



District Council of
Mount Remarkable



September 2021
Newsletter 258



Message from the Mayor

Cr Stephen McCarthy, Cr Danny Keller and I, along with senior members of the Administration observed the Port Pirie Council Meeting in August. We noted some different procedural approaches of another Council which will be discussed informally as to whether DCMR's members are keen to introduce some changes along similar lines to our own meeting procedures.

Council hosted the Productivity Commission in the Council Chamber where discussions focused on the Federal Government's Tourism Regulation Review. The main theme of the round was nature-based tourism and regulatory issues affecting tourism-oriented businesses.

As part of our ongoing schedule of meetings with key stakeholders, the CEO and I met with our counterparts at the Adelaide Plains Council and attended the Booleroo Centre Lions Club Handover dinner where we witnessed our very own Marty Keller elected as its new President. Congratulations Marty.

COUNCIL NEWS

Northern Areas Council— Manager Community Development James Lang and Flinders Mobile Library Manager Candice Ellis provided a informative presentation to Council and community members at the 17 August Council meeting regarding the Flinders Mobile Library.



The Flinders Mobile Library provides public library services in the Mount Remarkable, Northern Areas and Port Pirie Regional Council areas of the Mid North of South Australia.

For information on the mobile library service and membership
https://www.libraries.sa.gov.au/client/en_AU/flindersmobile

Member for Stuart— The Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP provided a presentation to Council on matters of general interest to the District and answered questions from Council at the 17 August Council meeting in Wirrabara.



COUNCIL NEWS

LGA President visits District Council of Mount Remarkable

Local Government Association South Australia (LGA) President and Executive Director Member Services met with Council on Wednesday 2 September to provide an update on LGA activities.



Mayor Philip Heaslip with LGA President Mayor Angela Evans and LGA Executive Director Member Services Nathan Petrus.

Congratulations!

DCMR Mayor Philip Heaslip was elected as the LEGATUS Group chairperson at the AGM held 3 September.

Mayor Heaslip replaces former chairperson Mayor Peter Matthey (Goyder) and will serve for the next 12 months. Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield Regional) and Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light Regional) were elected as Deputy Chairs.

The LEGATUS Group is the peak regional local government organisation www.legatus.sa.gov.au.

CEO Sam Johnson collecting the new DCMR community bus from Burnside.



The Bluff Lookout

The District will soon have a very special asset – The Bluff Lookout.



The viewing platform is nearing completion and will be officially opened in September

This official opening will be conducted by federal member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey MP, state Minister for Environment & Water the Hon David Speirs MP and Mayor Philip Heaslip.

Following the official opening of The Bluff Lookout, the public will be able to enjoy this wonderful asset which has been some years in the making. Council encourages all to and enjoy the amazing views available from the new lookout platform and do so in a safe manner.

Community members attending Community Question Time at Council Meeting held at Wirrabara 17 August



The next meeting of Council is Tuesday 21 September 4.30pm in the Council Chambers, Melrose.

Prior to each monthly Ordinary meeting of Council, Community Question Time is held at 4-4.30pm. Members of the community can come along to this informal setting to ask relevant questions about Council matters. Due to seating limitations in the Chambers and noting COVID-safe arrangements, it is advisable to register your intention to attend by calling Council on 8666 2014 or email postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Bluey



Bluey is one of DCMR's longest serving employees and one our greatest architect and artists of some of the 20000 kms of unsealed roads across our district. As Bluey has said "operating a grader to get a good road is like a fine art".

Despite Bluey's passion for the Adelaide Crows he is a true asset to the team at DCMR. It's people like Bluey who make remarkable just that.....Remarkable.

So next time you're driving down that smooth stretch of unsealed road, give a nod to Bluey and the hardworking team from DCMR's Works Department.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

CEO Sam Johnson

From overseeing major projects, doing site visits, being out in the truck with the works department, meeting with CEO's from other Councils, negotiating for the best outcomes for the district, meeting with community groups and members, keynote speaking, being the volunteer patient at staff first aid training, using his formidable culinary talents to provide morning tea treats for staff and even cleaning the public toilets to help out community groups. A month in the life of Sam Johnson demonstrates the diversity and breadth of his role as CEO.



Have you got a great photo of our Remarkable district?

Would you like it to be a feature photo in upcoming Council Newsletters, if so please email them to sheriden@mtr.sa.gov.au

This month's photo is courtesy of DCMR staff member Tammy Bastian.



Rates Frequently Asked Questions

How Rates Are Calculated

Council calculates rates based on the **Capital Value** of properties; this is the value of the land plus any improvements (e.g. house, shed, swimming pool, etc.).

Council has one rate in the dollar declared as 0.2636 cents in the dollar for all properties.

Multiply the capital value by the rate in the dollar, then divide by 100 to find the rates that will be raised against any property. Council also raise a **Fixed Charge**; in 2021/2022 this charge is \$340.00

A fixed charge is a set dollar amount that is raised on all properties (unless land is adjoining – see the Local Government Act 1999 definition of 'Contiguous Land' – or receiving a Single Farm Enterprise Benefit).

