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ANZAC DAY IN TAILEM BEND



*The community of Tailem Bend and passing travellers
came together for a quiet moment of reflection for ANZAC Day, Friday, April 25, 2025.*



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ANZAC DAY in Tailem Bend

Article submitted by Kylie Moloney. Photos taken by Glenn Power,
Murray Bridge News, www.murraybridge.news

As the sun rose on Anzac Day at Tailem Bend Memorial for 2025, those who have served, are serving, family, friends, loved ones and the local community, came together to honour and remember our courageous service men and women, past and present.

Sue Morgan, Master of Ceremonies, started the proceeding by introducing Abel Bond who acknowledged our custodians of the land and everyone in attendance. Glynis Taylor read out the explanation of Anzac Day, and Anthony Lancaster from Tailem Bend Primary School, read the names of the (*known*) 21 servicemen and 1 nurse, local WWI heroes who died in service. While he was reading out their names, students from Tailem Bend Primary School carried their names on crosses lit with a candle, surrounding the memorial garden.

A very moving Gallipoli Recital was played to the silenced crowd, followed by the reading of The Lord's Prayer by Pastor Bing Goonan. Mia Fletcher read out the Anzac Poem – *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae.

The wreaths were laid by Tailem Bend RSL, Coorong District Council, Tailem Bend Primary School, Unity College, Tailem Bend Community Centre, Tailem Bend Netball Club, South Australia Police Murray Bridge Tailem Bend Historians, and others in attendance.



ABOVE: Photo provided by the RSL Tailem Bend.



ABOVE: The South Australia Police were among the many who showed their respect at the cenotaph.

Sue Morgan then read the Ode and explained the last post.

The bugler "Tim Freund" played "The Last Post" before a minute's silence was followed by the Reveille, at which point the flags were raised by Vincent Stalenberg and Nicholas Agalidis. The catafalque guard of honour were then dismissed.

A recording of the Australian National Anthem was generously accompanied by the community. Pastor Bing Goonan then read the Benediction followed by A Soldiers Poem, read by Sue Morgan on behalf of Daniel Ian White, Retired Service Member of the 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment. Sue Morgan finished off the service with the Requiem and thanked all who attended. In closing, the community were invited back to the Tailem Bend RSL hall for a Gunfire Breakfast of Egg & Bacon Rolls.

We wish to Thank the volunteers of the RSL Tailem Bend Committee and their families, Tailem Bend Primary School, Tim Freund, Pastor Bing Goonan, Sue and Dave Morgan for putting together a great service and breakfast, and to everyone who attended.



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Pangarinda Botanic Garden

Submitted by Kaye Bartlett.

The dry continues as we enter our planting period. We have started planting a new area and hopefully rain isn't too far away.

The plant this month is a Hemiandra. This very small genus is found only growing in the south-west of Western Australia. They are best suited to sandy soils. They like sunny areas, as long spells of wet humidity can cause fungal attack. They are tolerant to frost and dry spells.

Two species are growing at Pangarinda Botanic Garden, *Hemiandra gardneri* and *Hemiandra pungens* - a very hardy, spreading, prostrate ground cover.

In winter it is clothed in white flowers.



ABOVE: *Hemiandra pungens* var *incana*.

Volunteering Expo - A Big Thank you!

Submitted by Tammy O'Malley.

On behalf of the Coorong District Council, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your participation in the Volunteering Expo in Tailem Bend.

Your presence truly helped make the event a success and showcased the incredible work your organisation does in our community. We are so grateful for the energy, passion, and commitment you brought to the event. Your stall was a wonderful representation of your mission and the impact you make, and we hope the Expo provided you with valuable connections, new volunteers, and fresh ideas to keep your work thriving.

As we continue to celebrate and support the volunteers who make our communities stronger, we hope the event gave you the tools and resources you need to keep recruiting and inspiring passionate individuals to join your cause. Thank you again for being part of this special event, and for everything you do to make a difference. We look forward to seeing you at future events and continuing to support your organisation's growth.

I would be truly grateful if you could please complete a short survey to help us to continually improve the delivery of future Volunteering Expos –

www.surveymonkey.com/r/2KVXHJV



ABOVE: All the participants of the 2025 Volunteer Expo in Tailem Bend.

Tour de Cure's Fundraising Dinner

Story and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News,
Tailem Bend Correspondent. www.murraybridge.news

Tailem Bend's two-time cancer survivor Liam Don't, sat proudly next to Chief Executive Officer of the Tailem Bend Community Centre, Tammy Shepherd, as they received a generous donation of \$10,200 from the Tour de Cure's Discovery Tour 2025 team at a special Fundraising Dinner held in Rydges Pit Lane Hotel, Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend on Saturday, March 29, 2025.

The Tour de Cure's Discovery Tour's blue sky thinking and relentless energy has raised well over \$130 million since their coffee shop inception in 2007. Local lad, Liam Dont was first diagnosed with cancer at the age of eight. "It was a bit of a surprise, the first time, and yeah I got a bit upset," Liam said.

The second time around, Liam's treatment required him to travel to Sydney for a stem cell transplant, where he spent three months in isolation. Reflecting on the experience, he admits it wasn't easy, especially being confined to walking the hospital corridors. During his treatment, Liam faced difficult moments, particularly witnessing the struggles of other children in the hospital. He recalls feeling sad seeing some of the young patients looking frail but continuing to fight. "There was this little girl next door," Liam shared. "She didn't look the best, but she still kept going."



ABOVE: Liam Dont of Tailem Bend with Tailem Bend Community Centre's Chief Executive Officer, Tammy Shepherd at a special Fundraising Dinner in Rydges Pit Lane Hotel, Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend.



ABOVE: L to R - Chris Barnett of Gold Coast, Catherine Bailey of Newcastle, Adam Brown of Warradale, Adelaide and Anil Gautam of Norwood, Adelaide.



ABOVE: Liam Dont with his mother, Sharon Mansbridge of Tailem Bend, standing next to one of Liam's favourite cars, at a special Fundraising Dinner in Rydges Pit Lane Hotel, Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend.



ABOVE: Tour de Cure's Discovery Tour 2025 team, doing a few hot laps before the beginning of their ride to Adelaide via Mannum the following morning, Shell V-Power Motorsport Park Tailem Bend.

Liam's mum, Sharon Mansbridge of Tailem Bend, found all the treatments very stressful, "But we're now, absolutely wrapt, that it looks like Liam is finally clear," Sharon said. "Words don't seem enough - we're so grateful to all who helped and to the support we received from our community," Sharon said. "We're all so grateful for all the Women's & Children's Doctors and Nurses in the Oncology Department, and also, all the wonderful staff at the Sydney Randwick Hospital."

Liam's courage through these challenging times has inspired many, with his school and community rallying behind him through fundraisers and donations. He expressed immense gratitude to everyone involved, for their love and support during his journey to recovery. Tammy Shepherd of the Tailem Bend Community Centre was extremely grateful for receiving this kind donation again. "Last year's donation helped us with our community passenger network to support people with ongoing oncology trips," Tammy said.

"We're extremely excited about tonight, we were so not expecting this, this year," Tammy said. "Being in a community like ours, we don't have an opportunity for a lot of philanthropic opportunities, so to receive funding like this is extremely appreciated."

