

Tailem



Topics

JULY 2025

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



This year's Regional Leadership Development Program was launched on Tuesday 27th of June at the Bridgeport Hotel in Murray Bridge, welcoming 27 leaders.



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ALEXANDRINA CAMPBELL EXHIBITION

View the Coorong Gallery's latest exhibition by Alexandrina Campbell.

The exhibition is a showcase of contemporary artwork that celebrates Alexandrina's Ngarrindjeri culture. Each piece tells a story expressing heritage, identity and human spirit through vivid imagery.

EXHIBITION DATES

10 June - 1 August 2025

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gallery



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Story by Liana Webster, Murray Bridge News. www.murraybridge.news. Photos by Jacob Jennings.

On Tuesday night Murray Bridge welcomed the next generation of regional changemakers with the official launch of the 2025 Regional Leadership Development Program (RLDP).

Twenty-seven leaders from across the Murraylands and Riverland, made it out to the Bridgeport Hotel. At the beginning of last year, the state government invested \$2 million to extend the program: since 2022 the program has 1300 participants across 72 regional towns.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Clare Scriven personally launched the program. *"(The program) provides valuable skills relevant for work in regional industries, businesses, and in community activities,"* she said.

Women are making up more than 68 percent of participants, with 2025 cohort including people in agriculture, education, health, local government, tourism, small business, and community services.



ABOVE: Brodie Rollins, Heather Wait, Josephine McGrath, Tammy O'Malley, Fiona Woodfire and Carolyn Huckel attended the launch at the Bridgeport Hotel.



ABOVE: At the launch was Dara Frankel (PIRSA), The Hon Clare Scriven MLC, Matt O'Brien (PIRSA), Mandy Tennant (RDAMR).

RDAMR program manager Mandy Tennant said the RLDP continues to play a role in building inclusive, future-ready leadership across the region. *"By investing in people, we're investing in the resilience and sustainability of our communities,"* she said. *"These 27 emerging leaders are stepping up to shape a better future - not just for their workplaces, but for the region as a whole,"* Ms Tennant said.

Participants will take part in workshops and on-country sessions over the coming months to build connections and foster leadership. The program aims to remove travel barriers and time away from work and family, ensuring the training is accessible and relevant to the region needs.

The program is delivered by Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland (**RDAMR**) in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (**PIRSA**), with support from Aurora Meliora and LeadersHP. [More information: https://rdamr.com.au](https://rdamr.com.au)

Participant Taillem Topics Editor - Josephine McGrath

"I'm incredibly grateful to be part of the Leadership Development Program. It's been a powerful experience learning about leading self, staying grounded in core values, and developing the skills to coach and support others. I am excited to continue alongside such inspiring group of leaders!"

COVER: Group photo take at the Bridgeport Hotel. Image taken by Bridgeport Staff.

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Tailem Bend Art Classes

Submitted by Tammi Schubert. Revival Retreat Artworks & Framing.

Art classes are going amazingly well, and everyone has had so much fun. Almost every participant has rebooked into more workshops.

We have now completed a fauna and flora acrylic painting workshop that was ran over 3 x 2-hour sessions. By popular demand we are opening this work shop up again in august with the super talented Rebecca Knight.

This time we will deliver the workshop over 2 Tuesday 3hour sessions commencing 19th & 26th August. **Bookings now being taken get in quick.**

We have also completed several beginner ceramic tile workshops and currently have glass mosaic workshops running, demand was so good that we have 3 running, Monday and Tuesday night workshops and a Tuesday morning one running.

Our next mosaic workshop running will commence on the 15th July and will include the 22nd & 29th where we will play with Rock and gemstone mosaics, where participants may choose to learn how to create a stepping stone paver or mosaic onto a rock for the garden or inside art. We love our workshops to give choice flexibility and freedom to create.



ABOVE: Example of the art style the participants will learn with Bec in the August workshops.

In July we are also looking at running a few creative Kids & Parent bonding workshops where Mum or Dad can participate in some fun art workshops with their child/ children during the school holidays. These may include Gelly block printing, Water marbling, Tissue Paper Mache lanterns and terracotta pot plant people. Expression of interest for these classes is out now.

During August we are hoping to run a "Come Paint in the Park" SALA workshop targeting 14yr -18yr Schoolies. This workshop will show how tagging & aerosol art on canvas board and tin instead of trains illegal building tagging can actually earn you an art career instead of possible police record. Learn from the exceptionally talented Jess Haines from Meninge who creates stunning airbrush and aerosol art, who has created amazing pieces on buildings boards and canvas around Australia. Limited places for this workshop. Bookings now taken.

Email revival.tam@gmail.com or phone 0439 457 796



ABOVE: A set of 3 pieces created by Jess with air compressor and air gun with some aerosol in case you wanted to use.



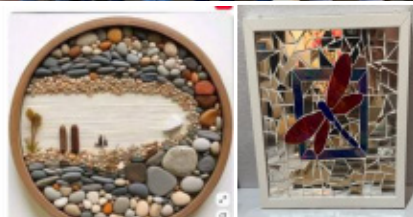
ABOVE: Di Mosaic class.

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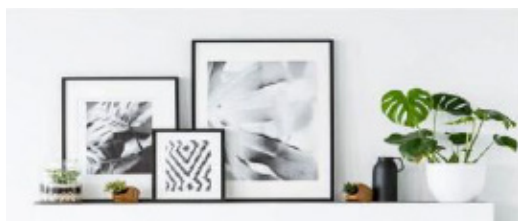
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The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #153

It is a long running series, submitted on behalf of Peter Connolly.

This month we look at the memories of more local people, Peter Nearmy, Kevin Griffiths and the hospital.

Peter strives for better lives.

Helping out the community where he can.

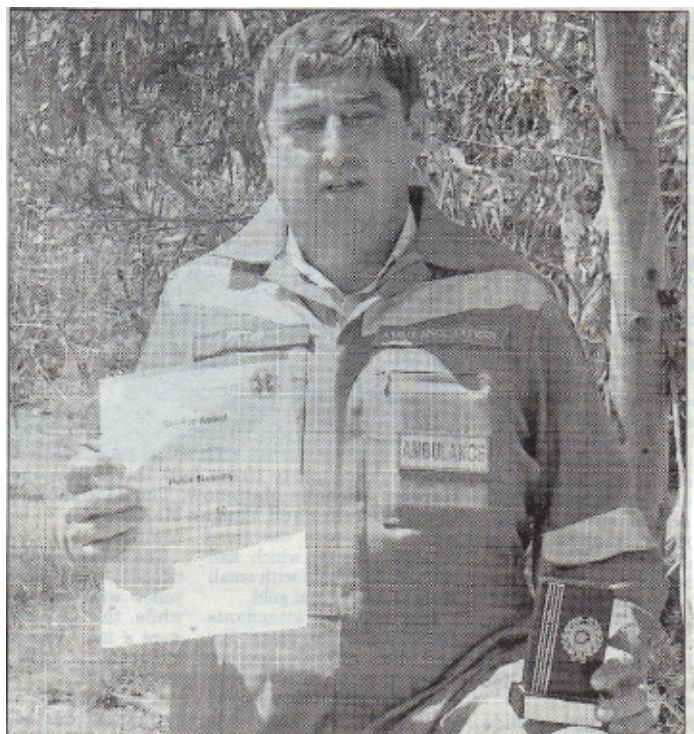
From Tailem Bend to Mannum, Peter Nearmy's goodwill spreads throughout the district. Travis Simmons explains why. For Tailem Bend resident Peter Nearmy, becoming involved in the community in which he lives is simply a way of life. And his involvement extends beyond Tailem Bend, out into the broader community that is Murraylands.

St Vincent De Paul is one organisation giving Peter this opportunity, as he is the Murray Mallee regional president, as well as the treasurer of Tailem Bend conference – roles in the community he sees as valuable.