The reason Council raise a fixed charge as well as general rates is to ensure that all ratepayers are providing a base contribution of \$340.00, regardless of the value of their property. Refer to page 21 of the Annual Business Plan for a detailed description of the fixed charge.

Council does not set property values; we adopt the values provided by the State Valuation Office.

Community Waste Management Scheme (CWMS)

The CWMS service charge for 2021/2022 is \$550.00 per allotment within the Townships of Booleroo Centre, Melrose, Wilmington and Wirrabara.

Both occupied and vacant properties receive the CWMS service charge.

There is no desludging in the 2021/2022 financial year; however all towns will be due for desludging in the following financial year.

Weeroona Island Water Supply

Council declared the annual supply charge of \$315.00 for the full year and a service charge of \$3.31 per kilolitre for each kilolitre of water

Regional Landscape Levy

The Regional Landscape Levy is a State government levy that Councils are required to charge.

In 2021/2022, it was declared that Council must raise a total contribution of \$133,588 (note this amount is different for each Council).

A charge of 0.0243 cents in the dollar (using Capital Value the same as the General Rates) was raised in 2021/2022.

As this is a State Government Levy any queries should be directed to the Northern & York Regional Landscape Board on 8841 3400.

Concessions

Ratepayers can contact the **Concessions Hotline** on **1800 307 758** to find out if they are eligible to receive concessions.

Waste Management

Waste Management is the weekly general waste collection and fortnightly recycling and green waste collections.

A service charge of \$380.00 for Waste Management has been charged to properties who are on the waste collection route.

This service is also available for residents outside the waste collection route on an opt-in basis. The charge is the same amount (\$380.00) for those that opt-in. Opt-in to use the service is charged by invoice (not on your rates).

If you have extra collections, the charges are:
Extra General Waste: \$179.25 per bin (for the entire year)
Extra Recycling: \$92.80
Extra Green Waste: \$64.85

NOTE that the Waste Management charge also includes a fee for the delivery of a green waste bin.

COMMUNITY



Congratulations to Robbie and Daryl, operators of Poppy & Buster The Red Post Shop Café Port Germein for winning the inaugural Port Germein Progress Association Business Award.

Twelve years ago Robbie and Daryl took on the challenge to buy and restore the original store which had been a Junk shop for many years. Tapping into old skills and local people and using Daryl's skills as a craftsman they brought the old building back to life retaining its heritage and character.

Robbie is now the front man for a small but significant team of people and the friendly face providing support to local businesses and producers, community networking & information and essential supplies to the community, local and overseas visitors.

A well-deserved win. If you're in the area drop in and say hi.



Now that the weather is warming up grab the opportunity of a sunny Sunday to visit the fabulous community producers markets held in the district.



The Wirrabara Producers Market is held on the third Sunday of every month from 8:30am to midday in Progress Park Wirrabara. Offering a coffee shop, a BBQ and the best of Southern Flinders regional produce.



The iconic Port Germein Foreshore market runs on the 4th Sunday every month 9am to 1pm. With a variety of stalls in and around the historic railway goods shed that leads out to the historic wooden jetty. Stalls include home baked goods, preserves, plants, craftwork, collectables, egg & bacon damper and produce. Ride the Crab Train or grab a coffee and cake from the Pier Hotel Café.

Mayor Philip Heaslip joined in the festivities this month at Mount View Homes Booleroo Centre to celebrate the 100th birthday of resident Mabel Trabolt.

Happy 100th Birthday Mabel



LOOKING BACK

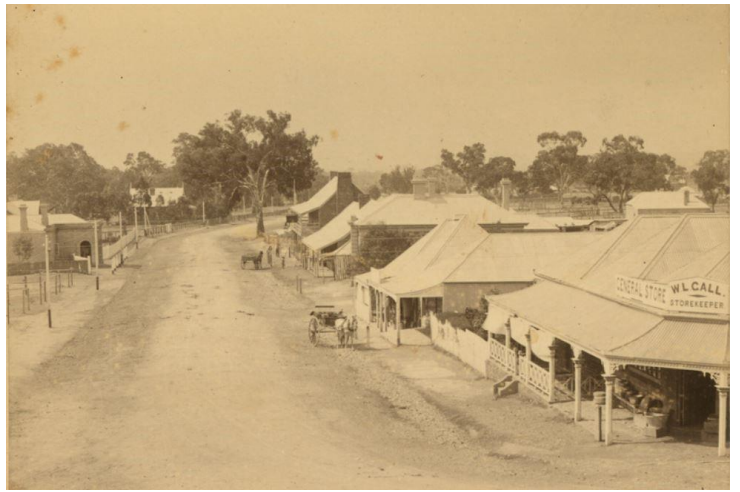
At townships around the district

Main Street, Wilmington circa 1932



State Library of South Australia B8560

Main Street, Melrose circa 1870



State Library of South Australia B9658.

Main Street, Wirrabara circa 1907



State Library of South Australia B43569

Main Street Booleroo Centre 19 June 1936.