*Tour de Cure's Discovery Tour started with a dream
- A dream of a cancer free future -*

The Changing Face of Taillem Bend #151

It is a long running series, submitted by Peter Connolly.

This Month we continue with the life time of the late Bob Connolly.

Bob Connolly - 25-9-28 / 06-10-2024 (Part 2)

Another story, and there were plenty of them, about my time in the railways:

My engineman and I booked on at 7 a.m. to work a train to Renmark. By 4 p.m we were still sitting idle in the Taillem yard. Naturally, we assumed we wouldn't be going anywhere. Then, the yardmaster approached my engineman and informed him that we could now depart. But after being on duty for nine hours, my engineman wasn't having any of it. He flatly refused, and the yard master walked away. We figured that was the end of it. Sometime later, however, we saw a more imposing figure approaching—the Murray Bridge superintendent himself, gold braid gleaming on his shoulders. He stepped up to the engine, looked us squarely in the eye, and simply said, "You will be going." Then, without another word, he turned and walked away. I looked at my engineman and asked, "What now?" He sighed and replied, "I guess we're off to Renmark." We finally arrived Nine hours later—an exhausting total of 18 hours on duty.

When a quarry opened in Jervois to supply stone for the highway, I worked there alongside Mario Cazzalato, Bob Kluske, and Mr. Keen. We took turns working on the chute, where tons of stone thundered in a constant, dusty stream. One day, as I stood by the chute, something caught my eye—a stick of dynamite mixed in with the rubble. I immediately stopped everything. "What's wrong?" someone called out. "There's a stick of dynamite in there!" I shouted back. With a casual shrug, the reply came, "Ah, that won't hurt you." A week later, I was paired with an Italian man who worked as the powder monkey and was responsible for handling the explosives. Together, we drilled holes and set fuses for the next blast. "Get back behind here," he said, motioning me to a spot behind a pile of rocks. "I'll light the fuse." **BOOM!** The ground trembled, dust billowed into the air, and he turned to me with a grin as the echoes faded. "I reckon a couple didn't go off. We should go find them."

I didn't even pause. "The 'we' part isn't happening," I shot back, heading straight for the machine's safety. Unfazed, he wandered off, found the duds, and lit them up again like it was just another day at the office. And that was that—good pay at 15 pounds a week!



ABOVE: Bob Connolly (25-9-28 / 06-10-2024)

One day, on a whim, I decided to buy a milk round, complete with a horse and cart. My brother Peter worked on it for a couple of years, and he still laughs about the time our sister Rene wanted to tag along. While Peter delivered the milk, Rene somehow lost control of the horse. The cart rattled and swayed as the horse galloped uncontrollably down the street. Eventually, it stopped, leaving behind a trail of spilled milk and a very shaken—but thankfully unharmed—Rene. It was a moment none of us would forget, filled with equal parts panic and, in hindsight, a bit of laughter. In the 56 floods, I sold the milk round to Mr. Harley.

After that, I worked for the Watkins family business, which was known for selling natural products like vitamins, health remedies, spices, and extracts. My job took me door-to-door around Taillem, showcasing our wares to the locals. It seemed straightforward enough—make a sale, move on to the next house—but I had a bit of a habit. I'd make a sale, strike up a friendly chat, and before long, I'd find myself sitting down for a cup of coffee, swapping stories with the customer. By the time I realised it, the day would be nearly over, and I'd only managed to visit about ten houses.

It wasn't the most efficient sales strategy, so I decided to give it away. Reg Croucher, a real character around town and notorious for handing out nicknames, decided to christen me "Apache," joking that the products I sold made me seem like a medicine man from an Indian tribe. Thankfully, that nickname didn't stick—but the laughs did. I also worked for Merv Lokan, weighing and lumping bags of wheat. It was hard physical work, but there was good camaraderie among the crew.

The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #151

We had elevators on the side of the trucks to help with stacking, but it was still back-breaking work—dusty, hot, and harsh on the shoulders. Between shifts, I picked up part-time work at the hotel, which was a different scene full of lively characters and stories. I also did a bit of lamp lighting with the four-wheeled riding gang, ensuring the tracks were lit and safe. It was all part of life back then—hard work, good mates, and plenty of memories.

Eventually, I returned to the Railway, where I spent the next 25 years, finally finishing at the number 4 cabin. It felt like coming home, with familiar faces and the steady work of railway life. Hurtle Green looked after the gardens around No. 4, keeping them neat—a small patch of green amidst the grit and grind of railway work. The railway was very good to me. It wasn't just a job—it provided stability, opportunities, and lifelong friendships.

Tailem Bend once had two football teams: Centrals, proudly sporting red and white and a star on the front of the guernsey, and the Warriors, clad in black and yellow. Their matches were played on the golf course, with the trees serving as dressing sheds. In 1946, these two teams formed the Tailem Bend Football Club, beginning a new chapter in the town's sporting history.

The club was full of railway workers, and balancing work with football wasn't always easy, but the passion for the game often led to creative solutions. Some players would swap shifts to make it to matches, while others found more unconventional ways to get time off.

One legendary tale involves Mr. Ernie Edmonds, a train driver and talented footballer. Eager to play in a crucial match against the Rambler Football Club, Ernie decided to call in sick on Saturday. He hit the field and had such an outstanding game that he landed a spot on the "Best Players" list in the newspaper the following day.



ABOVE: Bob at a Hunt Tournament.

Unfortunately for Ernie, the Murray Bridge railway superintendent's office—which just so happened to be full of die-hard Rambler supporters—spotted his name in print. Let's just say they weren't impressed. Before long, Mr. Edmonds found himself "in a bit of trouble" at work. But despite the fallout, he had no regrets. Tailem won the game, and for a true footy lover,

that victory was worth every bit of the risk.

On another Saturday, I was scheduled to start work at 4 p.m. in Cabin No. 4 and was just about to leave when John Hurley, the Station Master, suggested I stay to watch the end of the game as there were no trains arriving or departing until late evening. As it turned out, a passionate Tailem supporter was furious with the "A" grade umpire—a former Rambler player—for accusing him of being biased against Tailem Bend. His solution? To throw a can of red paint over the umpire, effectively making him red and white, the Rambler team's colours. When the moment came, he hurled the can, but his aim was off. The paint missed the umpire (fortunately) and splattered onto the ground instead. Chaos erupted, and Mr. Hurley calmly advised me that now might be an excellent time to head to work.

... Quote for the Month ...

May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears. By Nelson Mandela.

The stories keep coming from the pens of the trio, Chief Editor Jo, Doris Connolly and Peter Connolly.

Assistance, Terry Connolly, Patt. Connolly Wife of Bob. See you again Next Month, Peter.





Let's Talk about....

- The Annual Business Plan & Budget
- Long Term Financial Plan
- 2025/26 Fees & Charges



www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk

Residents and ratepayers across the Coorong District Council are invited to view and provide feedback on the draft 2025/26 Annual Business Plan & Budget and the draft 2025/26 – 2034/35 Long Term Financial Plan, as well as the draft 2025/26 Fees & Charges.

The concurrent review of these three documents aims to align community aspirations for the 2025-26 financial year to current and future services, programs and project delivery within a sustainable financial model.