"We help people though rough spots in their lives," Peter said "There would be a heck of a lot in strife if we weren't there to give them a hand over the rough spots" With Christmas approaching, Peter said St Vincent De Paul is becoming more important. "Christmas hampers are being distributed across the region by various conferences, which hopefully going to make someone's Christmas a little bit brighter"

Making the lives of others brighter is a common thread in Peter's life, recently receiving his SA Ambulance 10 – year service certificate for his contribution to St John Ambulance and SA Ambulance, *"We do someone some good and there is more to it than just lights and sirens,"* Peter said. First becoming involved in first-aid work when he was employed with the railways, Peter said life as a volunteer ambulance officer was not easy. *"I think you might try to burn the candle at both ends sometimes and you go bush for a couple of days, and you are back into it again,"* he said. *The frustrating parts are over-ridden by the good parts"*

Peter is a member of the parish council at the Tailem Bend Catholic Church, and his willingness to help others stems through his church life. And by assisting other Peter is sometimes himself, being able to work on one of life's passions though his membership of the Mannum Dock Museum Board. Peter had an interest in boats since he was young, and helps prepare the PS Marion before some of its trips, as well as sometimes playing his part in maintaining the vessel while on cruises. His volunteer work sees him travel around the district.



ABOVE: Peter Nearmy with two awards he has received as an ambulance officer.

Peter is happy to make Tailem Bend his home. *"The people are good,"* he said. *"As far as country towns go they are quite a friendly lot."* Peter said community involvement helps to forge life-long friendships, as he finds out when he visits Mount Gambier, a town in which he used to live. *"You go back to Mount Gambier and you still get pulled up in the street down there, and that's just friends from St Johns,"* he said. *"You go back down there and it seems like you never left the place."*

M/V Standard year 2000

It's the end of an era for Kevin and the friendly IGA crew at Tailem Bend.

After 26 years in the supermarket trade at Tailem Bend, Kevin has decided to call it quits, Murray Valley Standard editor Graham Rich caught up with Kevin during his final day in the store. Tailem Bend business Kevin Griffiths became a familiar figure, sweeping the footpath outside his IGA Friendly supermarket in the town every morning after opening the store. He liked to see a clean street, and set the example, getting out with the broom around 7:30am. So when he closed the business' doors for the last time recently, fellow trader presented Kevin with a golden broom on behalf of the traders. The occasion marked the end of an era – Kevin had operated the supermarket for almost 26 years, at times employing up to three girls. Kevin says he has enjoyed the business, but even more he loved the people with whom it brought him into contact.

The Changing Face of Taillem Bend #153

He grew up in the Mallee town of Halidon, the son of farmers Alf and Winifred Griffiths, and one of 13 children. After attending Halidon School, Kevin worked on the farm and came to the business after a working life spanning driving a patrol grader for East Murray Council, share farming in the Mallee and shearing from Tintinara. It was in 1975, after moving to Taillem Bend that he took over the then Northcott's Four Square store.

At times, Kevin has worked up to 65 and 70 hours a week, but he says; *"It has been lovely – I have loved the business, and loved the people."* But after *"a good run of 26 years, it was time for a change and the business has been sold."* We were lucky enough to have always got on with everyone.....the people have always been good," Kevin said. And he added that he had been lucky to have lovely children – Karen, Kristie, and Brett – *"and that's always a big part of life."*



ABOVE: Keven Griffiths (centre) and his wife Sue, who have operated the IGA Friendly store at Taillem Bend together since 1989, with Rob Hughes who presented Keven with the golden broom. (2001)

Outside of work, Kevin's involvement lawn bowls, the football club from time to time, boating on the river, and he has also been part of the Taillem Bend and Districts Development Program for several years. And every Easter, the family visited Oakbank where Kevin developed frog races as an activity for youngsters. They grew into something of an institution at the carnival. With the business sold Kevin intends taking a break of several months before looking to the future, but says he would like to continue to live at Taillem Bend.

M/V Standard, year 2001

Hospital Promotion event of the year

Taillem Bend District Hospital's "It's a Rocky Road" "3Rs mental Health" promotion was named community event of the year, at the Australia Day celebrations at the train park on Sunday. The award was accepted by Pam Green, of the outreach department of the hospital. Those attending heard that in the promotion, a depression forum was held at Taillem Bend Town Hall, attended by 260 – 280 people. A broad spectrum of ages and social networks was attracted to the event. A number of guest speakers with life experience in depression were invited to be present at the sessions.



ABOVE: Ready for the start of a three-legged race at the celebrations (from left) Corey and Tamika Parker, Jessica Whaley and Kellie Wilson, Sam and Jack Whaley, and Julie and Ryan Duke.

The event was said to have been well supported by the local media and the message was spread. Many other community groups helped out on the day. The event was described as a huge success, with all of the desired outcomes being achieved.

M/V Standard year 2003



... Quote for the Month ...



Set your goals high, and don't stop until you get there.
Bo Jackson.

Doris, Paul, Felicity, Justin, Trish and grandchildren would like to **thank everyone** for the beautiful flowers, cards and many kinds wishes on the sad passing of their beloved Husband, Father, Grandpa and Pa. Peter Connolly will be greatly missed and forever be in our hearts. Our lives will never be the same.

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

Some people come into your life and leave it so much better - for me, Peter Connolly was one of those people. He wasn't just a mate - he was a mentor, a storyteller, a bit of a rascal, and a true Irish gentleman.

Much older than me, yet our friendship had the kind of depth and ease that made the years between us vanish. Losing him has left a hole that words can't quite fill but remembering him is something I'll always do with a full heart. I met Peter through his wife, Doris, in our local photography club in Tailem Bend. Doris had the creative eye, Peter had the passion for history, and I suppose I helped Doris, by bringing her camera lens to tie it all together. The three of us spent countless hours working with historic photographs, capturing the changing face of Tailem Bend. Those sessions were more than just projects - they were moments of real connection, storytelling, and laughter. In total, Peter contributed 153 chapters of 'The Changing Face of Tailem Bend' to the local monthly magazine, Tailem Topics.

Peter had a unique way of turning every task into something special. Whether we were documenting local history or preparing displays like the audio-visual door installation at the Tailem Bend Info Station, Peter's energy and cheeky humour always made it fun. He had a brilliant blend of being deeply committed to the railway town and its people, while never taking himself too seriously. He brought joy and mischief to every encounter - and you couldn't help but be swept along with it.

One of the most unforgettable things we did together was planting around the back of the Tailem Bend Info Station - where the soil was as hard as stone. I volunteered to dig it over - foolish me! It was almost crowbar material, but in true Peter fashion, he didn't blink an eye. "We'll fix it," he said, and off we went - with that rickety old trailer of his - out to Naturi to get some chook poo. We loaded it up, brought it back, dug it in, and the Agapanthus have never looked back - and the soil is incredible, who would have thought?! There was no project too big or too small for Peter, we worked with Don Green painting the old Wurton Railway Siding and celebrated it with a story in the local media. He was always involved in the things that made this town tick - bowls, railways, the Info Station and of course his much revered Catholic Church.

He wasn't just active - he was generous, if something needed doing, Peter was there - and if someone needed support, he was even more present. When others doubted me, he didn't, he stood by me without hesitation, taking some flack himself, offering quiet strength and genuine belief. It meant the world to me. He didn't tolerate fools or unkindness, and he had this uncanny ability to see what really made people tick - his insights were sharp, his loyalty unwavering. I was lucky enough to be invited to photograph Peter's 80th birthday - a huge family celebration, full of music, mischief, and big-hearted joy - that was Peter and his family. Always up for a laugh, always making sure others had a good time too.



ABOVE: Peter Connolly putting on the final coat at Wurton Railway Siding - not the best paint, but it was all we had.

He hosted his own St Patrick's Irish parties, which were a delight to photograph and even more fun to attend. Peter made this world brighter - and brought us all along for the ride. Barbie and I would visit Peter and Doris in their home and take them for morning tea at our local Railway Café in the main street. Simple moments, but they've become some of our most treasured memories. I'm so glad we made that time. Now, our thoughts go to Doris and the entire Connolly clan - a family as warm and wonderful as the man they've lost.

Peter Connolly was one of a kind, a gentle man with a grin, a community man with a twinkle in his eye, and a friend with a heart bigger than Tailem Bend itself. The town is quieter without him, but his spirit lives on in the stories we tell, the gardens we dug, the structures we painted and the photographs I took along the way, capturing a very small part of his living legacy. He may be gone from our sight, but he's not gone from our hearts. Rest easy, mate - the craic will be strong wherever you are now.



ABOVE: Peter Connolly celebrating his 100th chapter of 'The Changing Face of Tailem Bend' September, 2020.

**The Tailem Bend Progress Association -
Tailem Topics Editor Josephine McGrath**

We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Peter Connolly, a dedicated former Chairperson of the Tailem Bend Progress Association and valued contributor to the Tailem Topics. His passion and commitment to the community were evident in everything they did, and their legacy will long be remembered throughout Tailem Bend. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Doris and the family during this difficult time. Our thoughts are with you.



