police and RSPCA.



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#### **WILMINGTON ENTRANCES**

The entrances to Wilmington are looking very neat and tidy thanks to Council's new ride-on-mower.

I would like to pass on my thanks and congratulations to Council for a great job.

Lorraine Potts, Wilmington



# HOLIDAY SERVICES INFORMATION



The following arrangements have been put in place for the Christmas and New Year period.

## COUNCIL OFFICE:

**Closes:** 5.00 pm Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
**Reopens:** 9.00 am Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014

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COUNCIL DEPOT:

Closes: 4.30 pm Thursday 19th December 2013
Reopens: 7.30 am Monday 6th January 2014

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## EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS:

|                                                         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Wayne Hart<br>Chief Executive Officer                   | 0488 090 216 |
| Jessie White<br>Deputy Chief Executive Officer          | 0439 773 185 |
| Brenton Pearce<br>Manager Works & Technical Services    | 0427 605 802 |
| Peter Lock<br>Deputy Manager Works & Technical Services | 0448 655 975 |

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REFUSE DEPOTS (AS NORMAL):

Thursday 26th December 2013

Wirrabara	9.30 am - 11.30 am
Willowie	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Sunday 29th December 2013

Port Germein	9.30 am - 11.30 am
Willowie	10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Wirrabara	2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Thursday 2nd January 2014

Wirrabara	9.30 am - 11.30 am
Willowie	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

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## DOMESTIC (HOUSEHOLD) WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS:

The domestic waste and recycling collections during the week of Christmas will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December (instead of 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>).



## FLINDERS MOBILE LIBRARY:

**Closes:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
**Resumes:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014



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MELROSE LICENSED POST OFFICE:

Tuesday 24 th December 2013	9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Wednesday 25 th December 2013	CLOSED
Thursday 26 th December 2013	CLOSED
Friday 27 th December 2013	9.00 am - 12 Noon
Monday 30 th December 2013	9.00 am - 12 Noon
Tuesday 31 st December 2013	9.00 am - 12 Noon
Wednesday 1 st January 2014	CLOSED
Thursday 2 nd January 2014	9.00 am - 5.00 pm



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## NORTHERN PASSENGER TRANSPORT:

The Northern Passenger Transport Office will be closed from 5.00 pm Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013 until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.



Although the Office will be closed, the Northern Passenger Transport telephone will be available to take **bus bookings only** on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December, during normal business hours. Buses will continue to run as normal.

### Please Note:

The volunteer vehicles **will not** be available between 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013 and 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

## THE NEED TO DRIVE SAFELY, TO SLOW DOWN AND OBSERVE SPEED LIMITS

Due to the large amount of road works and grading that is being undertaken by Council, all road-users are asked to obey all speed limits signs. These signs are for the safety of the road-user and Council employees.



# SOUTHERN FLINDERS - LIFE

## ACTIVE AGEING

Southern Flinders LiFE has recently introduced light exercise classes to Mt View Homes, Nalya Lodge and Belalie Lodge. Residents are provided with 30 minutes of stretching exercises to keep their bodies moving and minds active. Classes were trialled at the Orroroo Community Homes initially and proven to be very successful.



*Residents of the Orroroo Community Home enjoy the sunshine and Exercise session*

*Kate and the team from  
Southern Flinders LiFE wish all a  
**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.***

*We hope to see you back on the  
track in 2014*



Tel: 08 8666 2014  
Email: [hcipo@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:hcipo@mtr.sa.gov.au)

**An Initiative of the Commonwealth  
Government of Australia**



*Christmas is a great time to meet up with family and friends. By making a few alternative choices we can have fun and enjoy the festive season without undoing all the good work we have achieved during the year.*

### **This Christmas :**

**Try to be moderate** - it may be the season to be jolly, but too much food and alcohol is harmful. Drink driving is a real danger and is illegal. If you can't (or don't want to) step off the social merry-go-round, at least try to eat and drink in moderation.