Public consultation on all documents opens on Tuesday, 7 May 2025 and **closes on Thursday, 29 May 2025 at 5:00pm.**

Feedback can be provided:

- At a **community information session**
- By completing an online **feedback form** by visiting the **website** or scanning the **QR Code**
- **In person** at one of Council's Customer Service Centres
- **By email** council@coorong.sa.gov.au
- **By post** PO Box 399, Tailm Bend SA 5260

Community information Sessions

Coonalpyn

Wednesday 14 May, 6.30pm
Coonalpyn Town Hall

Tailm Bend

Thursday 27 May, 6.30pm
Tailm Bend Council Chambers
Live streamed on YouTube



www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk

Celebrating Mary Langsford's 25 Year Legacy at Mannum Kindergarten & Rural Care

Submitted by Mannum Kindergarten & Rural Care Team.

On Sunday, March 23rd, the Mannum community gathered to celebrate the remarkable career of Mary Langsford and wish her well in retirement. It was a heartfelt farewell to someone who has dedicated more than 25 years as Director of Mannum Kindergarten & Rural Care and many more years to the early childhood field.

Mary's journey at Mannum Kindergarten & Rural Care began in late 1998 when she was seconded from Tailem Bend to fill in for someone on leave. She applied for the Director position in 1999, drawn by the friendly and welcoming community. A Murray Bridge local, Mary's passion for early childhood education led her to invest wholeheartedly in her role, striving for excellence and building warm relationships with families. Her kindness and responsiveness left a lasting impression on many.

Kay Masters, who has worked at the kindergarten for 34 years and had the privilege of working alongside Mary for 25 of those years, added; *"Having personally worked with Mary for those 25 years, we both have countless stories to tell. Time is limited, but one thing is certain—Mary's resilience and unwavering support have helped us all grow and thrive, even during challenging times."*

Brenton Hudson, the Education Director for the Murray Bridge Portfolio also attended the event, and acknowledged Mary's influence; *"Mary's impact extended beyond the Mannum community, influencing many kindergarten directors, educators, and colleagues within the Department for Education. Her dedication has left an indelible mark on early childhood education in our region."*

Mary's legacy is evident in the many children who ventured on to school and then returned with their own children, demonstrating the lasting impact of her work. Mary, along with her team and the support of the governing council, organized numerous events and activities to raise funds to help and support the children. These included art galleries, on-site auctions, family nights, and so much more.

Mary shared her memories of a community that has been incredibly generous, standing by Mannum Kindy through both good times and challenges. While some fundraisers were successful, others faced difficulties, especially during tough economic periods.

Lynette Kooistra, who taught alongside Mary at Mannum Kindergarten for over 14 years, recalled the many fundraisers they held, such as art gallery auctions, donations for children's artwork, themed action nights, and family nights. They also sold items like lamingtons, pizza, and cookie dough to support the children's programs.



ABOVE: Mary Langsford.

One particularly memorable event featured an auction of children's paintings. Lynette's husband, Jerry, donated \$70 for his daughter's painting, while many other parents were willing to pay generous amounts to purchase their children's artwork. This event showcased the community's strong commitment to supporting the children's growth and development.

Pam Clark, who knew Mary over 30 years ago when she was teaching at Tailem Bend Kindy, fondly recalls her as having an old-school soul. *"Mary has always had a deep love for our community and a generous spirit in giving back. It was a joy to work alongside her. I truly cherish the beautiful memories of our time together, supporting and inspiring one another."*

Mary shared a beautiful story during her speech—her sunflower story. Mary has always had a deep love for sunflowers, and over the years, she and her team made it a tradition to plant them at the end of each school year. By the time the flowers bloomed, they stood tall, ready to greet the new Kindy students. This tradition continues to inspire, as we still grow sunflowers with the children, teaching them about the circle of life and how sunflowers grow, follow the sun and always stand tall and reach for the light. Sunflower seeds were shared with local shops, other kindergartens, and schools, spreading not only seeds but also joy, learning, and positive energy.

On behalf of all the families and staff, both past and present, we want to express our deepest appreciation to Mary for her unwavering dedication. **Mary, though small in stature, has a heart that is larger than life, she leaves behind a legacy that will be impossible to replace. and will be profoundly missed in our community.**

Story and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News,
Tailem Bend Correspondent. www.murraybridge.news

Peter "PJ" Connolly, affectionately known as "Feathers," has lived a life intricately woven into the fabric of Tailem Bend, a small town with a big heart.

Born in the old Tailem Bend Hospital in 1937, Peter grew up in a community where everyone knew everyone. His journey is not just a personal history, but a rich tapestry that reflects the growth, struggles, and triumphs of his hometown. Peter was raised in a large Catholic family, one of 15 siblings. His early education came at the hands of three resolute St. Joseph nuns, including the unforgettable stern Sister Henrietta, who had a particularly effective way with the cane.

Like many young boys in rural communities, Peter left school at the age of 14 to work, and his first job was at Sid Olly's Fruit and Veg shop, located in the main street of Tailem Bend, where the laundromat stands today. Sid's shop was a bustling hub of activity, especially on railway paydays when business would boom. Peter's job was to load up the ute and travel around town on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, delivering fresh produce to various parts of Tailem Bend. He fondly remembers Sid as a good boss, but by the time Peter turned 18, it was time to move on, as the shop didn't keep workers beyond that age.

Peter's early working life was anything but ordinary. After his time at the fruit and veg shop, he joined his brother Bob and sister-in-law Pat on a milk delivery round. But when Bob found work with the railways and Pat became a receptionist for the local doctor, Dr Gooden, Peter was once again in search of new opportunities. His next adventure was with a friend named Morris Norton. The two young men set off on a bit of a walkabout, eventually landing in Victor Harbor, a seaside town about an hour's drive from Tailem Bend. Peter found work there, and though Morris soon returned home, Peter stayed on, proving himself a capable and high-flying football player. His prowess on the field earned him the nickname "**Feathers**," not just because of his athletic skills but also due to a cheeky incident where he was caught stirring up chickens. Feathers were said to be flying everywhere, cementing the nickname for life.

In Victor Harbor, Peter learned the building and painting trades, skills that would serve him well for the rest of his working life. After spending a few years there, he returned to Tailem Bend when his mother's health began to decline. Family always came first for Peter, and he made sure to be there when his family needed him most. Upon his return to Tailem Bend, Peter's life took a significant turn. It wasn't long before he met Doris, a friend of his sister Rayleen, who lived across the road in Webb Street, known then, as Gun Alley. The two quickly became inseparable, and in 1965, they married. The couple went on to have two sons, Paul and Justin, and their family grew to include seven grandchildren: Travis, Mitchell, Ellen, Madison, Shana, Carl, and Olivia.

In a sweet twist of fate, Peter and Doris spent their honeymoon back in Victor Harbor, the town where Peter had honed his trade skills and built lasting memories.

Around the time Peter was starting his family, the railways were booming in Tailem Bend, and he applied for a job as a house painter, but when that didn't eventuate, he took a position as a labourer with the Railway's Works and Buildings division. Known jokingly by his colleagues as "*works and jerks*," the team was responsible for maintaining houses and infrastructure around the town and in other railway towns nearby.

While working for the railways, Peter and Doris began building their own home. They bought five blocks of land, and built seven glasshouses (**Where they grew tomatoes, cucumbers, capsicums and strawberries**) before selling three of the blocks to build their family home from the ground up, even planting trees that would later become a trademark of their home. Peter's work ethic and dedication saw him rise through the ranks in the Railways. He passed several exams and eventually became a Porter, and Signalman, working at the No. 2 Signal Cabin on the outskirts of Tailem Bend.