Tailem Bend Lions Club Newsletter

Report submitted by Lions members Judy, Bruce and Jo.

The Tailem Bend Lions Club will be CELEBRATING 50 years servicing our greater communities. We will be recognised and honoured at the annual handover luncheon to be held at the Tailem Bend Bowling Club on Sunday 13th of July 2025.

Our president Lion Doug Holmes said, *"This year's event was extra special, as 50 years is a long time in the life of any club, and we think it should be celebrated"*. The Tailem Bend Lions Club was founded in 1975, the initial charter meeting incorporated 30 members in attendance. The first President was Lion Wally Ditmar, the secretary, Lion Peter Squires, and the treasure Lion Dean Kessell. Since those early days our lions club have continued and enthusiastically been the driving force in our township volunteering raising funds and providing practical support through our initiatives.

As our clubs ever growing in demand for our **'den sales'**, simultaneously as our online auctions/clearing sales, and more recently our mobile barbecue has been incorporated. Our Christmas raffle combined with the Christmas cakes and puddings **'thanks to all'** which were a record sale last year. **PRESIDENT LION DOUG, EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN**, that moving forward,

"Our club's biggest challenge is ensuring the club's viability for the next 50 year's. Our main objective is to get younger members to join our club which now stands at 22 members. We want to encourage younger members to join our club, which is our biggest problem now as most of our members are over 70 years and upwards. We have five young ones onboard and we need new ones

coming in all the time, it doesn't matter how old they are. We need new blood coming in and new Ideas". Doug said.

The TAILEM BEND, Lions club are excited to accept an invitation from the Coorong District Council to provide a lunch being a sausage sizzle on Tuesday, 1 July for the NAIDOC celebrations held at the Townhall. We have also accepted a similar invitation to attend to the Coorong District's Council's sausage sizzle lunch for the NAIDOC celebrations at Tintinara on Friday the 5th of July. We would like to record our thanks to the Council for trusting us with this engagement.

President Lions Doug is posting a last and final call to any past members of the TAILEM BEND Lions club or maybe a family member, as we have been attempting to contact you all to send you an invitation to be present at our 50th celebrations. We would all appreciate if you could join us.

We are requesting if you know any person or feel you were a past member if you could RSVP - by Wednesday 3rd July to Margaret Eckermann on 08 8572 3850 : 0472 547 471 OR Marion Martin on 08 8572 4785 : 0414 735 266. **Thank you.**

Honey is available from Lions Members:

Reuben Gurney: 8572 4730 - Marion Martin: 8572 4785
Margaret Eckermann: 8572 3850 - Raylene Thomas: 0417 840 473

If your club or organisation needs help with funds, write to Tailem Bend Lions Box 141 Tailem Bend or email: tailembendlions@mail.com



PLEASE DO NOT DROP ITEMS AT THE DEN IF UNATTENDED!!

Tailem Bend Food and Wine Club Inc.

Submitted by Tina Squires.

The 24 guests braved the outside cold June evening to enter into the warm toasty room at the Riverside Hotel. The tables were adorned with black tablecloths and organic centre pieces setting the theme of the evening - silver, black and gold.

Canapes: Prawn skewers tossed in mint and yogurt. Camembert skewers lightly fried with cranberry sauce. Paired with Grant Burge Petite Bubbles.

Starter: Potato and leek soup adorned with a herb oil and served with a hearty garlic bread. Paired with a Shaw Josephine Pinot Gris.

Entrée: Lamb tenderloin served with tomato cucumber and naan bread. Paired with Kilarni Estate Pinot Noir.

Main: Pork Rib eye on sweet potato puree and chimichurri and apple and onion gravy. Paired with Bleasdale Mulberry Cabinet Sauvignon.

Dessert: Basque cheesecake with berry compote and chocolate flake. Paired with The Noble D'Arenburg.

After dinner drinks Pauletts Muscat and Baileys Irish cream. Congratulations to Coordinate JJ, wait staff Gabby and Mariella and Chef Tyson and Shevlin on facilitating a mouth-watering generous menu. It is always a pleasure to be able enjoy the capabilities of a different menu when asked by venues. **Well done Riverside Hotel.**



ABOVE: Jason Millard (JJ) and the Riverside Hotel staff.



ABOVE: Greg Gibson Di Millard and Victor Sonenko.

Tailem Bend Community Library School Holiday Times – July 2025

School Holidays will commence on Monday 7th July
School will resume on Monday 21st July



Holiday times will apply

Monday 8.30-12.30 1.30-4.30pm

Wednesday 8.30-12.30 1.30-4.30pm

Friday 8.30-12.30 1.30-4.30pm

*The Community Library is **CLOSED** on Tuesday & Thursdays during the School Holidays.*

July 2025



Sunday 4	Monday 7 th	Tuesday 8 th	Wednesday 9 th	Thursday 10 th	Friday 11 th	Saturday 12 th
Closed	OPEN	Closed	OPEN	Closed	OPEN	Closed
13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th
Closed	OPEN	Closed	OPEN	Closed	OPEN	Closed



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Coorong District Council

Submitted by Tailern Topics Editor.

On June 3rd, the spirit of community was alive and well at the Coorong Civic Centre as residents, volunteers, and local groups gathered for an open forum with the Coorong District Council. It was an opportunity not just to be heard, but to build bridges between local government and the people it serves.

Mayor Paul Simmons opened the event with a warm welcome, setting the tone for a productive evening. In attendance were elected members Brenton Qualmann, Lisa Rowntree, Sharon Bland, Jeff Arthur, and Ruth Maidment — a strong showing of civic leadership. Senior staff member Miles provided a detailed overview of current projects and planning processes, focusing on grant funding and the strategic allocation of resources.

Key priorities included upgrades to the Main Street and highway, with a commitment to transparency in how funds are directed. The future of Dickson Reserve and the old ferry landing — including engineering and costing considerations — will be a focus in the upcoming financial year. The environmental concerns, particularly around the destructive impact of the Corella bird population, sparking debate over conservation versus community impact.

Crucially, the event offered a platform for local volunteer groups to share their work and challenges. Police SA Blue Light highlighted the struggle to recruit volunteers due to bureaucratic red tape. The Tailern Bend Community Centre proudly reported progress in its driver-passenger network. With over 65 volunteer drivers helping residents get to medical appointments, the initiative is a shining example of grassroots support — though the Centre noted a shortage of available drivers in the Murray Bridge area.



ABOVE: Elected Member Jeff Arthur and Mayor Paul Simmons.

This forum was more than a meeting — it was a reaffirmation of local democracy. The Coorong District Council will—ingness to listen, learn, and engage with community voices should be commended. But listening is just the first step. Follow-through will be key to turning this dialogue into real, tangible outcomes.

As we move into a new financial year, the community will be watching the work ahead. It's clear that when councils and communities come together, progress isn't just possible; it's inevitable.



ABOVE: Elected Member Brenton Qualmann

Coorong District Council Declares Drought

Submitted by Tailern Topics Editor.

The Coorong District Council has formally declared drought conditions across its region following a motion passed at its Ordinary Council Meeting on 17 June 2025.

While recent rainfall has brought some relief to the district, Mayor Paul Simmons warns that many areas across the State remain severely affected, and the financial and emotional toll on farmers is far from over. *"To just continue to say it's dry is not quite accurate,"* says Mayor Simmons.

"In my view, there's been a reluctance to declare this a drought. Some people think it will affect farm confidence; some people think it will affect farmers' mental health. What I'm finding in my community is people are really quite aggrieved that this very dreary dry season, otherwise known as a drought, has not even been acknowledged." The Council's declaration comes after many months of deteriorating conditions, with severely limited crop and pasture growth, recent frosts, and widespread financial strain.

"Even with recent rain, many producers are facing serious cash flow issues that will linger well into the next season," says Mayor Simmons.

"Rainfall is welcome, but it doesn't immediately solve the deeper issues. We are not out of the woods yet."

In response, the Council passed additional motions aimed at supporting farmers and those connected to the agricultural industry. These include the development of a simplified rates hardship application process which will come into effect in 2025/26, designed to ease the administrative burden on those experiencing financial stress due to prolonged dry conditions.