State Library of South Australia B63718

High Street, Port Germein circa 1891



State Library of South Australia PRG 373/7E/1/1

Farm Sale at Mt Remarkable Station 1917



State Library of South Australia PRG 280/1/12/296

Once again South Australia leads the way in waste management. South Australia farmers have delivered over 1.9 million containers representing 1960 tonnes of material. Previously much of this waste went to landfill or was burnt. Local farmers who support the **drumMUSTER** program are to be commended.

Council will be holding a *drumMUSTER* collection at the Willowie Landfill Site

**from
Tuesday 19 October 2021 –
Wednesday 20 October 2021**

Containers must be

- triple or pressure rinsed
- clean – no chemical residue
- inspected by a drumMUSTER inspector
- lids must be left off
- metal containers must be punctured



BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL and drums can be delivered between 8:30am & 3:30pm

**To book a time to deliver your farm chemical containers
Phone 8666 2014**



GREEN BIN UPDATE

Due to delays as a result of COVID it is anticipated that distribution of green bins will commence approximately at the end of September

A reminder to residents who wish to dispose of larger amounts of waste (including household items, green waste and hard rubbish).

Waste may be taken to Willowie Landfill 425 Pinda Rd Willowie every second Saturday 9am – 11.30 am or to any appropriate waste site in surrounding towns such as

Port Pirie Transfer Station
Three Chain Rd Port Pirie
Monday to Friday – 10am-4pm
Saturday/Sunday/Public Holidays – 10am-2pm

Cleanaway
Footer Rd Port Augusta
Monday to Friday – 8am – 4pm
Saturday/Sunday 8am – 12pm

Willowie Transfer Site

**Operating Hours:
Every Second Saturday 9:00am - 11:30am**

Days of Operation—2021

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
11 25	9 23	6 20
DECEMBER		
4 18		

Springing into Snake Season

With warmer spring days upon us snakes are coming out from their winter sleep, becoming active and looking to breed and for food.

There are several things you can do to make your property less attractive to snakes and reduce your chances of being bitten:

- clean up rubbish around the home
- keep gardens tidy
- maintain long grass
- take steps to reduce mice and rats
- check boots before putting them on if left out-doors
- never put your hand somewhere where you can't see

What to do if you see a snake:

- Keep well away.
- Don't try to catch or kill it yourself. This is when most bites happen.
- If you see a snake inside, watch where it goes, keep children and pets away, call a licensed snake catcher to remove it.
- If the snake is outside and heading towards bushland or a field, leave it alone. Most snakes are not aggressive and won't chase you.
- If a person is bitten, call 000. Wrap a pressure bandage tightly over the area of the bite, then use a second bandage and splints to immobilise the limb. Keep the person calm and still until you can get medical help.

And remember snakes are protected native animals

For more information on how to maintain your property to reduce the likelihood of snakes, visit

www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/plants-and-animals/living-with-wildlife/Snakes



With fire danger season on the horizon a reminder to ensure your home and property is prepared.

A well prepared home is more likely to survive a fire front, ember attack and radiant heat than one that hasn't been prepared.

Under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 the onus is on the landowner to take reasonable steps to manage fuel reduction prior to the commencement of the Fire Danger Season.

Take advantage of the remaining cooler weather to make sure your home and property is prepared by:

- Cutting/mowing grass and maintaining it so that it is no higher than 100 mm (4 Inches)
- Removing flammable material from around your home, including cleaning out gutters.
- Clear away dead undergrowth and fallen branches.
- Ensure that any firewood is stored well away from your home and outbuildings.
- Ensure that your property is clearly numbered so that it can be easily found by Emergency Services should the need arise.
- Trim excess vegetation along driveways and firebreaks, including any overhanging branches, to provide easy access for firefighting appliances. As a guide, the CFS requires a mini- mum clearance of 3.5 metres wide x 3.5 metres high.
- Prepare and practice your Bushfire Survival Plan

For further information on how to prepare your home and property for the fire danger season go to www.cfs.sa.gov.au/prepare-for-a-fire/

Council officers will be commencing fire inspections of properties from 14 September to ascertain their fire safety preparedness.

CONTACT US

3 Stuart Street
(PO Box 94),
MELROSE SA 5483

Phone: 8666 2014

Email: postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

Website: www.mtr.sa.gov.au



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COUNCILLORS

Telowie Ward

Mayor

Phillip Heaslip

M: 0419 038 734

E: pmheaslip@mtr.sa.gov.au

Cr Stephen McCarthy

M: 0407 900 556

E: srmccarthy@mtr.sa.gov.au

Cr Barry Richards

M: 0400 137 163

E: bjrichards@mtr.sa.gov.au

Willochra Ward

Cr Danny Keller

M: 0428 305 987

E: igkeller@mtr.sa.gov.au

Cr Colin Nottle

M: 0427 672 180

E: cenottle@mtr.sa.gov.au

Deputy Mayor

Cr Don Norton

M: 0418 855 513

E: dpnorton@mtr.sa.gov.au

Cr Greg Prestridge

M: 0438 735 527

E: gjprestridge@mtr.sa.gov.au