There he stopped and directed selected trains into the marshalling yard sending the others straight through to their destinations. When the Railways began to slow down, Peter was offered a position in Dry Creek, but his love for his hometown kept him in Tailem Bend. Before retiring, Peter spent his final years working as a signal operator at the Tailem Bend Railway Station, now the town's Info Station. Retirement didn't slow Peter down. He continued to contribute to his community in countless ways. In 2013, he was named Tailem Bend's Citizen of the Year, a fitting recognition of his years' of service. Two years earlier, in 2011, Peter was inducted into the local Football Hall of

Fame. His athleticism and commitment to the local football scene had long made him a beloved figure in the town.

Peter's contributions extended beyond sports. He became a life member of both the local bowls and football clubs, spending over 30 years writing sports reports for the Murray Valley Standard. His reports on football finals were eagerly received, and he later expanded his writing to include a series titled *The Changing Face of Tailem Bend* in the local monthly publication, *Tailem Topics*. To date, Peter has written over 150 episodes, documenting the evolution of the town he loves so much. Peter and his wife Doris have also led the town's Christmas Parade as the Town Criers for just over 30 years – another milestone for the lovely couple.

Peter's legacy in Tailem Bend is more than just his public achievements. He comes from a large, well-known family, and his siblings and their families are scattered far and wide. His passion for writing and photography is something he inherited from his father, and it has only grown over the years. While Peter has always been the writer, it's his wife Doris who has been the true photographer in the family.

Looking back, it's clear that Peter Connolly's life has been one of service, adventure, and deep love for his community. At 87 he continues to contribute to *Tailem Topics* and his community. Whether he was playing football, working in the Railways, or now writing about the changing face of Tailem Bend, Peter is still active in his community.



ABOVE: Peter and Doris Connolly,
Tailem Bend's Town Criers for over 30 years.



Tailem Bend Lions Club Newsletter

Report submitted by Lion's Judy, Bruce and Jo.

On Saturday 29th March, our Lions Club attended the Coorong District Council Volunteer Expo.

We were sponsored by the Council to provide a free sausage sizzle. It was very well attended and everyone enjoyed the BBQ.

Tuesday 8th April, our Lions Club members and friends enjoyed our annual social bowls evening which was held at the TALEM Bend Bowling Club.

The members of the Bowling Club presented a delicious 2 course meal which everyone enjoyed, and afterwards those who enjoyed bowling played 10 ends. At the end of the evening, a presentation was given to the winners and then concluded with the draw of the raffle. A most enjoyable and successful night concluded with our President Doug giving a vote of thanks and appreciation to the President of the Bowling Club and members.



ABOVE: Team prize winners on the night.



ABOVE: The Tailem Bend Lions Club at the Volunteer Expo.

Award-winning Lion Life Member chief Reuben Gurney awaiting assistant chief Jude Sacco to "load up the hot plates please". On board our BBQ trailer we have everything installed now including the kitchen sink fitted to the rear of the trailer, together with its waste collection system. Also please note that wherever the Tailem Bend Lions Club are in attendance The Automatic External Defibrillator [AED] will be accessible and ready for use if required.



To comply with the current Food and Safety Regulations, we have installed the hand washing facilities to the front of the BBQ trailer. This provides running potable water at a tepid temp with liquid soap, paper towel and the collection of hand washing water

This ensures adequate hand washing facilities are always available to Lions members.



ABOVE: Members enjoying a game of Bowling.

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Room 2, 126 Swanport Road, Murray Bridge,
or arrange a home service if disabled or elderly.



The Tailem Bend Football Club

Report submitted by Terry Connolly.

The Tailem Bend Past Players Day surpassed all expectations, bringing together former players, devoted volunteers, and club officials from near and far. It was a day filled with memories, laughter, and the unmistakable camaraderie that continues to unite our club community.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the club and the incredible team of volunteers whose tireless efforts made the event a resounding success. Your dedication did not go unnoticed, and we are sincerely grateful for the time, energy, and passion you poured into making the day so special.

The boys' victory on the field capped off the celebrations, adding a perfect touch of excitement and pride, making the day even more unforgettable. For the first time, Past Players Day included the special honour of recognising an individual whose long-standing contribution has left a lasting legacy on the club. This new tradition highlights the profound impact one person's dedication and commitment can have over time.

This year's honouree was Bret Tomkinson—a name that resonates with pride throughout the club's history. Bret's career is nothing short of legendary:

He Captained the club from 1986-1994, was a B&F winner in 1984, 86, 88, and 92, and won three Premierships in 1992 (**captain**), '95, and '96. He played 292 League games and was awarded Life Membership in 1989!

Bret was presented with a commemorative bottle of wine, elegantly labelled with his photo and an overview of his remarkable career a fitting tribute to a true club legend.



ABOVE: 1965 Premiership team, Jim Connolly, Roger Hurle, Peter Connolly (Captain), Jim Trevelion & Michael Langcake.



ABOVE: Terry Connolly presenting Bret Tomkinson with his award.



ABOVE: Wine bottle depicting Bret's photo and career details.

Coorong District Council is Addressing Lack of Childcare Across the District

MEDIA RELEASE

Lack of childcare within the Coorong region is being addressed though a feasibility report commissioned by the Coorong District Council.

Residents and ratepayers across the Coorong district are being invited to contribute to the report and have their say on childcare and early education services.

Having a lack of childcare services is holding communities back, and Coorong District Council is supporting the development of a feasibility report, which will highlight the shortages in childcare and early education and provide recommendations on addressing the gaps and needs of our rural communities.

Further information is available in the attached media release or at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/community/latest-news



ABOVE: Tailem Bend Library kids books and toys. Image supplied by Coorong District Council.



Let's Talk about.... Childcare & Early Education

Community consultation closes 5pm, 30 May 2025



Scan the
QR code to
provide
feedback

www.surveymonkey.com/r/lets-talk-ldc

Council is seeking your feedback on early education and the provisions of childcare across the Coorong District Council

Feedback can be provided:

- At a **community drop in session**
- By completing an online **survey** by visiting the website or scanning the **QR Code**
- **In person** at one of Council's Customer Service Centres
- **By email** council@coorong.sa.gov.au
- **By post** PO Box 399 Tailem Bend SA 5260

Community drop in sessions

Tuesday 13 May

Tailem Bend School Library

8.30 - 10.30am

Wednesday 14 May

Tintinara School Library

8.30 - 10.00am

Thursday 15 May

Meningie School Library

8.30 - 10.30am

Friday 16 May

Coomandook School library

9.00 - 10.00am



www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk

COUNCIL SNAPSHOT

Cr Lisa Rowntree, Coorong Area Councillor

● E: LRowntree@coorong.sa.gov.au ● P: 0407 736 070



■ April 2025 (Edition 68)

We wish Councillor Jonathan Pietzsch all the best as he contests the seat of Barker in the upcoming **Federal Election**. While Jonathan is campaigning, he has stepped down from his role as Deputy Mayor. In the meantime, I will be stepping into the role as Acting Deputy Mayor until the election is declared.

