

# Tailem



# Topics

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# Autumn Awakening at Pangarinda Garden



Submitted by Kaye Bartlett and Paul Bartlett.

Just days after a much-needed light autumn rain, a quiet transformation began at Pangarinda Botanic Garden. From what had appeared to be bare, dry earth, the first shoots of *Calostemma purpureum* emerged, bringing a welcome splash of colour to the landscape.

Closely related to the lily family, these striking plants display rich wine-red blooms, sometimes softening into shades of pink. Their sudden appearance after rain is a reminder of the resilience and beauty of Australia's native flora. *Calostemma purpureum* is not only found locally but also occurs across regions such as the Yorke Peninsula, parts of Victoria, and the Flinders Ranges. Its ability to thrive in varied environments highlights its adaptability to Australia's often harsh and unpredictable climate.

Alongside it, another species adds contrast to the garden's seasonal display. *Calostemma luteum*, with its smaller but equally eye-catching yellow flowers, brings a bright, sunny tone to the autumn palette. Unlike many flowering plants, the flower heads of *C. luteum* gradually die back and form bulb-like structures. These drop to the ground and self-sow, allowing the plant to naturally regenerate and spread throughout the garden.



ABOVE: After the first autumn rains, *Calostemma purpureum* bursts from the soil, its rich wine-red flowers bringing colour and life to Pangarinda Botanic Garden.



ABOVE: Bright and sunny, *Calostemma luteum* adds a golden touch to the garden, thriving in drier conditions and naturally regenerating each season.

Native to more inland areas of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria, *Calostemma luteum* is well suited to drier conditions and continues to flourish with minimal intervention.

Together, these two species create a subtle yet stunning display at Pangarinda Botanic Garden each autumn. Their emergence following rain serves as a gentle reminder of the cycles of nature and the importance of preserving native plant species in our local landscapes.



ABOVE: *Calostemma purpureum*.

COVER: *Calostemma luteum*.

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# New Energy Driving the Future of the Tailem Bend Progress Association

Story & photos by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Tailem Bend  
Correspondent. Sign up now at [www.murraybridge.news](http://www.murraybridge.news)

**Fresh energy and new ideas are helping shape the future of the Tailem Bend Progress Association, following its Annual General Meeting held at the Tailem bend RSL on Monday, March 16, 2026.**

While several long-serving community members have stepped back after years of valuable service, a number of younger locals have stepped forward, bringing with them enthusiasm and a renewed vision for the town.

Returning to lead the organisation is President Maxine Kiddie, supported by Vice Chairperson Brenton Qualmann. Joining the executive team is Jodie Hall as the new Secretary and Rachael Hawkes, who takes on the role of Treasurer. Community projects are also receiving strong support from younger members of the association. Skye Rohrlach has stepped into the role of Treasurer for the popular Tailem Bend Christmas Parade, while Don Wood will continue managing finances for Tailem Topics.

Another young community member, Josephine McGrath, continues her important role of Coordinator and Editor of Tailem Topics for another year, helping keep residents informed while also contributing to one of the town's most exciting new initiatives. Jo, Skye and Rachael are among the passionate young locals helping drive a campaign calling on the community to help build a new playground that Tailem Bend can truly be proud of. The vision is to create a simple, safe, and inclusive playground designed for children of all abilities — something unique and special for the town.

As part of the campaign, the group called on families and young people to get involved in a short promotional film for the proposed playground, which included drone footage and community participation.



ABOVE: Skye Rohrlach of Tailem Bend, was announced as the new Christmas Parade Treasurer, while Jo McGrath of Tailem Bend continues to hold the position of Coordinator and Editor of Tailem Topics.



ABOVE: Rachael Hawkes of Tailem Bend announced as the new Treasurer of the Tailem Bend Progress Association at the 2026 AGM, held at the Tailem Bend RSL on Monday, March 16, 2026.



Planning is also underway for the town's festive celebrations, with the Christmas Parade Cabaret set for October 31, and preparations beginning for the annual Christmas Parade later in the year on December 12, 2026.

With experienced community leaders working alongside a new generation of volunteers, the future of Tailem Bend's community initiatives is looking bright.

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A logo for Jacob van Raalte, featuring a stylized white tree with spiral branches on a dark background.



# Flooding Impacts March Edition Distribution

Article and image submitted by Tailem Topics Editor.

The team behind Tailem Topics would like to inform readers and contributors of an unexpected disruption affecting the March edition, following a significant flooding event at the printing facility.

Our printing partner, Printcity, was partway through production when the flooding occurred, forcing operations to halt mid-run. As a result, only 1,100 copies of the March edition were completed, leaving approximately 900 copies outstanding. Despite considerable efforts to resume and complete the job in time for distribution, circumstances beyond their control have prevented the remaining copies from being finalised as originally scheduled.

Printcity has been working tirelessly to recover from the impact of the flooding and explore all possible solutions. While this delay is understandably disappointing, we appreciate their transparency and ongoing commitment during what has been a challenging time for their business.

The good news is that the remaining 900 copies of the March edition are still be printed and distributed alongside the April edition, ensuring that all content reaches our community, albeit slightly later than planned.



**Tailem Topics sincerely apologises to our readers, advertisers, and contributors for the inconvenience caused by this delay.**

We greatly value your continued support, whether through sharing local stories, contributing content, or advertising within the publication. Community support is what keeps Tailem Topics thriving, and we thank you for your understanding as we navigate this temporary setback together.