**Get enough sleep** - plan for as many early nights as you can.

**Keep moving** - keeping up your regular exercise routine can give you the fitness and stamina to make it through the demands of the festive season.

### **Healthy Alternatives -**

- ★ Consider a salad instead of baked in fat vegetables
- ★ Replace a bowl of lollies with a bowl of cherries
- ★ Bake some pita bread to use with dips instead of chips. Add vegetables strips to the platter for variety.

## **Aqua Aerobics**

Commencing at Port Pirie,  
Jamestown, Wilmington, Orroroo  
and Crystal Brook.

Contact Kate: [hcipo@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:hcipo@mtr.sa.gov.au)  
**December 2013**



**SA POWER NETWORKS** is one of the State's largest organisations, employing more than 1,900 people throughout metropolitan and regional South Australia. They are responsible for a major and essential part of the State's infrastructure, with their electricity distribution network delivering electricity to more than 830,000 South Australian customers.

Faults and Emergencies  
13 13 66

General Enquiries  
13 12 61

Or visit [www.sapowernetworks.com.au](http://www.sapowernetworks.com.au) to:

- Report a power outage
- View known power outages
- Register to receive free SMS updates on power outages affecting your home or business.



## **COUNCIL REVOKES WOOD COLLECTION PERMITS**

Due to Native Vegetation Legislation, Council has recently revoked and reimbursed all Roadside Wood Collection Permits.

If you have a current Wood Collection Permit and have not been contacted by Council, please contact Amy at the Council Office.

The collection of wood from the side of the roads within the Council district is now prohibited and is an offence.

Council's Authorised Officers will be undertaking regular patrols and have the authority to issue expiation notices to persons taking timber from roadsides.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NEWS

South Australia introduced its container deposit legislation (CDL) in 1977, which to this day continues to be a highly successful environmental program aimed at litter reduction and resource recovery.



The container deposit scheme is one of the first pieces of environmental legislation to focus on the 'polluter pays' principle, meaning that if someone discards an empty container they forfeit the right to the refund and someone else would benefit by picking it up and collecting that refund.

It is also one of the first pieces of 'product stewardship' legislation in which industry is obliged to take greater responsibility for its packaging after it has been sold. In the case of CDL, beverage suppliers must ensure that a system is in place for the recovery and recycling of their empty beverage containers.

South Australia now leads the nation in the recovery, recycling and litter reduction of beverage containers with a current, overall return rate of 80.8%. With the refund scheme, beverage containers make up only 2.2% of litter.

In 2012–13 nearly 595 million containers (representing nearly \$60 million in refunds to the community) were returned to collection depots, representing around 46,200 tonnes of containers that may have otherwise ended up as litter or landfill.

### SA Heritage Icon

The container deposit scheme in South Australia is so successful that in 2006 it was awarded the status of State Heritage Icon.

The BankSA Heritage Icons list records, recognises and protects items that have made a significant contribution to South Australia's cultural identity.

The award citation:

*South Australia* was the first ... Australian state or territory to have Container Deposit Legislation and it enjoys wide public support. It's a self-cleansing, self-policing system that has greatly contributed to South Australia's reputation, an increasingly valuable tourism asset, as Australia's cleanest state. For that contribution to our living heritage the bottle and can deposit legislation is elevated, onto the pedestal and into the spotlight, as a BankSA Heritage Icon.

Source: [http://www.epa.sa.gov.au/environmental\\_info/container\\_deposits](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au/environmental_info/container_deposits)



## FLINDERS RANGES AND OUTBACK ONLINE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Port Augusta Business Centre  
2a Stirling Road, Port Augusta

**Flinders Ranges & Outback** tourism operators are invited to attend an Online Development Workshop presented by the SA Tourism Commission. Participation is free and open to those businesses listed on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse.

The morning program starts with expert guest presenter Julia Campbell who will join us online for the Website Content Marketing topic. This will be followed by updates from Explorers Way Touring Route and the local Visitor Information Centres. Representatives will provide information about the latest online opportunities for Flinders Ranges & Outback tourism businesses.