Council acknowledged the recent passing of **Mrs Geraldine Dickson** in March 2025 at the age of 83. Geraldine was a passionate historian, a dedicated community member, and served as an Elected Member of the Coorong Council from 2003 to 2006. She will be fondly remembered.

The Mayor and CEO continue to strongly advocate for improved **health services** in our region. The treatment of local residents by the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network has been deeply disappointing, with meetings offering little reassurance. Nevertheless, the Mayor, CEO, and various community groups remain committed to fighting to restore the services we deserve.

We're fortunate to have a mayor who is also a working farmer and understands firsthand the challenges of this persistent drought. He is actively involved in government working groups to address the pressing needs of rural communities.

Grants Available – Drought Relief for Clubs

Applications are now open for the *Regional Drought Relief Round* of the Active Club Program. Clubs affected by drought can apply for up to \$5,000 in funding for water-saving measures, infrastructure upgrades, utility bill relief, and energy efficiency projects. Applications close Wednesday 28 May. Learn more here:

<https://www.orsr.sa.gov.au/grants/active-club-program>

The Local Government Roads and Works

Conference will be held this year at *The Bend*. These events are always valuable, and our Elected Members will be attending as many sessions as possible throughout May.

Kerbside Waste Collection Update. Council recently reviewed data from our waste contractor and found a significant number of additional bins being collected over the past 12 months:

- 226 extra general waste bins
- 96 extra recycling bins
- 97 extra green organics bins

This equates to approximately \$53,000–\$60,000 in uncollected revenue (or possible savings). To address this, Council has resolved to maintain the current service for now but will introduce new charges for extra bins as part of the 2025/26 Annual Business Plan. A 12-month transition ("grandfathering") period will apply, with new charges taking effect from July 2026. Letters will be sent to affected residents.

Progress on the **Wellington East Structure Plan** is currently paused while SA Water develops a potable water strategy. As the plan includes underground infrastructure, it's important to avoid roadworks or upgrades that may need to be redone.

A new **Governance and Policy Review Working Group** has been formed. Cr Pietzsch, Cr Maidment, and I have been elected to this group, which will initially review Council policies before they go to full Council for ratification.

The **Coonalpyn Pool & Caravan Park** Committee has recommended no change to pool fees for the 2026 season. Additionally, the 2025/26 budget includes \$75,000 for a new pool cover to improve heat retention and reduce manual handling issues. I've also raised concerns about the lack of recent usage data from the Caravan Park; the CEO has assured me this information will be made available.

Community Facility Improvements. The 2025/26 budget includes several upgrades, for example:

- Refurbishment of the Tintinara Hall toilets (and possibly the kitchen too)
- Upgrade of stairs and handrails to the stage at the Tailem Bend Town Hall.
- Footpaths for Richards Tce Coonalpyn, Princes Hwy Meningie & Carcuma Rd Tintinara.
- Renewal of cisterns at Meningie Lions Park
- Replacement of the lights on the Meningie Jetty

There is much more in the budget around roads (sealed & unsealed), and more details will be shared at upcoming community budget meetings in May, including an online session for those unable to attend in person.

Cheers Lisa

New Owners - Old Tailem Town

Story and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News,
Tailem Bend Correspondent. www.murraybridge.news

Old Tailem Town - one of South Australia's most cherished historical attractions, is stepping into a new era, as Danny and Tina Squires officially take over the reins of the iconic pioneer village.

Established in 1982, by Danny's father, Peter Squires, the site has long been a favourite for history lovers, school groups, and tourists alike. *"This has always been a family project," Tina says. "We were destined to take it over—it was just a matter of time."*

The Squires family are already hands-on, assessing each building, making improvements, and planning new features to refresh the visitor experience. Plans include inviting a coffee van operator to join the site, as well as restoring the original Balfour's Adelaide Pie Cart to serve up classic pie floaters.

Behind the scenes, the team is supported by a dedicated group of volunteers and key staff, including bookkeeper Julie, who commutes from Adelaide, volunteers Ivan, Ken, David, Noel, Pauline, and Nathan. *"We've got a small team, but they're extraordinary," Tina says. "And yes, with everything we've got planned, we'll definitely be looking for more volunteers in the future."*



ABOVE: Danny is proud of what Old Tailem Town has become – he especially likes his Dad's collection of old trucks. *"People see the trucks and think that's all that's here – there's a whole Australian Pioneer Village out the back," Danny laughs.*



ABOVE: Volunteer, Ivan Wood of Tailem Bend on the step-board of his donated vintage truck.



ABOVE: Danny and Tina Squires - have taken up the challenge and are at the helm of Old Tailem Town.

The popular ghost tours are still running, operated independently by Haunted Horizons.

Danny and Tina's son, Thomas, is already looking forward to joining the venture and becoming a part of Old Tailem Town's next chapter - with fresh energy, family spirit, and exciting plans in motion, Old Tailem Town is set to thrive well into the future.



ABOVE: In the office, bookkeeper Julie Burridge of Adelaide.



Easter Bunny Spotted at Tailm Bend Hospital

Submitted by the Tailm Bend Progress Association.

On Saturday the 19th of April, the residents at the Tailm Bend Hospital welcomed a very special visitor who brought smiles to the faces of our most beloved residents.

The Easter bunny hopped from room to room delivering delicious chocolates. It was a special morning being able to bring the celebration of Easter to members of our community, so they wouldn't miss out. A very happy Easter to all those who celebrated.



ABOVE: Christine with the Easter Bunny.



ABOVE: Kayce, Easter Bunny and Bruce.



ABOVE: Easter bunny with its helpers Elyssa-Kate and Kayce.



ABOVE: The Easter Bunny with Bob.



ABOVE: Elyssa-Kate, Col Batson and the Easter Bunny.



The chocolates were supplied by the **Tailm Bend Progress Association** from donations from our Easter Raffle, which included toys exchanged from Spin Masters for ad space in Tailm Topics.



DYLAN

COOKE PLAINS BRIGADE

I am currently the Captain of Cooke Plains brigade.

I joined the CFS so that I can meet new people and help people in need, especially when living regionally.

Having recently moved from Tintinara to Tailem Bend, I work as an apiarist at Cooke Plains. I am a father of one and enjoy my weekends spent with my daughter and camping. I am also a die hard Land Cruiser enthusiast and have found CFS is very accommodating to the needs of volunteers as most of us have fulltime commitments and families.

Cooke Plains and Tailem Bend have formed a closeness within the brigades and have been working together on trainings. I also dual respond with Tailem Bend.

I have been fortunate to be apart of the Youth Advisory Council this year as well as helping out with the Tailem Bend Cadet Program. Working with younger members is very rewarding.

Volunteer Now

No experience necessary and training is provided!

For more information contact:
me on 0401 506 597

cfs.sa.gov.au/volunteers





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13th, 20th & 27th of May - Bookings essential

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3 week program taking home
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COORONG Council News

Apr - May 2025

Welcome to this month's Council update

Around the District

Throughout the past month Coorong District Council has undertaken a range of activities, events and delivered programs across the district.

The **Community Facilities** team have completed tree trimming in Tintinara, reed trimming in the Wellington East stormwater lagoon inlet, weeding at the Meningie town entrance, slashing for the Dupang Festival at Long Point, and continued tidying up from Little Corellas impacts.

Rural road users are continuing to be supported through the **patrol grading program**, with 445.9kms of unsealed roads graded during March 2025.