# River Murray Netball and Football Returns

Article and images submitted by Callee Kozikowski.

The River Murray Netball Association and Football League season begins in a few short weeks, with the Tailem Bend Eagles preparing for a promising campaign.

A Grade and A Reserves netball coach, Alana Schache, says she is “a coach that goes out there to win”.

With her number one priority of improvement every week, Alana is “really excited to have a competitive season and hopefully be in the top four.”

Alana is joined by co-coach Rozanne Pahl, whose “amazing amount” of knowledge of netball and beyond she admires. Together, they hope to do their part to improve not only their grades but the whole club.

Over at the football, League captain Brodie Edwards is excited to see the younger players come through, watch their confidence grow, and see their game develop throughout the year. Brodie says, as a young team, “we have had to adjust and create an environment where we all become leaders.”

The captain's goal for the season is ‘definitely to sneak our way into finals and hopefully win a final’. It would be a “huge” steppingstone for Tailem Bend and the club, considering the time it’s been since we’ve won one.



ABOVE: Tailem Bend Eagles in action ahead of the 2026 season, building momentum with eyes on finals.

On March 21, the Eagles Reserves and League teams hosted the Marion Rams Football Club (MFC) at home for a trial match. The Rams built a comfortable lead in both matches, but the A Grade Eagles fought back late in the game with a strong effort. Ultimately, MFC won both matches, giving Tailem an opportunity to reflect ahead of the RMFL season.

The Eagles have the bye in the first round of the RMFL, meaning **our first game back for 2026 will be at home against Mannum on April 18**. We will then travel to Mypolonga and host Imperials in Rounds three and four.



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# Tailem Bend Lions Serving Our Community

Report submitted by Lions members Judy, Bruce and Jo.

**From vital health services to community fundraising, the Tailem Bend Lions Club remains committed to serving and supporting the local community.**

## Lions Record Achievement...

From humble beginnings as a single club idea to serve the community, Lions have achieved an extraordinary milestone.

It has recently been announced that annual Christmas cake and pudding sales have reached a remarkable \$60 million since the program's inception.

President Doug thanks all members and supporters for contributing to this outstanding result, and also acknowledges the strong support across the district that led to record sales last Christmas.

## Den Sale...

The Tailem Bend Lions Den Sale for March was very successful for both the community and the Club, with many bargains snapped up on the day. President Doug extends his thanks to everyone involved.

## Membership Drive!

Membership remains the order of the day. President Doug's common denominator.

He said: "Opening our Club to new members means opening our minds to new ideas and new ways to serve, and this results in supporting our ever-growing community."

"We would love to hear from you if you would like to join us for a meeting or two. We look forward to hearing from you." Regards, President Doug.

### Honey is available from Lions Members:

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

## Lions Cancer Screening Unit...

The Tailem Bend Lions Club has secured the Lions Cancer Screening Unit, which will be located at the Tailem Bend Gardens on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th August 2026.

Community members will be required to make an appointment, with further details to be announced soon. Due to the high level of interest and popularity of this service, walk-in patients will not be accepted.

Next month, the Club will advise the community on the booking process for this free and important service.

## Hay Run Update...

The Club recently received a phone call from Lion Ray Akers, coordinator of the hay run for the Traralgon Lions Club in Victoria.

Plans had been made for more than 50 farmer-owned semi-trailers and 22 ute loads of hay to deliver feed to drought-affected areas from Peterborough to Ceduna and surrounding districts in South Australia.

A stopover lunch had been proposed at The Bend Motorsport Park, where the Tailem Bend Lions Club was to provide a barbecue for a one-hour break.

While the hay had been sourced and was ready for delivery at no cost to farmers, the South Australian Government, through PIRSA, withdrew a \$4 per kilometre one-way transport subsidy.

As a result, and due to rising diesel costs, the difficult decision was made to cancel the hay run planned for the first two weeks of April.

Coordinator Ray Akers has expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to the Tailem Bend Lions Club for their planning and support.



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



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



# The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #161

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

**This month we look at memories including a letter to the Editor, the Riverside Hotel, the BMX track and the Rotary Auction.**

## Tailem Topics - To the Editor

*Alec Schonfeldt - 5/4/2013*

I notice in the April edition of Tailem Topics, a copy of which Leonie Hutson kindly sent me, that you are planning "Down the track, more on Tailem Bend Racecourse." I thought it may be of interest for you to know that H.G. Bolton (*Harry Gatenby*), who was the son of John Bolton (*who owned the grocer's shop*), resurrected the racecourse after he returned home from the Second World War in 1946.

I personally helped him clean and repair all the tote equipment, which had been stored in the Guide's Hall behind the Town Institute. Harry was the secretary of the racing club and went on to become secretary and president of the Western Australia Racing Club in Perth. Harry passed away while still in office many years ago.

I left Tailem Bend over sixty years ago, but I am still fond of the old place. Yours sincerely, Alec Schonfeldt.

## Meal with a View at Riverside Hotel

*M/V Standard, 1997*

I'd have to say one of the best things about dining at Tailem Bend's Riverside Hotel was the view. There are few things that beat a spectacular sunset, and when you combine that with the reflection off the grand old Murray and quaint dairy cows grazing in green pastures, it's about as close as you can get to a picture-perfect rural view.