The afternoon session will cover four topics: TripAdvisor, mobile responsive websites, Google + and the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse.

This information will be presented by SA Tourism Commission Online Development staff. They will also be available for individual meetings to answer questions about online marketing and distribution for your business.

### **Program:**

|          |                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 10.00 am | Welcome                           |
| 10.05 am | Website Content Marketing         |
| 10.40 am | Morning Tea                       |
| 10.55 am | Explorers Way Touring Route       |
| 11.30 am | VIC Update                        |
| 12.00 pm | Lunch                             |
| 12.30 pm | TripAdvisor                       |
| 1.00 pm  | Mobile Responsive Websites        |
| 1.20 pm  | Google +                          |
| 1.40 pm  | Australian Tourism Data Warehouse |
| 2.00 pm  | Afternoon Tea                     |
|          | Individual Meetings               |
| 3.00 pm  | Workshop close                    |

RSVP your participation to [regionalsales@tourism.sa.com](mailto:regionalsales@tourism.sa.com) or telephone (08) 8463 4591 by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013. Let us know which sessions you wish to attend plus whether you would like to schedule an individual meeting.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### MURRAY TOWN CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE OVAL COMPLEX

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6:30 pm  
Meat supplied  
Families A-M – please bring a salad  
Families N-Z – please bring a sweet



### PORT GERMEIN CHURCH SERVICES

15<sup>th</sup> December - 9.15am  
Florence singers will be in attendance  
22<sup>nd</sup> December - 9.15 am  
Christmas Service

### BOOLEROO CENTRE & DISTRICT MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL TRUST - Annual General meeting

Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 - 7.30pm  
In the Meeting Room  
Booleroo Health Service

### PORT GERMEIN MORNING WALKERS BEWARE

Recently there have been sightings of a snake on the causeway to the Port Germein Jetty. This is an unusual place to see a snake, so it is thought that it may have a nest in the rocks by the causeway.

Please be alert when approaching the Jetty.



Pictured left is Avis Casey of Wirrabara, receiving her Life Membership Award for her Liberians Services at Wirrabara. The Award was presented to Avis by Roger Stevens, Chairman of the Wirrabara Hall Committee in October 2013.

### PORT GERMEIN MARKET

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013 Port Germein's revamped inaugural market took place in the Big Shed on the foreshore. It was a great success and it is planned to have the market every month - the next will be 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2013. There were many stalls from residents of Port Germein as well as surrounding towns. Items included food and drink, plants, produce from local area growers and many variety items were on sale.

Enquiries/Bookings please call Sue on 86345203 or 0447826339.

## SEASONS GREETINGS FROM YOUR COUNCILLORS

*To all our Residents, Ratepayers and all involved with the District Council of Mount Remarkable to make it a better place to be.*



*I wish you all a fabulous happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year. My thanks to all who have worked so hard this past twelve months to make our Council a place to be proud of, your work commitment has been brilliant. With every good wish*

**Mayor Sandra Wauchope**  
Coastal Ward Councillor

*May you enjoy the Christmas and New Year season, travel safely and be kind to those around you.*

**Cr Peter Jacobs**  
Deputy Chairman  
Coastal Ward Councillor



*I would like to wish All a joyous and Merry Christmas. Take care on the roads and all the best for 2014.*

**Cr Chris Ryan**  
Coastal Ward Councillor

*Wishing a happy and enjoyable Christmas to all District Council of Mount Remarkable residents, Council staff and Newsletter readers.*

**Cr Paul Kretschmer**  
Forest Ward Councillor



*I extend Seasons Greetings to all. May your Christmas and New Year break be a happy, joyous and safe one.*

**Cr Trevor Roocke**  
Plains Ward Councillor

*I would like to wish everyone a special Christmas and a rewarding new year.*

**Cr Colin Nottle**  
Plains Ward Councillor



*My wish for all is a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas. May the New Year be all you wish for.*

**Cr Ray Walker**  
Ranges Ward Councillor