The internal construction crew commenced renewal of eight kilometres on Settlers Road as part of the **2024/25 Unsealed Roads Program** in April.

The remainder of the **2024/25 Sealed Roads Renewal Program** is underway with Myrtle Place (Tailem Bend), Alison Court (Wellington East), and Hannah Well Road (Coomandook) receiving new asphalt, and cement stabilisation works are underway on Alexandrina Drive (Narrung), with new asphalt to follow.



Above: Cement stabilisation on Alexandrina Drive, Narrung.

Works on the final section of the **Carcuma Road upgrade** at Tintinara are underway. Clearing and shoulder widening works from the Southern Cross Road intersection to the Council boundary are in progress.



Above: Shoulder Widening Works underway at Carcuma Road Stage 2B

Tintinara's Footpath Expansion Project has seen the installation of a new asphalt path and fencing along the railway corridor from Fulwood Avenue to the corner of the Tintinara Apex Park.



Above: Laying asphalt footpath, Fulwood Avenue to the Tintinara Apex Park

Construction of the **RAA Electric Vehicle charging station** near Tintinara's Heart of the Parks is

complete and is now available for use. This rounds out the network of charging stations within the Coorong District; EV users can now charge their vehicles in Tailem Bend, Meningie, Coonalpyn and Tintinara.

Key Decisions

In April Elected Members resolved to change the date of the June Council meeting to now be held on **17 June 2025** - this change ensures all members can be present and allow sufficient time for 2025/26 annual business plan and budget preparations.

This year Council will host the Local Government Association's annual Roads & Works Conference in August at The Bend Motorsport Park - Elected Members will attend this event, where they will learn about the latest industry challenges and innovations with their colleagues from other SA councils.

Members received information and an update on the actions included in the 2024/25 Annual Business Plan & Budget as part of its third quarter review, and appointed three Elected Members to a new Governance & Policy Review Working Group, which will undertake initial reviews of Council policies and committee terms of reference before final adoption by Council.

W: www.coorong.sa.gov.au

E: council@coorong.sa.gov.au

P: 1300 785 277

A: PO Box 399,
Tailem Bend SA 5260



Coming Events

Creating Mentally Healthy Communities - Mental Health First Aid Training

Standard & Youth Mental Health First Aid training will be delivered across the district thanks to funding received by Coorong Conversation Matters under the SA Suicide Prevention Community Grants Program.

Mental Health First Aid teaches participants how to provide initial support to individuals who may be experiencing a mental health problem or crisis, until professional help is received or the crisis resolves.

Fees are subsidised for these sessions to \$25 per participant.

Standard Mental Health First Aid Sessions

- 3-4 June 2025 at the Meningie Uniting Church Hall

Youth Mental Health First Aid is specifically for parents, carers or anyone that engages with youth aged between 12-18 years.

- 26-27 May 2025 (please note this has been brought forward a day) at the Coonalpyn Community Hub

Register: www.coorong.sa.gov.au



Above: Group photo of all the volunteers from the organisations represented at the Volunteering Expo

Community Development 2025 Volunteering Expo

On 29 March Council hosted its first Volunteering Expo in Taillem Bend. 22 volunteer groups (not for profit groups, clubs and organisations) showcased what they do and why, encouraging Expo visitors to consider new local volunteering opportunities. The organisations also welcomed the chance to network with their fellow volunteering groups.

Winners of the Easter Colouring Competition

To celebrate Easter this year Council held an easter colouring competition with three age categories: 0-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The entries were judged by Mayor Simmons following the April Council Meeting and winners were notified to collect their prizes.

Congratulations to Eli, Lilith and Marlee!



Above: Winners of the Easter Colouring Competition. Left: Eli, winner 9-12 category, Middle: Mayor Paul Simmons with Lilith, winner 0-5 category and right: Marlee, winner 6-8 category.

Want to read more?

Visit our website for full Council meeting agendas, reports & latest updates on projects, events & activities happening across the district.



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at your local library*



Visit your local
Coorong Libraries
Branch in:
Coomandook
Coonalpyn
Meningie
Taillem Bend
Tintinara

Tailem Bend Community Library

New Books May 2025

ADULT FICTION

ALEXANDER Nicole: The Limestone Road – South Australia, Post War
ALEXANDER Tasha: A Cold Highland Wind – Detective, Mystery
ASHCROFT Jenny: Secrets of the Watch House – Historical Thriller
BLOSE Jacqui: The Secret Photographs – Historical, Friendships
BOX C.J.: Three Inch Teeth – Mystery Thriller
CAVANAGH Steve: The Liar – Legal Thriller
CHILD Lee: Reacher: Persuader – Jack Reacher Thriller
CUSKELLY Mary Rose: The Campers – Australian Thriller
CUSSLERS Clive: The Corsican Shadow – Action, Adventure, Conspiracies
EELES Liz: Secrets at the Last House Before the Sea – Romance, Family
GRIFFITHS Eily: The Man in Black – Detective, Mystery Short Stories
HARDEN Barry: Ada & Eddie – Murder, Thriller
HERRON Mick: Down Cemetery Road – Missing Person, Thriller
JARDINE Quentin: Secrets and Lies – Murder, Mystery
MALLERY Susan: Lone Star Canyon – Texan Romance
MARSH Nicola: Where the Heart Is – Australian Romance
MASON Simon: Lost and Never Found – Detective, Mystery
MORIARTY Liane: The Last Anniversary – Family Drama
POWTER Sara: Jam or Marmalade for Tea – Historical Australian Romance
SMITH Wilbur: Warrior King – South Africa, Wilderness Survival
STEPHENS Mary-Lou: The Jam Maker – Tasmania historical fiction

NON FICTION

One Free Woman: The True Story of Convict Hannah Rigby

LARGE PRINT

LANE Karly: Twist of Fate – Australian Romance
MAGRO Mandy: Silverton Shores – Australian Romance
STRINGER Trisha: Head for the Hills – Adelaide Hills, Family

BOOK REVIEW

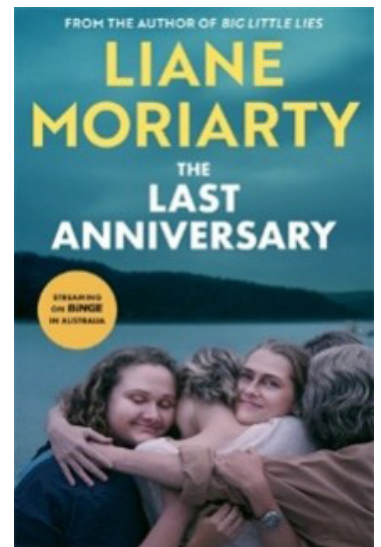
The Last Anniversary: TV Tie-In by Liane Moriarty

Sophie is just as shocked as Thomas when his Aunt Connie dies and leaves Sophie her beautiful house on Scribbly Gum Island.

This tiny island is home to the famous 'Munro Baby Mystery' - a seventy-year-old unsolved crime.

Sophie soon discovers that nearly everyone has a secret, and the biggest secret of all, the truth behind the Munro Baby Mystery, is set to explode on an extraordinary night that will test a marriage, a family and a friendship.

STREAMING ON **BINGE** IN AUSTRALIA



LIBRARY CLOSURE

The Tailem Bend Community Library will be **CLOSED**

Monday, 26th May, 2025

The Library will **OPEN** Tuesday 27th May as usual

Phone 8572 3275 for more information.