My friend and I visited the hotel on a Tuesday night, which is the venue's specialty roast dinner evening. Lamb, pork and hot vegetables were the order of the day, and they were delicious. Being a 41-degree day, a hot dinner was not something I would normally have ordered, but stepping into the welcoming cool of the riverside haven soon changed my mind. Apart from the comfortable dining conditions, the restaurant also had a well-stocked salad bar, which suited the outdoor temperature and our appetites. Thursday evening is schnitzel night, and on other days visitors can choose from a unique à la carte menu, with the salad bar available on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Entrées include a range of delicious seafood such as calamari and prawns (*chilli or cocktail*), along with crumbed



ABOVE: Waitresses Tammy Qualmann (left) and Jonne Frost on the balcony of the Riverside Hotel in Tailem Bend. The dining room overlooks a picturesque view of the river.

camembert (*yum*) and chicken pieces in plum sauce. Seafood dishes also feature prominently on the main course selection, including whiting, garfish, prawns and the ever-popular seafood basket. Chicken combinations with sweet and sour or plum sauces are available, along with a variety of steak and schnitzel dishes, including the unusual schnitzel Provençale and rump with satay.

One of the most noticeable things about the Riverside Hotel is how it caters for children, from smaller, child-friendly servings to the provision of high chairs. Even the dessert menu includes techno ice cream especially for kids. There are plenty of dessert choices for adults too, such as meringues, sundaes and a variety of cheesecakes. Despite being full from our generous mains, my friend and I ordered cherry cheesecake and Black Forest gâteau. Forget the diet, gym instructors and health books—dessert has to be good for you. Anything that tastes this great must be okay for the body—I'm sure that "it's fattening" threat is just a myth.

As well as great dining facilities, the hotel also has a number of pokies to satisfy the casual gambler and a balcony area that manages to stay cool even on a 40-plus-degree day. Another highlight of the Riverside Hotel, together with its prompt and friendly service, is its pricing—for two mains, drinks and two desserts, the bill was just over \$20, making it an ideal venue for group bookings, families and couples.

## Tailem Bend BMX Track Opened

*M/V Standard, date unknown.*

Tailem Bend's new BMX track was officially opened on Saturday. Chairman John Filmer and Peter Watts from Transport SA Bike South unveiled a sign to mark the opening of the facility—a joint project of the council, Bike South and the community, with assistance from the South Australian BMX Association.

# The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #161

More than 100 people attended the occasion, which also included BMX instruction and racing demonstrations. Mr Filmer said Coorong Council became aware of the BMX track when the Tailem Bend Development Program brought a delegation, including Tina Squires and local children, to the council.

Council had heard rumours about the track, realised the project was serious, decided to support it, and approached Bike South for a grant. A grant of \$8,200 was approved on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and construction eventually began in November last year.

Mr Filmer said the BMX track fitted in well, being ideally located among other town facilities. He recognised the work of the council's Manager of Property Services, Trevor Gordon, and all council staff involved in the construction and completion of the track. He also paid tribute to Tina Squires for her persistence and hard work in initiating the idea and seeing the project through to completion.

Other speakers included Mr Watts, who said the track would be an absolute boon for children and that he was "very happy to see all those who have come out today." He encouraged youngsters to use the facility, have fun and ride safely.

SA BMX Association Vice-President John Ragless described it as a "fantastic" track and hoped all youngsters would make good use of it. Earlier, Chairman of the Tailem Bend and District Development Program, Peter Dickson, welcomed everyone to the occasion.

Following the ceremony, State coach Pat Smith from the BMX Association coached the youngsters.



ABOVE: At the official opening of the new BMX track at Tailem Bend on Saturday morning (from left), John Ragless, vice-president of the South Australian BMX Association; instigator of track Tina Squires; chairman of Coorong District Council John Filmer; Peter Watts, of Transport SA Bike South; and Peter Dickson, chairman of the Tailem Bend and District Development Program.

## Rotary Auction Success

*M/V Standard, date unknown.*

A very successful day—this is how Tailem Bend president Neville Medlow summed up the club's annual auction, held in the main street car park on Saturday morning.

Mr Medlow said selling began just after 10am and continued until 1:30pm. The offering included some donated items but consisted mainly of goods on consignment. The quantity of goods was similar to previous auctions, while the crowd was estimated to be slightly larger. At this stage, profits from the day are still being calculated. The auction is one of the club's major fundraisers for the year, and members also held a successful sausage sizzle and soft drink stall at the event.

Auctioneer Ian Eckermann of Elders accepted bids on a wide range of goods, from freezers to antique furniture, including vintage bicycles—one being a 1948 Humber.



ABOVE: Member for Hammond and Rotarians Peter Lewis samples the fare at the Tailem Bend auction barbecue with Rotarians Des Warmer and Warwick Barnett.



ABOVE: Rotarians Peter Marston and Kym Baty with actioneer Ian Eckermann at the Tailem Bend Rotary auction in the town's main street carpark.

## Quote for the month:

*"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." – Milton Berle. The stories keep coming from the pens of the duo, Chief Editor Jo and Doris Connolly.*



# Caleb's Photography Journey

Editorial submitted by Glenn Power.

Caleb Carter, a talented member of Murray Bridge's GSSA Fresh Perspective Photography, has been making waves with his striking black and white neo-noir images. His early work in country show competitions drew attention for its sharp contrasts and evocative storytelling, earning him accolades and respect across the region. But Caleb's photography journey has now taken an exciting leap.