"We know the impact of drought goes beyond the farm gate," Mayor Simmons said. *"It affects local businesses, families, and the broader community. That's why Council is committed to practical measures like rate relief and advocating for broader assistance."*

Mayor Simmons has also been actively involved in state-level drought discussions, representing local government in PIRSA's SA Drought Advisory Group and participating in roundtables with the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Coorong District Council will continue to work closely with local stakeholders, neighbouring councils, and government agencies to advocate for targeted drought relief and long-term recovery strategies.

School Holidays Activities Page!

DRAW IT!

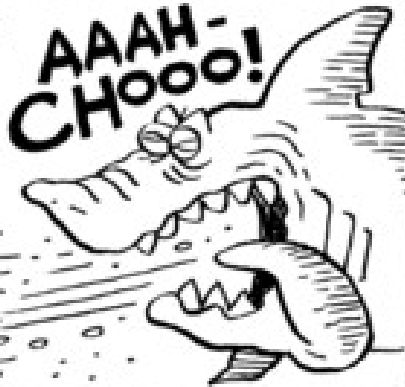
**DRAW
A FIN
ON THIS
SHARK...**

FINISH ME !



**WHY DO SHARKS SWIM IN
SALT WATER ?**

**BECAUSE
PEPPER
MAKES
THEM
SNEEZE !**



**MATCH THE SOUND WITH
ITS CORRECT ANIMAL...**

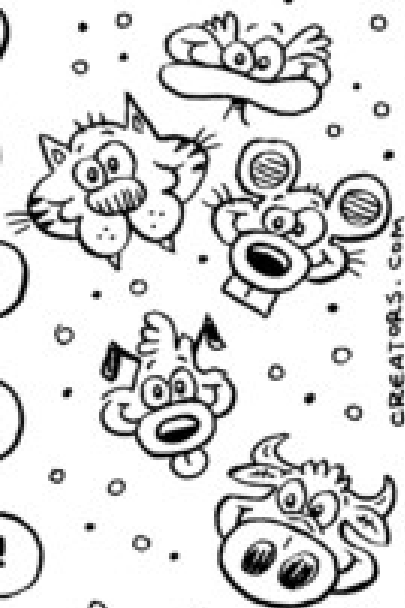
BARK !

MOO !

QUACK !

MEOW !

SQUEEK !



PUP THANKS THE ATKINS FAMILY, TUNKHANNOCK, PA

**ANIMALS OF EVERY SIZE-
FROM ELEPHANTS TO SMALL FLIES
CAN BE FOUND IN THE PUZZLE HERE-
FROM GREEN FROGS TO WHITETAIL DEER!**



E	A	D	E	E	R	P	F	L	Y
L	E	F	O	C	A	T	J	R	I
E	L	S	K	U	N	K	Q	U	T
P	N	G	M	N	H	B	W	A	I
H	K	S	O	M	C	D	T	C	G
A	X	I	V	Y	M	O	U	S	E
N	L	Z	T	U	R	K	E	Y	R
T	H	M	E	G	O	R	F	B	D

**HELP ME OUT OF
THIS SHARK !**





SNAPSHOT



Cr Lisa Rowntree, Coorong Area Councillor
● E: LRowntree@coorong.sa.gov.au ● P: 0407 736 070

■ June 2025 (Edition 70)

It's been a difficult time for our community with the recent loss of several valued members. We acknowledged the passing of Peter Connolly, a cherished member of the Taillem Bend community; Jacki Cunningham, a much-loved and energetic contributor to many Tintinara committees; Ian Dunbar, a quiet achiever with a strong community spirit; and Mike Lewis, one of the first dairy farmers in Tintinara and a devoted supporter of the Variety Bash for 25 years. Pastor Harry Kromwyk, a dedicated volunteer at the Taillem Information Station and Railway Museum, and young Tyson Freund of Coonalpyn, remembered for his humour, determination, and kind heart, also leave lasting legacies in their communities.

On a positive note, we are hearing that all parts of our district received some of that wonderful rain recently. Fingers crossed for a lot more.

In May, Council held two public meetings to discuss the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget. Topics included financial sustainability, growth planning, asset depreciation, and the balance between service levels and rate increases. Six written submissions were received, and eight residents attended meetings in Coonalpyn and Taillem Bend. The importance of planning for future residential development, from Wellington East, along the river corridor, through to the northern boundary of the district was also discussed. A Special General Meeting will be held on 8 July to finalise the Budget.

Following a motion by Cr Pietzsch, Council formally declared a drought in the Coorong District. While not a state-level declaration, it sets a valuable precedent and activates changes to Council's Financial Hardship Policy. Those affected, including businesses supporting primary production, can apply to defer rates for up to one year, interest and penalty free. Council also resolved to allow free access to SA Water-connected standpipes until 30 September 2025. People wanting to access this option will still need to contact the Council and obtain the key.

Another motion supported by Council, allows people to graze livestock on Council roads until 30 September 2025. Property owners may graze stock in front of their own properties, or in other areas along the roadside

with the adjacent landowner's permission. Participants must comply with the Department for Infrastructure & Transport's *Stock on Roads – Operational Instruction 2.7* and hold \$20 million public liability.

Telstra has identified and is addressing the issue affecting the new towers at Colebatch, which impacted service on the eastern side, and has ordered the necessary parts to restore full service.

An algal bloom has been detected in the Coorong North Lagoon between Seven Mile Basin and Long Point. It likely entered via the Murray Mouth during recent high tides. While DEW and SA Water are managing the barrages to limit seawater inflow, current freshwater availability limits further action.

Several 2024/25 capital works projects are continuing into 2025/26, including Carcuma Road works (scheduled for spring), the Railway Terrace Carpark in Taillem Bend (construction set for August/September), and the "Changing Places" accessible toilet in Coonalpyn (to be completed by December).

Minor updates were made to the Street Traders and Mobile Food Vans Policy and the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice Policy.

The Coonalpyn Soldiers Memorial Caravan Park listing on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse has been updated with new photos and reviewed content. Bookings have continued to grow, with 381 transactions processed in April 2025 (compared to 246 in April 2024) and 300 in May 2025 (up from 220 the previous year). This equates to an estimated average of 12.7 powered sites occupied each night in April (an 80% occupancy rate), and 9.6 powered sites in May (79% occupancy).

In May, the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan (LAP) hosted a Regional Drought Resilience Mapping Workshop to explore local drought conditions, review the outcomes of the Murraylands Drought Survey, and identify funding opportunities. As a result, several project proposals were submitted to various funding bodies. These include securing firefighting water for bushfire resilience in the Coorong Tatiara region, capping leaking confined aquifer wells across Roby, Peake, Sherlock, Tintinara and Coonalpyn, and work relating to the Tatiara Water Allocation Plans.

Cheers Lisa

Help for Farmers in Financial Hardship

Submitted by Emma, Media Team Services Australia.

While torrential rain and flash flooding wreak havoc in some states, other parts of the country are drier than ever. From arid brown paddocks to struggling with stock, drought conditions are hitting farmers hard.

You don't need to be a mathematician to work out that no rain, plus no feed, equals no money. It's not just the recent weather events, there can be lots of reasons why farmers may experience financial pressures. The good news is, there is support available, and I want to help you work out where to begin. **What is Farm Household Allowance and how much can I get?**

Services Australia has a payment called Farm Household Allowance (FHA) for farming families who are doing it tough. Whether it's due to challenging seasons, market pressures, illness, or other difficulties, FHA is designed to help farmers get back on track. If you're eligible you may receive:

- A payment between \$715 and \$1,011 per fortnight, for up to 4 years in a 10-year period (amount will depend on circumstances)
- A professional financial assessment of recent performance from a person you choose
- An activity supplement of up to \$10,000 to pay for professional advice, training, study, or mental health support to help improve your financial position
- A Farm Household Case Officer to work with you to help you improve your financial circumstances.

Farm Household Case Officers + \$10,000 supplement explainer. When you start getting FHA, a dedicated Farm Household Case Officer (FHCO) will get in touch with you. They'll guide and support you from the very beginning and will check in with you regularly while you continue to be on payment.

Your FHCO will help you set up a Financial Improvement Agreement (FIA). The FIA is exactly what it sounds like – a

plan to help you improve your financial position. It sets out the activities you must do while you get the allowance.

One of the key supports available is the \$10,000 activity supplement. This funding can be put towards a diverse range of activities such as business courses, regenerative agriculture training, drone and pilot's licenses, teaching credentials, diversifying, and establishing a farm stay business. The supplement allows you to think laterally about ways to improve your financial position in the short, medium, and long-term.