MONDAY MEMORIES

Come along to the Tailem Bend Community Library

FRIDAY, 30th April 2025
10 am start.

Come along and reminisce about the days gone by.

All welcome
Note this month it's on a **'FRIDAY'**



LOCAL AUTHOR

The Tailem Bend Library has been given a set of children's books written by a local Author.



Thank you
Di Lloyd for sharing with us.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

SA Police update

www.police.sa.gov.au

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**Government
of South Australia**

Reported dates: 14/03/2025 – 19/04/2025

Incident Date	Incident Type	Location	Details
19/04/2025	Drink driving	TAILEM BEND	Driver reported and issued a 12-month Instant Loss of Licence
19/04/2025	Vehicle collision	TAILEM BEND	2 vehicle collision, no injuries
05/04/2025	Theft	TAILEM BEND	Theft of alcohol, \$420 – Investigation continuing.
14/03/2025	Theft	TAILEM BEND	Theft of purse - Offender identified and reported

SAPOL DISCLAIMER

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Blue Light SA



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Like us on Facebook - Blue Light (SA) Inc

Tailem Bend Blue Light Calendar for 2025

TERM 2

4TH JUNE

**Games NIGHT / SILENT
DISCO**

Tailem Bend School Gym

2ND JULY

**SRC theme choice Disco, 5
to 7 pm
Town Hall**

TERM 3

AUGUST

**MONARTO Zoo /NIGHT
camp**

Dates to be confirmed 7 –
8th or 14 – 15th

24TH SEPTEMBER

**Footy Colours Disco, 5 – 7
pm
Tailem Bend Football Club**

TERM 4

3RD DECEMBER

**Christmas Disco, 5 – 7 pm
Town Hall**

- ROAD SAFETY TIPS -

It's Back to School – Before and after school drop offs are a busy time on roads with many children walking, riding or being driven in the family car to get to school, young children are particularly vulnerable and so we ALL need to remain alert and take precautions around schools.

Be Safe on the Roads. It is a good idea to check your car and make sure everything is functioning. Check the tread in your tyres and add extra pressure if required. The older the tyres the more likely they will be to struggle on the roads. Ensure your car is fitted with a spare tyre and make sure you have plenty of fuel in case any hazards on the road cause delays.

What's Happening in our Community?

MONDAYS

- **ROTARY CLUB OF TAILEM BEND;** Meet every fortnight on Mondays at 6pm at the Riverside Hotel, Princes Hwy Tailem Bend, **contact Phil Roberts: 0428 305 432.** Please contact Phil to check location.
- **MONDAY MEMORIES!;** Last Monday of the month at the Tailem Bend library at 10am. **All Welcome!**
- **MURRAYLANDS STOMA SUPPORT GROUP;** Meetings held 1st Monday of every second month at Murray Bridge RSL hall 10 am - 12. **Come and join us.**
- **RIVERBEND LADIES INDOOR BOWLS;** Thursdays until the end of October. Fun games 10.30am. Team games 2pm. **Contact Raelene Ellis: 04122 143 799 or L. Jaensch: 8672 4064**
- **TAILEM BEND PROGRESS ASSOCIATION;** JOIN THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION! **More details please contact: Maxine Kiddie: 0439 387 750**
- **FRIENDS OF THE HOSPITAL;** Friends of the Hospital Inc. Monthly meetings held on the first Thursday of each month at the Tailem Bend Hotel at 12.30 for lunch followed by our meeting at 1.30. ALL WELCOME. **Gwenda Zadow 8572 3057**

TUESDAYS

- **SOCIAL TENNIS;** Starting from Tuesday 4th February 6.30pm. **Any enquire: Graeme Melbourne 0429 140 735.**
- **TAILEM BEND LIONS CLUB;** Meetings 2nd Tuesday at the Riverside Hotel and 4th Tuesdays at Lions Den, corner Trevena Rd & Seymour St each month at 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. **Contact Doug Holmes 8532 4372 or Ian Eckermann 8572 3850.**
- **TAILEM BEND AUTO CLUB;** Tailem Bend Auto Club (TBAC) meeting every Third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Tailem Bend Football Club. Please contact the TBAC Facebook page for more information.
- **ULYSSES LOWER MURRAY MOTORBIKE CLUB;** A club for motorbike riders over 40 years. If you enjoy riding motorbikes and social gatherings with other motorbike enthusiasts, this is the club for you. It's a great social group : lots of fun. We have rides on Sundays and Thursdays. Come and join in the fun. **For more information call Terry on 0401 320 665**

FRIDAYS

- **TAILEM BEND COMMUNITY CENTRE – OUR GOLD-IES LUNCHEON;** Joins us for a social lunch and chat, from 12 noon to 1.30 pm. Two course meal from \$10.00 per person, subsidised by the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) for people over 65 years or 50 years Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, or \$15.00 for Non CHSP. Booking is essential, please call 8572 3513 or email chsp@tbcc.org.au for more information.
- **Tailem Bend RSL SUB BRANCH;** Open for meals every Friday from 6pm, to book **phone 0466 313 315 or 0419 856 744 Or you can send a message through FB: @Tailem-BendRSL**

WEDNESDAYS

- **COOMANDOOK Branch CWA;** Meet first Wednesday of the Month at the Coomandook Hall from 1pm, unless otherwise advised. **For more details contact Anika Loechel 0438 256 629 or call State Office on 08 8332 4166 or www.sacwa.org.au**
- **TAILEM BEND CHRISTMAS PARADE MEETING;** We need you! If you would like to see the Christmas Parade in the future please join the Christmas Parade committee. **Contact Maxine Kiddie: 0439 387 750**

THURSDAYS

- **PARENT CHILD MOTHER GOOSE;** Cuddle.. Communicate.. Connect... Using songs, rhymes and stories to support connection between child and parent. 9.30am – 10.15am at the Tailem Bend Primary School.



Bookings appreciated but not essential, scan QR code or follow the link <https://www.trybooking.com/CAVZV>

SATURDAYS

- **ST LUKE'S MARKET DAY;** Held on a Saturdays. For more information please call Tony Aylen on 0400 870 878.
- **JERVOIS DANCE;** Every 5th Saturday of the month! \$12.00 entrance. Prizes and raffles on offer. bring a plate of supper to share. Contact Malcolm Clayson on 0401 043 382 for more info. (Every 5th Saturday of the month)
- **MURRAYLANDS BALLROOM DANCE GROUP;** The Murraylands Dance will be held in the Tailem Bend town hall every third Saturday from 8pm to midnight. Entrance, \$10 : There will be several door prizes. Please bring your own supper. Tea and coffee provided. **Contact Nick on 0456 208 355**

Thought for the Month : Trusting God Is Easy, Until It's Not!

Submitted by Pastor Garry Leech on behalf of the Revival Church, Taillem Bend.

I came to faith in God in the early 1980's. Since then, I've been on a journey of faith in God. At times my faith's been up and down, up and down. But generally over time, my faith has grown.