Last week, Caleb photographed Championship Wrestling Entertainment Australia's event at the Tailem Bend Football Club—and he was a hit. "Capturing wrestling is a real thrill," Caleb said. "The action moves fast, the light can be tricky, and selecting the best shutter speed, focus points, and most of all timing all have to come together perfectly—it's challenging, but I learnt a lot that night, and yes, it was a lot of fun."

His photographic work at Tailem Bend has opened doors: Caleb will now travel to Adelaide to photograph numerous wrestling events, with the Tailem Bend crowd set to see him again later in the year.



ABOVE: Caleb Carter photographing Al-Golden before his championship bout at Tailem Bend Football Club's Championship Wrestling Entertainment Australia's event.



ABOVE: Caleb Carter (Right) checking out the wrestling props at Tailem Bend Football Club's Championship Wrestling Entertainment Australia's event, Friday, February 27, 2026.

Beyond the ring, Caleb continues his passion for local news, culture, and photographing the occasional Sunday session at the Lakeside Butter Factory in Milang.

For Caleb, photography is more than just a hobby—it's a lens through which he experiences the world. "It's about catching that moment, freezing the emotion, and telling a story without words," he explains. With his skill, creativity, and now professional assignments under his belt, Caleb is not just photographing moments—he's crafting memories, and his future in photography looks as bright as a spotlight on the wrestling ring.



ABOVE: Crowd enthusiasm and participation adding additional entertainment and creating an exciting, electric atmosphere at Tailem Bend Football Club's Championship Wrestling.

## GSSA Activities List:

All our regular activities are listed, along with a few additional regular activities, including photography workshops and creative writing workshops.

We also have several special events locked in and coming up:

- **April 21st** – Pottery Workshop
- **June 20th** – Winter by the Fire
- **July 31st** – Country & Western Superheroes Bowling
- **October 24th** – Cruise Day at The Bend Motor sport Park
- **October 31st** – Halloween Bowling

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# Thirteenth Annual Meningie Food Fair a Success

Article submitted by Marianne Cunneen.

**The thirteenth annual Meningie Food Fair was held on Friday in perfect weather. A record crowd gathered at Lions Jubilee Park on the shores of Lake Albert for the event.**

The popular climbing wall returned, along with jumping castles, Orbit 360, circus training, and much more. Lee Brocky's live music entertained the crowd during the twilight event while they selected from a wide range of food and refreshments. **Bluey made an appearance, delighting his adoring fans.**

This year's fundraising raffle was a huge success, with twenty prizes worth more than \$2,500 up for grabs. Nick McBride MP was given the honour of drawing all twenty prize winners. The proceeds from the raffle will ensure continued financial support for the event in 2027. Many generous sponsors contributed to the event, ensuring that children could enjoy all the entertainment as often as they liked with the purchase of a ten-dollar wristband.



ABOVE: Michel Angas, Rebekah Rosser MP and Trish McClure.

The committee is also pleased to have gained the support of the State and Federal Government's Algal Bloom Summer Plan grant, funded through the South Australian Tourism Commission's Algal Bloom Event Support Fund. With some local businesses affected by the algal bloom and misinformation surrounding it, organisers hoped the event would help allay any fears about consuming local fish.

# Detection Dogs Aid Turtle Conservation

Article submitted by Samantha Blight.

**Coorong District Council Enhances Conservation Efforts with Canine Assistance.**

Coorong District Council's Sustainability Officer, Samantha Blight, has engaged Conservation & Detection Dogs to locate River Murray Turtle nests within two fox-proof exclusion zones along Lakes Albert and Alexandrina. The project aims to assess the effectiveness of fencing designed to protect these endangered turtles from predation.

Specially trained dogs can search areas that are difficult or impossible for humans to access, such as dense vegetation and under shrubs, making them a valuable tool in conservation efforts. Conservation detection dogs possess a sense of smell up to 10,000 times more sensitive than humans. Used worldwide, they help locate endangered species, invasive plants, and pests, often outperforming traditional survey methods in challenging environments.

The dogs involved in this program are trained to detect specific scents, including those of River Murray Turtle nests, pygmy bluetongue lizards, feral pests such as foxes and cats, and invasive weeds. The use of conservation detection dogs is becoming increasingly popular across Australia. Through trials, research, and fieldwork, conservationists are proving that dogs are not only faster but also more effective at achieving fieldwork goals compared to traditional methods. Mandy Jones of Conservation & Detection Dogs South Australia highlights the importance of partnership in this work.



ABOVE: Conservation & Detection Dog Hettie.

*"Working with dogs to achieve conservation goals is all about teamwork," she said.*

*"I'm passionate about understanding each dog's personality and ensuring their work is fulfilling."*

Dogs are trained using positive reinforcement, turning detection tasks into rewarding games, which keeps them motivated and engaged. Introduced foxes remain one of the greatest threats to River Murray Turtles, destroying up to 95% of nests and often killing egg-laying females. This has resulted in populations dominated by adults, with few young turtles surviving. By locating nests early, the program aims to improve survival rates.

This initiative is supported by BHP Olympic Dam and Coorong District Council, highlighting the importance of collaboration in conservation.

### CTSA UPDATE

#### Volunteer Drivers Needed to Support Community Transport Across the Region

Residents across Taillem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda, the Riverland and the Limestone Coast are being encouraged to consider volunteering as drivers to help support a vital community service that connects people with essential medical care.