You'll also need to give us an update on your farm's financial position each year you are getting payment. This information helps your case officer understand any changes to the business and tailor ongoing guidance and support.

Eligibility and how to apply

We often hear farmers say, 'Someone else needs it more than me.' But if you're eligible, you can and should apply – support is there for a reason. There's no shame in seeking support when times are tough. It's a sign of strength. When farmers tighten their belts, the ripple effects are felt across local businesses too. One phone call could help you understand your options.

You can call our free farmer assistance hotline on 132 316, to chat with one of our specialists about your individual circumstances. They'll explain everything you need to know about FHA, from eligibility through to how to make a claim.

The government also offers free and independent financial counselling for farmers and small related businesses through the Rural Financial Counselling Service. I would chat to these people first, as they can help you apply for other government support, in addition to FHA. Call their national hotline on 1300 771 741, and you'll be connected with your nearest counsellor.

For more information on the FHA and eligibility, head to the Services Australia website.

Funding to Support the Region's Land Managers

Submitted by Bec Stevens.

Primary producers, landholders and agricultural groups are being encouraged to apply for funding through a new Murraylands and Riverland Climate Smart Agriculture Grants program.

The program supports the agricultural community in the Murraylands and Riverland region to build knowledge and skills that lead to more sustainable farming practices and improved natural resources management outcomes. Eligible groups can apply for funding to run training, deliver skills and knowledge building activities, host community events, and trial or demonstrate new approaches to climate-smart agriculture. Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board's Sustainable Agriculture Officer, Denham Ewens says the grants are a valuable opportunity to support local producers facing an increasingly challenging climate.

"These grants are a great opportunity for primary producers and agricultural groups to access support that helps them adapt, innovate and share knowledge within their communities," Denham said. "We know our climate presents ongoing challenges for the agricultural community" he said. "This program is about helping them build adaptability by supporting practical, on ground activities that strengthen both productivity and sustainability" he added. "More than \$270,000 is available, so we encourage all eligible applicants to consider how the funding could support their ideas," he added. Applications are open until 11 July 2025. More information on is available at flow.landscape.sa.gov.au/ag-grants

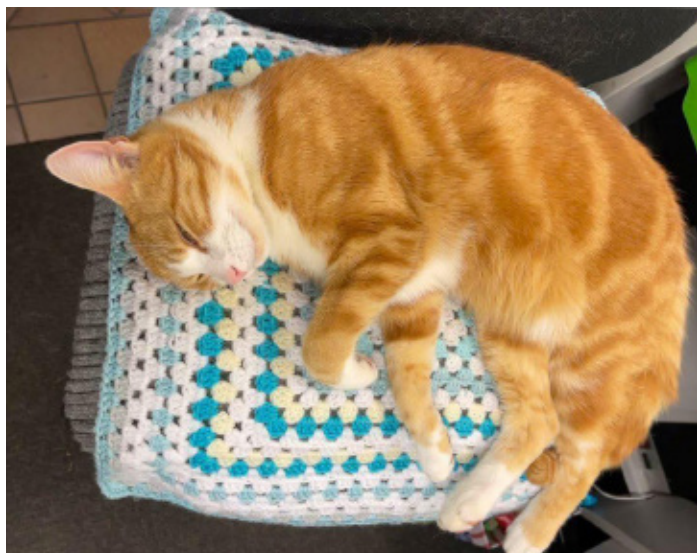
The Murraylands and Riverland Climate Smart Grants program is supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program.

George, the Stourbridge Station Cat

Facebook update. - www.facebook.com/GeorgeTheStourbridgeStationCat/

It's with a very heavy heart that we have to inform you that Ian, has sadly passed away after a short battle with cancer. Thank you for all of the smiles Ian. Love from all of your friends and colleagues at Stourbridge.

Ian was the guardian of Facebook sensation George the Cat. We are so sorry for their loss and hope that George the Station Cat will soon adjust to life with out his dear friend.



ABOVE: Treat yourself with the same dignity, love, and respect as you treat the people you love. After all, you are one of them



ABOVE: Ian with George the Cat.



ABOVE: Early car park duties now complete. Caution: The car roof will be hotter than the FC in their 3 piece swimming attire by noon.



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“WHEN SERVICE MATTERS, THINK RIVERCITY MECHANICAL”



Auto Club 1st of June Cruise

Submitted by Michael Holliday, club Communications Officer.

On Sunday, 1st June 2025, 95 people, consisting of Tailm Bend Auto Club members, family & friends, set off from the Murray Bridge Railway Station car park on a beautiful sunny morning for a cruise in 60 Historic and modern vehicles.

Our first destination was Mount Pleasant bakery for a 30-minute refreshment stop and catchup. On the way we travelled through the beautiful countryside via Mannum Road, through Palmer to Mount Pleasant. After this short break we continued our cruise for our final destination for lunch at the Tailm Bend Bowling Club. We travelled via Tungkillo, Palmer and Murray Bridge to Tailm Bend. 12 lucky members won \$50 each in the days raffle drawers.

A big thankyou to the Tailm Bend Bowling Club for providing and serving lunch and for our events coordinator, Darren Gurney and President Mike Bristow, for their planning & organization of such a great event enjoyed by all in attendance.



ABOVE: The old bridge at Murray Bridge on their way to Tailm Bend for lunch.



ABOVE: At the Tailm Bend Bowling Clubrooms, the TBAC did the raffle draw and had lunch.



ABOVE: Photo taken on Angas Valley Road at Cookes Hill on the TBAC's way to Mount Pleasant for bakery/coffee break and catch up.

Pangarinda Botanic Garden

Submitted by Kaye Bartlett. Photo Paul Bartlett.

Finally, Pangarinda Botanic Gardens has received 30ml of rain, more than has been measured for the total year. This has given our volunteers a day off watering, and will instead spend time removing and burning dead shrubs scattered throughout the garden.

Hakea scoparia is one of the seven members of the Sulcate group of Hakeas. They have terete leaves ending in sharp points and Semi-globular flowers. The creamy white flowers of Hakea scoparia are beginning to appear on the bushes at Pangarinda Botanic Garden, turning pink to red with age. Has a strong unpleasant scent. Of the seven sulcate hakeas only one isn't growing at Pangarinda.

Working at Pangarinda this month it was a delight to have a group of kindy Children from Murray Bridge visiting. They had excited voices as they walked with adults answering different questions. Coming prepared for the lack of seating for large numbers; mats were spread for children to sit for lunch. No phones to play on.



ABOVE: Hakea invaginata, another of the sulcata group.

**MURRAY
BRIDGE
NEWS**

Ag Teacher Retires After Nearly 40 Years at one Murraylands School

Story by Liana Webster, Murray Bridge News. www.murraybridge.news.

Help Murray Bridge News tell more stories like this one by subscribing today!

Phillip Roberts is retiring after nearly 40 years of teaching agriculture students. After nearly 40 years, an era has come to an end for Coomandook Area School's agricultural teacher. After this week, when assessments are marked, Phillip Roberts will officially be a free man as he takes long service leave before retiring next January.

Even on one of his days off last week, Mr Roberts was setting up a pedal prix bike for an upcoming race day. Mr Roberts was first introduced to Coomandook Area School in 1984, when he completed his first teaching placement there. Before he officially started his role at the school in 1987, he taught at Cleve Area School before deciding to head back to what he loved. When he first started at the R-12 school there were around 350 students; now the school has just 150.

"Every year level had a class ... now all the classes are combined," he said. "It's just a reflection of bigger farms, less people and lack of utilities." Mr Roberts now teaches most of his past students' children: "I have a really good rapport with their parents." The key was offering great relationships with the community, so kids could develop their own curriculum with the tools around them, he said.

"Being in charge of a single subject at a school means you can become an island, and the challenges of managing and teaching can be quite daunting ... so you really need to build up your relationships," he said.



ABOVE: Phillip Roberts tends to three of the 12 horses at his Murray Bridge home. Photo: Liana Webster.

Mr Roberts was thankful to be part of the local ag bureau, ag teachers' association and national ag education committee. "You've got to be willing to take on the challenges, and work through them," he said. He picked up a number of other subjects over his teaching career, including maths, science, PE, dance, music and tech studies.

For his last year of teaching he's been focused on all agriculture, coming into the school three times a week. "I've spoken to kids and they've said one of the only reasons they come to school is for the double ag lesson," he said.