I don't know about you, but there's been times where I've read a verse from the bible, and I've thought *"I can do that"*. Stuff like help the poor, pray for the sick or give to those in need. Then there's verses I thought I could live out, but when it actually came to living out what it said, I discovered I couldn't do it, at least not right then, in that season of my life. One such passage is in Proverbs 3:5-6 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."*

There's been numerous times where I've trusted the Lord with all my heart and didn't rely on my own understanding. I didn't do away with wisdom or not get counsel from people I respected. But I did trust in the Lord with all my heart. But then my wife and I faced an event that devastated us. Our oldest son was killed in a road accident on the 22nd of March 2023. He was 38 years old, and left behind a wonderful wife and two amazing kids. But now he's gone.

I immediately asked *"Why?"* Why did he have to die?

Why was he killed? Why did God let this happen? Why didn't God delay my son, or stop the other person doing what they did? I was reminded of the verses about *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."* Now I was confronted with what to do with these verses! Could I trust God, even when there was no answer to the question of *"Why!"*

What was I going to do with the tension between wanting to know Why and still trusting God who could've stopped things from happening, but didn't?

Trusting In The Lord Is Easy, Until It Isn't!

Could I still trust God even in the pain, the hurt and the trauma of our grief and loss? It's taken me a while, but I've come to the point of continuing to trust God even when there is no answer to the question of *"Why?"* How I did that, is the subject of a much deeper conversation. Can I suggest today that Faith is not so much about what we believe but in whom we trust

Is it possible, that faith is not a *"What"* word, but rather a *"Who"* word. Faith can be all too much about What we believe, rather than Who we trust!

So, who do you trust, even when it's not easy?

Church Services

PEAKE BAPTIST CHURCH

1st and 3rd Sunday at Peake : 10am
2nd and 4th Sunday at Sherlock : 10am
5th Sunday TBA
Pastor Geoff Lohmeyer
Mobile: 0429 811 515

MURRAY BRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

32 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge, 5253
Sunday Service Time : 10am
Church Pastor Tom Bosman
Church Office: 8532 2883
Mobile: 0491 076 888

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

47:49 Station Drive, Taillem Bend
Service: Every Sunday at 11.30am
Enquiries: Church Warden
Viktor Sonenko: 0417 812 170

MURRAY BRIDGE UNITING CHURCH

Narooma Boulevard, Murray Bridge
Sunday's: 9.30 am
Rev Darren Lovell: 0466 411 784
Church Office: 8532 5150

TAILEM BEND CATHOLIC PARISH

1st and 3rd Sunday: Mass at 9am
(Priest in Attendance)
Station Drive Taillem Bend
Priest Moderator: Fr. Philip Marshall 0419 854 540
Pastoral Director: Deacon Arturo Jimenea 0413 800 249
PPC Chairperson: Peter Nearnmy 0407 710 907
Murray Bridge Office: ph. 08 8531 1669
Tuesday & Friday 9am to 3pm

REVIVAL CITY CHURCH

6 Jacob St Taillem Bend
Every Sunday 10am.
Pastor Garry and Jane Leech.
Email: garry@revivalcity.church
Mobile: 0437 905 269

TRINITY LUTHERAN

10 Seymour Street, Taillem Bend
Service times as per the Notice Board
by the front fence.
Contact Tony Traeger 0421 421 102

Community Notice Board



DAVID AND GOLIATH

The Americans have a saying, "You can't fight City Hall," which I take to mean that you cannot win a case against the 'powers that be' who have lots of money, influence and the best of lawyers. You will have heard about small businesses who have to fight large companies over copyright, brands etc. This fight is often called a 'David and Goliath' fight.

David was born in Bethlehem and was a shepherd looking after his father's sheep keeping them safe from lions and bears. (1 Samuel 17 v 34-37). David lived at the time when the people of Israel were fighting the Philistines. His three older brothers were part of King Saul's army facing the Philistines across the Valley of Elah.

"A man named Goliath, from the city of Gath, came out from the Philistine camp to challenge the Israelites. He was nearly three metres tall, and wore bronze armour that weighed about fifty-seven kilograms, and a bronze helmet. His legs were also protected by bronze armour, and he carried a bronze javelin slung over his shoulder. His spear was as thick as the bar on a weaver's loom, and its head weighed about seven kilograms."

Goliath challenged the Israelites to send one man to fight him. If the Israelite won, then the Philistines would surrender. (1 Samuel 17 v 4-11)

David's father sent him to take food to his brothers and find out how they were getting on. On his arrival he witnessed this daily challenge, and he volunteered to fight Goliath. Saul gave in to this request and made David put on a suit of armour. However, David was not comfortable in the armour and so he went out to meet Goliath with his shepherd's stick and five smooth stones from the stream. Goliath scoffed at this, but David announced, 'You are coming against me with sword, spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, God of Israel.' With that David slung a stone which hit Goliath in the forehead and Goliath fell face down.

Thus, the small boy, David, won the battle over the giant Goliath with the faith he put in God's help.

With God anything is possible, so put your faith in God and He will help you against anything. He has not promised a safe and happy life. We must expect trials, worry and challenges. However, trusting completely in God, and following the way of Christ we can inherit Eternal Life.

Written by Doreen Lutz,
on behalf of the Mallee Lutheran Parish.



ABOVE: Tailem Bend Historians Secretary Elizabeth Nicholls presented Peter Squires a congratulatory certificate and a year's honorary membership at our last General Meeting at old Tailem Town.



POSITIONS VACANT

HOUSEKEEPING STAFF CASUAL

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Email: ceo@jallarah.com.au

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Jokes of the Month

So Daffy Duck and Elmer Fudd break into a distillery. Daffy turns to Elmer and says "Is this Whiskey?"
Elmer says: "Yeth but not as whiskey as wobbling a bank!!"

Whoever came up with the word "dentures," really missed the opportunity to call them "subsitiooths"



Quotes of the Month

"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people." – Eleanor Roosevelt

"The best revenge is massive success." – Frank Sinatra

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great." – Mark Twain

"The purpose of life is a life of purpose." – Robert Byrne

"You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with." – Jim Rohn

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Send your submissions, articles or photographs, including your name or business and a contact number to the Editor using one of the following options.

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PLEASE NOTE: the Deadline is the 20th of each month!

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Community Services

LOCAL JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Garry Hansen	0427 390 626
Leonie Hutson	0419 823 457
Neville Jaensch	0477 233 906
Marc Maddaford	8572 4169
Debbie McPherson	8572 4205
Teresa Pickering	0409 284 073
Robert Trezise	8572 3050
Helen Bowering	8572 4530
Barb Williams	0403 535 718

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Police: Tailem Bend	8572 4210
Ambulance	000
Fire & Rescue	000
CFS: Tailem Bend	000
CFS: Jervois	000
Tailem Bend Medical Centre	8572 5897
Poison Information	13 11 26
Parent Helpline	300 364 100
RAA	0429 029 021
Hospital	8572 5800

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Shell Coles Express Tailem Bend	8286 2308
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Riverbend Motel	8572 3633
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Old Tailem Town Pioneer Village	0419 359 532
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OTR Motorsport Park	8200 5847
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Princes Highway, Tailem Bend
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Fax: 8572 5801

MEDICAL CENTRE & IMMUNISATIONS

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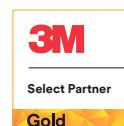
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In fact, it's why journalist Peri Strathearn established Murray Bridge News in 2020: to connect, uplift and empower local people by telling the Murraylands' stories.

Until next month's edition, find out what's happening around the Murraylands at www.murraybridge.news.

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