Community Transport South Australia, based at the Taillem Bend Community Centre, is currently seeking volunteer drivers to assist people who may otherwise struggle to access medical appointments and essential services. The organisation plays a critical role in supporting older residents, people with limited mobility, and those without reliable transport.

Many country residents face long journeys to reach specialist care, particularly in Adelaide. Volunteer drivers help bridge that gap, ensuring people can attend hospital visits, medical consultations, and other important appointments safely and affordably.

CTSA rely on the generosity of volunteers to keep this service running. Without volunteer drivers, many people in our communities would simply have no way of getting to the care they need.

Community Transport South Australia operates from the Taillem Bend Community Centre and currently assists residents across a wide regional footprint including Taillem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda and surrounding districts. The service continues to expand and is close to establishing vehicles based in both the Riverland and the Limestone Coast, which will allow even more residents in those regions to access transport support closer to home.

The organisation has also recently expanded services in the Murray Bridge region thanks to ongoing support from the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council. Funding from the Council has enabled the purchase of a new Toyota RAV4 Hybrid to support transport services in the area.

With an increasing number of volunteer drivers now assisting in the Murray Bridge region, Community Transport South Australia is pleased to have two vehicles operating locally.

The organisation has also expressed its appreciation to both the Rural City of Murray Bridge and the Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital for their support, including allowing our vehicles to be stationed at the hospital to help improve accessibility for patients needing transport.

Another important service supporting regional patients is the Coorong Coaches service, which operates Monday to Friday. The coach travels from Keith through to Adelaide, transporting passengers to major hospitals and medical facilities located in the Adelaide CBD. For residents in Taillem Bend, the return fare is just \$33, making it an affordable option for those needing regular medical visits in the city.

Volunteer drivers play a vital role in helping passengers connect with services like these, assisting with local transport needs and ensuring people can travel safely and comfortably. Volunteering as a driver can be a rewarding way to give back to the community while making a real difference in someone's life. Drivers meet new people, help reduce isolation for vulnerable residents, and support their neighbours in maintaining their health and independence.

Community Transport South Australia welcomes enquiries from anyone interested in becoming a volunteer driver across the Taillem Bend, Lameroo, Meningie, Karoonda, Riverland and Limestone Coast regions.

Those interested in learning more about volunteering are encouraged to contact Mel at Community Transport South Australia at the Taillem Bend Community Centre 0875 3513. By volunteering a small amount of time, local residents can help ensure that vital transport services continue to support the health and wellbeing of communities across the region.







**PETER GREAVES**

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

**WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER DRIVER?**  
MY AVAILABILITY RECENTLY INCREASED; I WAS INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING MORE TO THE LOCAL AND WIDER COMMUNITY - AND HAVE PLENTY OF SUITABLE EXPERIENCE - DRIVING AND CHATTING TO PEOPLE :)

**FAVOURITE ROAD TRIP SONG NOPE - IT'S ABC NEWS FOR ME**

**TEA OR COFFEE ON THE ROAD: AN EXTRA HOT COFFEE!**

**DREAM ROAD TRIP DESTINATION: ANY NEW ROAD IS GREAT FOR AN ADVENTURE AND EXPLORING**

**BEST SNACK FOR THE ROAD: NO SNACKS, JUST ANOTHER COFFEE!**

**WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?**  
THE SATISFACTION OF HELPING OTHERS

# NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



## C4C UPDATE

**Parent Child Mother Goose (PCMG)** invites parents and carers to cuddle, communicate and connect with their child through songs, rhymes and stories. Through this fun and simple program children are provided the opportunity to develop their speech through singing and to enhance and encourage connection with their parent/caregiver in a relaxed environment. The program also provides a positive and fun space for families to connect with community.

Our PCMG sessions are held each week for 45 minutes, during the school terms. PCMG is currently being held at the following locations:

### Tuesday – Mannum

Mannum Leisure Centre  
Senior Citizen Room - 9:30am

### Wednesday – Meningie

Meningie Kindergarten – 11am

### Thursday – Taillem Bend

Taillem Bend Primary School  
Community Library– 9:30am

## Celebrate Connection

### Pool Days

Over the 2025 December/January school holidays, the C4C team held two Pool Days at the Murray Bridge Swimming Centre – 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January, with two hours exclusive use of the waterpark area on both days and a special visit from the Murray Bridge police for families to have a close up look of a police car, play with the sirens and lights and spend some time getting to know our local police officers. With 100 free tickets available, both events were booked out.



## Celebrate Connection - Upcoming Events

**Wilbur's Wildlife** at the Bowhill Community Centre – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026, 11am -12pm - Forget the zoo – Wilbur's Wildlife brings the magic of native Aussie animals right to your doorstep, providing unforgettable encounters with our furry, feathered, and scaly friends. Bookings are essential and can be made from 16<sup>th</sup> March-14<sup>th</sup> April.

**National Families Week** – the C4C team are collaborating with other services in the area to celebrate this week. More information to come!