A lot of past students are now the ones supporting Mr Roberts, donating stock and feed for the school's current ag cohort. "It's been a really good journey ... it's a good place to be and a supportive community," he said. "You can't do it on your lone ranger." Now he'll be focusing on his family, his three granddaughters and his horses, on his retirement property in Murray Bridge.

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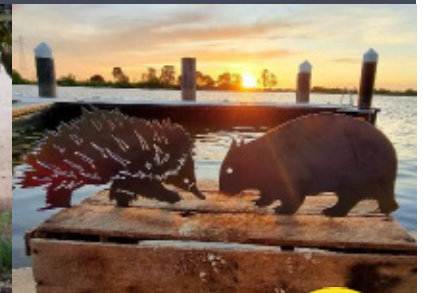
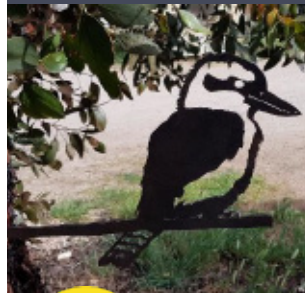
chronic pain chronic depression chronic smoking weight problems
stress, anxiety and phobias alcohol and substance abuse
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iREACH Rural Health

Submitted by Lisa Courtney.

A bespoke opening of The Hall, at Wellington East was the setting for gardeners to come together and hear from Sophie Thomson.

The workshop, part of an ongoing series to promote community resilience as part of flood recovery have been run since the 2022 high river event. Organised by iREACH Rural Health, formerly the Murray Mallee General Practice Network, are delivered using mental health flood recovery funding from State and Federal government and aim to increase connection, champion the positive effects on wellbeing that comes from gardening and encourage people to get their hands back in the soil.

Sophie Thomson, passionate gardener, radio and TV presenter shared her knowledge and wisdom with the group, focussing on Drought Proofing your Garden. Sophie covered a wide range of topics and provided lots of tips, tricks and advice on getting through the dry period in the garden whilst also providing her delicious cakes for morning tea.



ABOVE: Sophie Thomson.

There was also plenty of time for questions from the group who were treated to gardening prizes for their questions! Patti and Adz, owners of The Hall were fantastic hosts, with a wonderful venue and purveyors of delicious pumpkin soup on a cold winter's morning.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to spend time at The Hall later in 2025. Whilst many are still recovering and working through returning to homes affected by the high river event, these same communities, and those that support them, are also experiencing drought, having a negative effect on wellbeing. The workshops offer the opportunity for people to come together, share experiences and support each other as well as connect

with iREACH who provide mental health, drug and alcohol and physical health services for people in the Murray Mallee region.

The next workshop is in Mannum on July 4th at the Mannum Golf Club. Bookings can be made through iREACH Rural Health on 85 311 303.



Peace

Submitted on behalf of the Mallee Lutheran Parish.

We are aware of the wars which being fought across the world, and of the people who are affected by them.

The First World war was thought to be 'the war to end all wars', and we have seen vision of the celebrations of 'peace' at the end of the Second World War. We know that peace has not lasted for long. Christ said, *"When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be afraid"*. (Mark 13 verse 7). However, we are human, and we will naturally be alarmed and afraid.

There are other things which cause us to be afraid; health problems, financial problems, family problems and fear for our personal safety, to name but a few. Some of us worry about problems with which others can easily deal. We can fear the consequences of our actions, such as being late for work. Fear is normal and when fearful or worried we are not at peace. We can even be sick with worry.

We can fear things which turn out to be not as awful as we thought. When this happens, we can relax and 'breathe a sigh of relief' and feel some peace. People look for this feeling of relaxation and peace by doing various things such as hobbies and exercise, going on holiday or 'moving to the country'. However, that feeling of peace and calm does not last long as it is dispersed by the commitments of our everyday lives. Christ says to us, *"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life"*, (Matthew 6 v 25).

When we are lost, we ask for directions and find our way. If we wish to find our way to 'peace' in our lives, we need to look in the Bible and follow Christ. He told us, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me."* (John 14 v 6).

That way leads us to eternal life and peace with God in heaven where there will be, 'no more death or mourning or crying or pain.' (Revelations 2 v 4). If we look to God, He can give us His peace, and we can place our worries (burdens) on Him. (Psalm 55). John chapter 14 verse 27 tells us, *"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid"*.

Christ's peace means salvation, forgiveness and reconciliation with God. We can be at peace knowing our sins, which separated us from God, have been washed away by the blood of Christ. We cannot fully understand God's peace as it is unlike any peace we seek on this earth. We can know that God's peace means we need have no fear of any consequences of world events because whatever happens, God will receive us into eternal life with Him. We can have some peace of mind by knowing that Jesus is always with us. *"and surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"*. (Matthew 28 v 20).

"May the peace of God which passes all understanding guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".
(Philippians 4 v 7).

Tailem Bend Community Library

New Books July 2025

ADULT FICTION

ALLEGRI Adriana: The Sunflower House – Historical fiction
BENNETT Michael: Carved in Blood – Detective, Mystery
BENNETT Michael: Return to Blood – Detective, Mystery
BENNETT Sarah: Just the Beginning – English Romance
BINGE Nicholas: Dissolution – Science fiction, Thriller
DEAN Will: Ice Town – Detective, Mystery
DEAVER Jeffery: South of Nowhere – Detective, Mystery
DOUGLAS Michelle – Behind the Scenes - Romance
FLYNN Katie: Forgotten Child – Historical English Fiction
JEFFERIES Dinah: The Greek House – Family Secrets
KING Stephen: Cell – Murder, Horror
LANE Karly: Needle in a Haystack – Australian Romance
LENNOX Marion: Return to Banksia Bay – Australian Romance
LOGAN T.M.: The Daughter – Psychological Thriller
MAGRO Mandy: Weathering the Storm – Australian Romance
PATTERSON James & HAMDY Adam: Private Dublin – Private Investigators
SAUERS Joan: Echo Lake – Australian Murder Mystery
SCOULLAR Jennifer: Wild Horses – Australian Romance
SMITH Wilber: Crossfire – Undercover Operations

NON FICTION

CATE Chris: The Big Book of Silly Dad Jokes

LARGE PRINT

ALLAN Claire: The Perfect Mother – Detective, Mystery
FELTON Jennie: The Smuggler's Girl – Family Secrets
FORREST Rhonda: Emerald Secrets – Australian Romance

BOOK REVIEW

The Daughter
by T.M. Logan

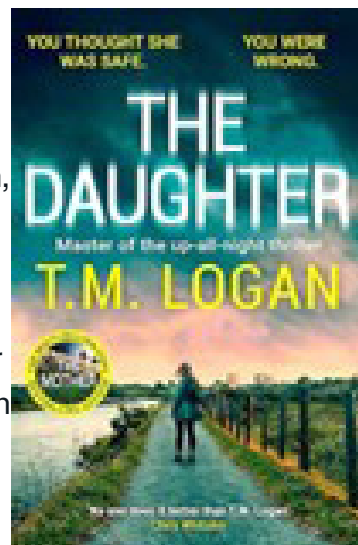
You thought she was safe. You were wrong ...

Lauren can't wait to see her daughter again, to pick her up from university at the end of her first term. But when she arrives at her hall and knocks at room 309, a stranger opens the door.

For a few minutes, Lauren assumes she must have the wrong room, or the wrong floor. Maybe even the wrong building.

But she soon discovers that Evie's not there. She hasn't been there for weeks. So where is she?

Following one family's desperate race against time as one terrifying moment unravels into a living nightmare, The Daughter is the unmissable new heart-in-mouth thriller from T.M. Logan.



Submitted by Angie Tomkinson.

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Tailem Bend Blue Light Calendar for 2025

TERM 2

2ND JULY

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

TERM 3

11TH - 12TH AUGUST

Monarto Zoo /NIGHT
camp

24TH SEPTEMBER

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

TERM 4

3RD DECEMBER

Christmas Disco,
5pm – 7 pm
Town Hall



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**Government
of South Australia**

Reported dates: 20/04/2025 – 20/06/2025

Incident Date	Incident Type	Location	Details
22/04/2025	Property damage/ Theft	TAILEM BEND	Theft of gas gun/ gas bottles and damage to fence – investigation continuing.
02/05/2025	Illegal interference with Motor vehicle/ Theft	TAILEM BEND	Items stolen from vehicle – suspect arrested.
03/05/2025	Hinder Police	TAILEM BEND	2x intoxicated males hindering police – arrested
16/05/2025	Drink Driving	TAILEM BEND	Driver reported and issued a 6-month instant loss of licence.
04/06/2025	Theft	COOKE PLAINS	Number plates stolen from vehicle – Investigation continuing.
14/06/2025	Property Damage	TAILEM BEND	Male deliberately smashed window at the BIG4 Caravan Park – suspect arrested
17/06/2025	Drive Disqualified	TAILEM BEND	Driver reported – Vehicle impounded for 28 days.
18/06/2025	Large backyard Fire without Permit	TAILEM BEND	Fine issued

SAPOL DISCLAIMER

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Strategic Land Acquisition to Support Tailem Bend's Future Growth

MEDIA RELEASE

The Coorong District Council has successfully acquired a strategically significant parcel of land on the outskirts of Tailem Bend, paving the way for future residential development and urban expansion.

In September 2024, Council received an offer from Airservices Australia as part of their standard land disposal process to purchase a 2.4-hectare property at Lot 104 Kulde Road, Tailem Bend. The site, formerly used for radio communications in air traffic control, was deemed surplus to government requirements due to advancements in satellite technology. Coorong District Council's Mayor Paul Simmons has emphasised the strategic importance of Council owning the land, which can now be rezoned in such a way that will support the growth of the town and provides the potential for up to 20 residential blocks.

“Had Council not acted, the site could have been developed as a single Rural Living block or split into just a few lots, limiting its potential. This acquisition ensures orderly and economically efficient growth,

allowing Council to guide planning outcomes and infrastructure investment,” says Mayor Paul Simmons. Following confidential negotiations and an independent valuation, Coorong District Council secured the property for \$200,000, with settlement finalised on 11 June 2025.

The Council plans to initiate rezoning of the site and surrounding Council-owned land later this year. *“The site is set for rezoning from Rural Living to Neighbourhood (Residential) in 2026. It features prominently in Coorong District Council's Growth Strategy as a key block for town expansion and the provision of housing and infrastructure,”* says Mayor Paul Simmons.

Mayor Simmons added, *“This was an exceptional opportunity and a shrewd investment that will benefit the community for decades to come and allow Council the flexibility to develop land based on community needs into the future.”*

Following the completion of the Tailem Bend Structure Plan in 2026, the rezoned land may be released to the market, generating funds for vital community projects.

COORONG Council News

Jun - Jul 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 been busy removing fallen trees and debris following storms, removing graffiti at the Coonalpyn public toilets, installing new irrigation at the Tintinara Apex Park, tidying up debris at the Taillem Bend Waste Transfer Station and leaf litter along Becker Tce in Tintinara.

Rural road users are continuing to be supported through the **patrol grading program**, with 361.1kms of unsealed roads graded during May 2025.



Above: Irrigation system being tested and adjusted after new turf installation at Tintinara Apex Park.

Re-sheeting works are underway on Settlers Road at Field and Taunta Hut Road at Deepwater with works expected to be completed by the end of June, rounding out the **2024/25 Unsealed Roads Program**.

Works on the final section of the **Carcuma Road upgrade** (stage 2B) at Tintinara are underway. Road users will see activities underway to shape and prepare the road foundations for further work.



Above: Subbase layer construction underway at Carcuma Road, Tintinara.

Tintinara Apex Park Upgrade

Works are nearing completion at the Tintinara Apex Park with the removal of the internal U-shaped car parking area which has been replaced by new turf. The old picnic settings have had new concrete pads and new picnic furniture installed. A new basket swing has been installed, adding to the play equipment in the park.

A new hotmix footpath will be installed in late June connecting to the recently constructed path along the railway corridor. The final stage, perimeter fencing is scheduled to be installed in mid June.



Above: New basket swing installed at the Tintinara Apex Park.

Car Park Upgrades

The upgrade of the **Coonalpyn Swimming Pool car park** is underway and works have also commenced on the upgrade of the **Meningie Information Hub car park**.

Once completed, the newly sealed car park at Meningie will provide approximately 20 parking spaces, including two accessible (disabled) parking bays and a footpath providing direct access to the Meningie Lions Jubilee Park.



Above: Construction of Meningie office car park

W: www.coorong.sa.gov.au

E: council@coorong.sa.gov.au

P: 1300 785 277

A: PO Box 399,
Taillem Bend SA 5260





Key Decisions

At the June Council meeting Elected Members reviewed feedback received on the Draft 2025/26 Annual Business Plan & Budget. The final Annual Business Plan will be tabled at a Special Council meeting on 8 July 2025 for consideration.

Council resolved to seek feedback on its intention to renew the Meningie Bowling Club's lease (for ten years, plus a further 10 years right of renewal); consultation will take place in July.

Coorong District Council formally declared drought conditions on 17 June 2025. While recent rainfall has brought some relief to the district, there are many areas across the district and State that remain severely affected.

The declaration comes after months of deteriorating conditions, resulting in a record rainfall deficit for the past two years. Many producers will face serious cash flow issues while navigating forthcoming seasonal challenges.

Council has passed motions aimed at supporting farmers and those connected to the agricultural industry, including development of a simplified rates hardship application process, designed to ease the administrative burden on those experiencing financial stress due to prolonged dry conditions.

NAIDOC Week Events

Celebrations of First Nations history, heritage and culture will take place across the Coorong between 30 June and 4 July 2025 as part of this year's NAIDOC Week festivities. Please call 1300 785 277 to RSVP (for catering purposes).

- Monday, 30 June, Meningie Bowling Club, 1:30pm.
- Tuesday, 1 July 2025, Tailm Bend Town Hall, 10:30am.
- Wednesday, 2 July, Raukkan Aboriginal School, 10:30am.
- Thursday, 3 July 2025, Coomandook Area School, 10:30am
- Friday, 4 July 2025, Tintinara Area School, 10:30am

My Local Services App - download today

Did you know that you can receive updates and information within your own council area on your phone with the My Local Services app? It's a free service that helps you:

- Check which waste bin is due each week
- Receive weekly waste collection reminders
- Report issues like broken bins or damaged infrastructure to Council

Installing the My Local Services app is easy - go to the Apple App Store or Google Play on your device, search '**My Local Services**' and hit download!

Want to read more?

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



ALEXANDRINA CAMPBELL EXHIBITION

Exhibition Dates:
10 June - 1 August 2025



Coorong**gallery**
95 -101 Railway Terrace,
Tailm Bend

Opening hours:
Mon – Fri:
9am – 4:30pm

Coorong
gallery



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 - 12pm. **Come and join us.**
- **RIVERBEND LADIES INDOOR BOWLS;** Thursdays until the end of October. Fun games 10.30am. Team games 2pm. **Contact Raelene Ellis: 0412 259 233 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 12.30pm for lunch followed by our meeting at 1.30pm 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;** Join 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 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.
- **MURRAYLANDS BALLROOM DANCE GROUP;** The Murraylands Dance will be held in the Tailem Bend town hall every third Saturday from 7.30pm to 11pm. 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 : The Heart of Pray, Faith

Submitted by Ps. Gary Paynter. Rehoboth Outreach. *In memory of Peter Connolly & Ps. Harry Cromwyk. RIP. Safe in the arms of Jesus.*

Genesis 9:6. Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.

Our personality in the least suggests we can relate, think, feel, and choose! This is what constitutes the image of God in humankind. Nowhere did this image shine more compellingly in human form, than in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. It is in Jesus that the person of God comes nearest to our understanding.

The "image of God" doesn't occur in the Old Testament after the account of creation. Yet, In the New Testament, it appears over and over again.

2 Corinthians 6:16 and what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the Living God; as God has said; *"I will dwell in them I will be their God. And they will be my people. Therefore come out from among them and be separate,"* says the Lord, *"Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons & my daughters"* Says the Lord Almighty.

If we truly desire evil to be gone from us, we need to have relationship with God in and through Christ Jesus. He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. We are in Him because He is in us. Jesus has shown us the way through relationship with the Father. Everything Jesus did on earth was to the glory of the Father. Jesus never claimed anything for himself. He loved the Father & He loved mankind and He had the heart of His Father. He manifested the love and grace of God in everything He said & did as our example for us to live in accord with Him.

if we are to take on the character of love, grace, peace and joy, compassion, forgiveness, forbearance and all attributes of Christ who is in us, we need to look upward. We will be known for our love when we have the thoughts and attitudes of the heart in covenant with God and displayed through our intents and actions, in turn reflecting the character and personality of Lord God. We are created in His image, and brought back in to that perfect relationship. No longer hiding in shame, but able to say with confidence when;

**The Lord God calls;
"where are you? To reply "I'm right here my Lord".**

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
2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday (LWHC) 10am
13 Station Drive Taillem Bend
Priest Administrator: Fr. George Oluoch 0472 623 421
PPC Chairperson: Peter Nearmy 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

WE'RE SEEKING LOCAL WALKER FOR TAILEM TOPICS DELIVERIES!