## CHSP UPDATE

### My Age Care helpful information

**CHSP Commonwealth Home Support Program** – Taillem Bend Community Centre provides with referral codes [MyAgedCare.gov.au/Support-Home-Program](https://MyAgedCare.gov.au/Support-Home-Program) Entry-level care at home Ongoing or short-term care and support services through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). You can get help with housework, personal care, meals and food preparation, transport, shopping, allied health such as physiotherapy and social support. You can also apply for planned respite, giving your carer a break. The CHSP will become part of the Support at Home program no earlier than 1 July 2027. Until then, the CHSP will continue for current and new clients with low-level support needs

**My Age Care** – ph 1800 200 422 or request TBCC to help you with an inbound referral

The Support at Home program provides access to care and support services ,transport, meals, home maintenance, social groups, one on one chats, equipment and home modifications to help older people remain healthy, active and socially connected to their community. Support at Home provides a higher level of care for those with complex needs who require more help to remain at home. For more information, visit: [MyAgedCare.gov.au](https://MyAgedCare.gov.au) or visit any Services Australia Service centre

### Steps to accessing aged care

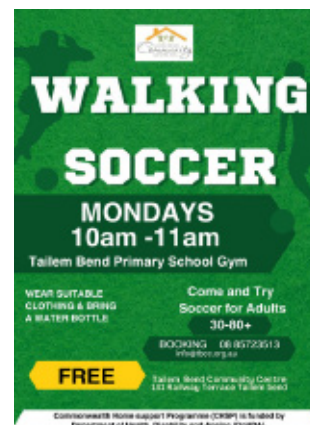
**Step 1 Explore if aged care is right for you** – If you are starting to think about aged care, this is your first step. See what services have helped people in similar situations and what support is available, whether you want to stay in your own home or move into an aged care home.

**Step 2 Get assessed** - If your ready to find out what aged care services your eligible for, the next step is to apply for an assessment. Find out how to apply for an assessment and understand the process.

**Step 3 Find a provider** - After your assessment, learn how to find a provider in your area that meets your needs and preferences.

**Step 4 Set up your new services** - Once your decided on a provider, learn what to expect when finalising your agreement and setting up your services

## UPCOMING EVENTS





# The Rotary Club of Tailem Bend Chronicles

Article submitted by Angela Thorley.

With the beginning of the new year our club has started to plan the events and activities where we can provide service to our community. We continue to raise funds which will contribute towards the grants program we have later in the year and assist with other activities Rotary contributes to.

## Roll Racing

An ongoing form of fundraising is selling tickets at the Roll Racing held once a month at the "The Bend". At the last meeting in December, spectators were asked to contribute to a toy drive for Christmas. Enough toys were donated to fill the back seat and Ute tray. The toys were distributed to Vinnies to donate to the community. The filled car was driven down the runoff strip at "The Bend" to show the generosity of attending spectators.

## Bowls Social Competition

The three local Rotary clubs got together to play in an annual social event. This year they played Bowls at the Murray Bridge RSL Club with funds raised going to the ShelterBox Charity. A great time was had by all.

## RYLA (Rotary youth Leadership awards)

Every year, worldwide Rotary clubs hold an intensive leadership camp. It is a life changing experience with the capacity to instil, motivate and develop future leaders of our communities. Participants (aged between 18-26 years) are involved in a 5-day residential camp where they are involved in topics such as leadership and personality styles, working in teams, self-belief, conflict management, goal setting and public speaking.

All this allows participants to feel motivated and inspired. Team leaders provide support and informal fun activities with a key outcome for attendees to form lasting friendships and networks.

The Rotary Club of Tailem Bend sponsored Jonathon Schmerl from Coonalpyn to attend. Jonathon works as a Fitter and Turner at "Vermeeren Bros." engineers. He spoke to the club at our Christmas dinner meeting about his experiences.



ABOVE: Rotary clubs of Tailem Bend, Mobilong and Murray Bridge attending the Say No To Domestic Violence.



ABOVE: Helen Clothier and her granddaughter Zuri Fiebig show a ute filled with toys.

Jonathon told us about the speakers, fun activities, discussions including self-development and goal setting, and support he received from fellow attendees. He said he made some good friends and is still in contact with them.

## Rotary Says No to Domestic Violence

South Australian Rotary Clubs are strong advocates of a Domestic Violence free society. At the end of last year our president joined with the Mobilong and Murray Bridge Rotary Clubs to participate in the annual "Rotary Says No to Domestic Violence" march held in Adelaide.



ABOVE: Rotary Club of Murray Bridge President presents Phil Roberts with a team participation certificate from last year's Putt Putt golf competition

Story & photos by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Taillem Bend Correspondent. Sign up now at [www.murraybridge.news](http://www.murraybridge.news)

**After more than a decade of saying he was “retiring,” Murraylands photographer and storyteller Glenn Power is finally making it official.**

A military-trained operational support photographer and reporter, Glenn first thought that his working life had wrapped up when he discharged from the Army in 2012 - but life had other plans. *“Back then, I said I was retiring,”* Glenn said with a smile. *“But look what happened.”*

Over the past four years, Glenn has been a familiar and encouraging presence at Genuine Support Services Australia (GSSA), where he has helped support GSSA’s Fresh Perspective Photography members through creativity, storytelling, and community connection. Now, he says, the time has come to step back — at least formally. *“Working with GSSA, and more recently as their Marketing and Activities Coordinator, has been one of the most memorable and personally fulfilling chapters of my life,”* Glenn said. *“I have emotionally learned so much about myself, and I’ve thoroughly enjoyed supporting people reach their dreams.”*

**“We have kicked some big goals together - it’s been a lot of fun,” he said. “Watching people grow in confidence through photography and creative expression, has been incredibly rewarding.”**

Retirement, however, won’t mean completely slowing down - Glenn plans to continue exploring his passions for art, music, creative writing, photography, and community volunteering, while balancing time at the gym and the pool. *“I’m not disappearing,”* he laughed, *“I’ll just be doing things a little differently.”*

Glenn’s major focus will be volunteering his creativity with the community through activities such as the planned GSSA’s Fresh Perspective free Photography and Creative Writing workshops held on the first Tuesday of each month from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm at the Ability Café, 5 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge. The workshops begin on 5 May 2026 and are open to anyone in the community.



ABOVE: Ben Hedger, a member of GSSA’s FPP, has won numerous awards for his creative approach to photography.



ABOVE: Glenn Power accepting their GSSA Fresh Perspective Photography (FPP) recognition awards at the 2023 International Day of People with Disability, Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge, December 1, 2023. Photo: Michael X. Savvas, Murray Bridge News.

*“If you’ve ever wanted to try photography or creative writing, come along,”* Glenn said. *“It’s relaxed, welcoming and all about supporting each other.”* People interested should contact Jessica at GSSA on 8166 7577 to register, as there will be limited spaces available.

Glenn will also remain actively involved with the Murraylands Community Photography Club, in collaboration with the Murray Bridge International Photography Club, while continuing to contribute to the Murray Bridge Show, The Murray Bridge News, Murraylands Life Magazine, and his local Taillem Topics. *“Retirement isn’t the end,”* Glenn said. *“For me, it’s just another beginning.”*



ABOVE: Veronica Ward, a member of GSSA’s FPP, has achieved all her initial major photography goals and has progressed to paid photographic and writing assignments.

Supporting the playground committee is about investing in the future of our community. A playground isn't just a place to play – it's where children build confidence, form friendships, and develop a strong sense of belonging.

It's important to us that this space is inclusive for everyone, including children who are neurodivergent. This means creating areas that are quiet, safe, and easily accessible, allowing all children to enjoy play in a way that suits their needs.

It also provides a valuable opportunity for children to learn how a community project comes together – from early planning through to fundraising – if our amazing Coorong District Council gives us the green light. We have the chance to create something truly special for Taillem Bend, but we need community support to make it happen.

If you would like to get involved or have any questions, please email [childrensvoicecommittee@outlook.com](mailto:childrensvoicecommittee@outlook.com)

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**Our community is coming together to support a Community-Led Proposal for a new playground at the corner of Mott & Moir Streets**



Scan the QR code below  
Add your name to the community support list



**Rotary ROTARY GRANTS 2026**

Rotary grants are once again available to charitable and not for profit community groups in the district. Groups who are interested will need to use the Community Grant Application Form and the Grant Proposal Criteria Guidelines Form when applying.

Both of these forms can be obtained by contacting:

**President Phil Roberts:** [philroberts61@yahoo.com](mailto:philroberts61@yahoo.com)  
or **Secretary Angela:** [thorley@internode.on.net](mailto:thorley@internode.on.net)



**Applications will open on April 1st and must be received by May 18th 2026.**  
These can be returned by post (address on form), email or personally.



# February Midweek Cruise to Mannum

Report submitted by Michael Holliday.

**Nineteen members and their families, travelling in 11 historic and modern cars, took part in our February midweek cruise to Mannum for lunch.**

We met at OTR Murray Bridge East Side for a 9:30 am departure before heading off to the Bowhill Store for our first stop and a relaxing coffee. It was a beautiful day, perfect for enjoying time on the lawns overlooking the mighty River Murray.

From there, we travelled to Purnong and crossed the river via the Purnong Ferry, followed by a very scenic drive through to Mannum.

Lunch was enjoyed at the Pretoria Hotel, rounding out a fantastic day of good company, great scenery, and classic cars.

**A big thank you to Steve and Cindy for organising such a wonderful cruise.**



ABOVE: Lunch at the Pretoria Hotel Mannum.



ABOVE: View of the Murray River from the Bowhill store.



ABOVE: Members gathered at the Bowhill Store, enjoying a coffee break and riverside views before continuing their scenic cruise to Mannum.

**ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION**

The committee of the RSL Taillem Bend invites you to attend the  
**ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION**  
 at the memorial on Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend,  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

If you wish to lay a wreath, please contact Sue Morgan on  
**0416645531**

Please arrive by 5.45 am. Service starts at 6am.

Followed by a breakfast at the RSL Club on the corner of Seymour St and Trevena Rd.

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# March 2026 Dinner Report

Article and images submitted by Julie Burridge.

Well, how lucky are we that the Riverside Hotel Taillem Bend has such capable kitchen staff, who presented us with a truly eye-catching meal!

Thirty-one diners attended the March dinner, and the hors d'oeuvres were a feast for the eyes. Mini pea frittatas with ricotta, mint and prosciutto, along with cheesy pumpkin and caramelised onion scrolls, were in abundance. The Jacob's Creek Trilogy Sparkling Pinot Noir from the Barossa Valley was a perfect match. There was plenty of chatter amongst members and guests while partaking, before we moved into the dining room.

Cauliflower korma soup was then served, its aromas tantalising the taste buds. It was a beautiful colour, silky smooth, and absolutely delicious. A pappadum placed on top added to the flavour experience. It's certainly a dish I would like to try to replicate at home. A Shaw Family Pinot Grigio was served with this course; some noted the second sip tasted slightly bitter after the soup, though it improved with subsequent sips. I always enjoy a Pinot Grigio or Pinot Gris, and this was no exception.