Do you enjoy going for walks and helping your community? Tailem Topics is looking for a reliable walker to deliver on First and Second Avenue.

- *A great way to stay active and support your local community!*
- *Local delivery - no transport required*
- *Flexible hours*

If you're interest or want to know more please contact Brenton Qualmann on 0407 978 557

STATEMENT FROM RIVERLAND MALLEE COORONG LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK (RMCLHN) AND THE MUR- RAYLANDS MEDICAL CENTRE (MMC)

The RMCLHN and the Murraylands Medical Centre (MMC) met this morning and are happy to confirm that a settlement has now been reached. We will work to draw up a contract that will ensure the future of the service.

We are very happy that it will remain open and able to continue caring for the Tailem Bend community. MMC will reopen tomorrow, Wednesday, 11th June, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The clinic will be open every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 AM to 5 PM. MMC is currently in the process of employing more doctors so that operating days can be extended to five days a week in the near future.

Statement from CHRIS PICTON, MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

As soon as I became aware of this issue, I asked the Local Health Network to work with the GP practice to resolve the issue and I'm pleased this has now occurred. I thank both parties for working constructively together.

I hope that this relieves the concerns of the Tailem Bend community that they will continue to receive these important health services in their local community.

APOLOGY TO GLENN POWER

In the June edition of the Tailem Topics, the name of contributor Glenn Power was incorrectly stated in the articles "Reawakening the East Side" and "Murray Bridge Runner Takes on 55-Hour Marathon for Domestic Violence Survivor."

We apologise to Glenn Power for this error and any confusion it may have caused. We value his contributions and regret the oversight. Submitted by Tailem Topics Editor.

WARM FOOD AND FRIENDLY FACES AT TAILEM BEND PRIMARY'S MONTHLY FOOD VAN

Despite the chill in the air, the Tailem Bend Primary School's monthly food van was buzzing with activity on Friday evening, June 6. Set up in the school gym car park from 5pm, the popular event drew locals keen to grab a hot meal and support the school community. The menu had something for everyone: steak sandwiches, butter chicken with rice, pumpkin soup, hot chips with gravy, and freshly cooked cinnamon donuts—an undeniable crowd favourite. Thirsty visitors could also pick up a cold can or a bottle of water to go with their meal.



Whether ordering from their cars or lining up at the van, customers were greeted with warm smiles and even warmer food. The volunteers kindly offered to deliver meals straight to cars for those wanting to stay cozy. The food van operates on the first Friday of every month, making it a regular and much-loved fixture on the Tailem Bend community calendar. The next one on Friday 4th July from 5pm, again at the Tailem Bend Primary School gym car park.

To keep updated about next dates, follow the school's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/tailembendps

Submitted by Amanda Bakker - Happy, hungry supporter.



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Community Notice Board

Jokes of the Month

Sad news - the inventor of auto-correct collapsed in the street yesterday evening. He was taken by ambience to the nearest horse piddle.

Whenever I see chocolate, I hear two voices in my head. One of them says: **Eat the chocolate & the other one says you heard her eat the chocolate.**



Do you know muffins spelled backwards is what you do when you take them out of the oven.

Just got my electric bill today. I think they charged me for the sunlight, moon light, street light, the light of the holy spirit, and the light at the end of the tunnel!!!

Quotes of the Month

"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." – **Albert Einstein**

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." – **Thomas Alva Edison**

"Your attitude, not your aptitude, will determine your altitude." – **Zig Ziglar**

"Never let the odds keep you from doing what you know in your heart you were meant to do." – **H. Jackson Brown**

"Winners must have two things – definite goals and a burning desire to achieve them." – **Brad Burden**

TAILEM TOPICS SUBMISSION INFORMATION : 2025

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

Email: **tailemtopics@gmail.com** or drop a copy into the RED BOX at the Post Office.

When emailing tailemtopics@gmail.com, please submit the final advertising artwork in PDF or high resolution JPEG.

PLEASE: Include your images separate to your word documents.

ALL submissions **MUST** be accompanied with a name and phone number. *Failure to do so will result in no publication.*

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

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Do you live outside of the distribution area of Tailem Topics? If so, you can have a copy posted to you, monthly. An annual subscription fee of \$35, will include all 11 issues and cover the cost of postage and handling. OR a digital copy can be sent to your email, just contact the Editor at tailemtopics@gmail.com.

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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

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Tailem Bend Bakery	8572 3603 / 8572 3604
Foodland Supermarket	8572 3866
Shell Coles Express Tailem Bend	8286 2308
Elders Real Estate	8572 8000
Coorong Realty	8572 4555
Tailem Bend Automotive	8572 4044
Rivercity Mechanical	8120 1899
Smedley Tyre Service	8572 4037
Riverbend Motel	8572 3633
Riverside Hotel	8572 3655
Tailem Bend Hotel : Liquor Legends	8572 3515
Subway	8572 3884
Old Tailem Town Pioneer Village	0419 359 532
Tailem Bend Hardware	8572 3284
Tailem Bend Newsagency	8572 3523
OTR Murrayview	8200 5764
OTR Motorsport Park	8200 5847
SA Motorcycles	8572 3672
Railway Café	0448 274 317
Jam Motorsport Shop	0414 281 846
Krispy Kreme	8200 5764
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To be included above please send your business name and number to Tailemtopics@gmail.com

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Email: council@coorong.sa.gov.au

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109 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend,
Phone: 8572 3420
Agents for Commonwealth Bank,
Central Credit Union and One Spot Bill Pay.
Mail closes at 5:00pm, Monday : Friday.

COMMUNITY LIBRARY : (ON PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS)

1 Murray Street, Tailem Bend, Phone: 8572 3275
Monday : Friday 8.30am to : 4.30pm (Closed from 1pm : 1.30pm)

TAILEM BEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

141 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend, or
PO Box 203, Tailem Bend, SA, 5260, Phone/Fax: 8572 3513

MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY PASSENGER NETWORK

141 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend
PO Box 203, Tailem Bend SA 5260
Phone: 8572 3513

TAILEM BEND KINDERGARTEN

49 Trevena Road, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 3348

TAILEM INFO STATION

Railway Station, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 4277 | Mon – Fri, 10am – 3pm

TAILEM BEND DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Princes Highway, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 5800
Fax: 8572 5801

MEDICAL CENTRE & IMMUNISATIONS

70 Princes Highway, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 5897 or A/H: 8572 5800

TAILEM BEND RSL SUB:BRANCH

57 Trevena Rd, Tailem Bend (corner of Seymour St & Trevena Rd)
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Secretary: 0419 856 744 tailembend@rslsa.org.au

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TAILEM BEND PRIMARY SCHOOL

1 Murray Street, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 3266 | Fax: 8572 3026
Email: DL.0424.info@schools.sa.edu.au

TAILEM BEND PHARMACY

75 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 3435
9am : 5pm weekdays | 9am : 12pm Saturday

LIFELINE TAILEM BEND OP SHOP

20 Princes Highway, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 4942
Open: Mon to Friday 10.00am to 4pm
Proceeds aid LIFELINE Crisis Support Line 13 11 14



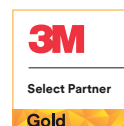
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(Located in Natural Step N Stones)

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Tailem Bend Historians

Our Historians Association are very grateful to the Coorong District Council for making available the Function Room at the rear of the Tailem Bend Town Hall for our use.

We are looking forward to utilising this space for the preservation and display of local history. In the future we are hoping to open this facility within limited times for public access. We shall keep you informed.

Please save the date of our:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 8th of AUGUST 2025 at 10.30 am in the
Function Room. Morning tea provided.

*Further information about the Historians Association -
Contact Secretary: E. Nicholls 0438 389 307.*



Stories create community.

That's why we're supporting Tailem Topics by sharing our stories.

It's why we employ Glenn Power as our Tailem Bend correspondent, to write about local events and take photos of local faces.

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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