ABOVE: Cauliflower Soup

The entrée followed: pork stuffing balls with nectarine salad. A little unusual, but very flavourful. As we often find at the Riverside, the portion size was generous—two would have been enough for me, though I happily finished all three. The meatballs featured flavours of onion, celery, apple, thyme, sage and lemon rind. A Stoneleigh Sauvignon Blanc was served and proved a good accompaniment.



ABOVE: The entrée.



ABOVE: The main meal.



ABOVE: Viktor Sonenko & Suzanne Perkins

Then came the main—very impressive, and again generously portioned. This course had two components: barramundi on broccoli risotto (**from the Riverside specials menu**) and a side of shaved apple salad.

The barramundi was perfectly cooked and moist, though the risotto was a little too much. The shaved apple salad featured apple cider vinegar, honey, walnut or macadamia oil, toasted chopped walnuts, and tarragon, with slices of Granny Smith and Jazz apples. It was a sublime salad on its own and paired beautifully with the barramundi. In hindsight, the fish with just the salad would have been ideal. **(Many took home what they could not finish.)** The wine pairing was originally to be a Riesling, but was changed—thanks to the burly blokes in the club—to a Tomich Pinot Noir. This proved to be an excellent choice. From the Adelaide Hills, it was a lovely drop with the main.

Then came dessert—what a sight to behold, served in a martini glass. A fig, almond and mascarpone trifle, with flavours of star anise throughout. The praline at the bottom provided a delightful crunch, and the zabaglione cream was smooth, with pieces of fig throughout. A wonderful final course. Toi Toi Late Harvest dessert wine was paired with this and complemented it beautifully.

Once again, the Taillem Bend Food and Wine Club extends a huge thank you to the management and staff of the Riverside Hotel, who continue to raise the bar at every dinner we have attended since returning to this venue.

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## TERM 2

Wednesday 1st July

Disco

SRC to choose the theme.

Taillem Bend Town Hall.

THURSDAY 13TH -

FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST 2026.

Taillem Bend Primary School

year 6 Camp at Monarto Zoo

## TERM 3

Wednesday 23rd September

Footy Colours Disco.

Taillem Bend Football Clubrooms.

## TERM 4

Wednesday 2nd December

Christmas Theme Disco

Taillem Bend Town Hall.

# Tailem Bend Community Library

## New Books April 2026

### ADULT FICTION

- HARRIS Tessa:** The Florence Sisters ~ Drama/Romance  
**GOVER Janet :** Safe Haven at Wagtail Ridge ~ Family  
**KEARSLEY Susanna :** Mariana ~ Time travel Romance  
**McINTOSH Fiona:** Revenge ~ Fantasy  
**McINTOSH Fiona:** Destiny ~ Fantasy  
**McINERNEY Monica :** The Alphabet Sisters ~ Family Drama  
**PARKS Ray :** The Landman ~ Australian Romance Drama  
**PARK Tony :** The Cull ~ Action Novel  
**PARK Tony:** Red Earth ~ Action Novel  
**PATTERSON James :** Cross & Sampson ~ Crime Drama  
**RAYMOND Andrew :** The Shortlist ~ Crime Thriller  
**SEATON Annie :** Lucy ~ Romance  
**SEATON Annie :** Beneath Still Waters ~ Family Romance  
**SEATON Annie:** All Together Now ~ Rural Australian  
**SEARES Mike :** Deep Impact ~ Thriller

### LARGE PRINT

- Snelling Lauraine :** At Mornings Light ~ Western  
**Wilson Cherry :** Stormy ~ Family

### MONDAY MEMORIES

Monday, 27th April 2026  
**10 am start.** At the Library

Come along and reminisce about the days gone by.

**All welcome**

Phone 8572 3275 for more information.

# BOOK REVIEW

MARIANA

By: Susan Kearsley

**An enchanting, timeless tale of forbidden love, treachery and secrets.**

The first time Julia Beckett saw Greywethers she was only five, but she knew that it was her house. And now that she's at last become its owner, she suspects that she was drawn there for a reason.



As if Greywethers were a portal between worlds, she finds herself transported into seveneenth-century England, becoming Mariana, a young woman struggling against danger and treachery, and battling a forbidden love.

Each time Julia travels back, she becomes more enthralled with the past...until she realizes Mariana's life is threatening to eclipse her own,

and she must find a way to lay the past to rest or lose the chance for happiness in her own time.

Some lives are worth reliving...

But at what cost? As past and present begin to blur, Julia must confront the consequences of choices made across centuries, where love, loyalty, and fate are inextricably entwined, drawing her ever deeper into a destiny she may not escape.

**Tailem Bend Community Library**  
**School Holiday Times: April 2026**

School Holidays will commence on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
 School will resume on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April  
**Holiday opening times will apply**  
**OPEN Monday, Wednesday & Friday**  
 9-12.30pm & 1.30-4.30pm  
**CLOSED Tuesday, Thursday, Weekends,**  
**and all Public Holidays**

**April 2026**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 <sup>th</sup> CLOSED	13 <sup>th</sup> OPEN	14 <sup>th</sup> CLOSED	15 <sup>th</sup> OPEN	16 <sup>th</sup> CLOSED	17 <sup>th</sup> OPEN	18 <sup>th</sup> CLOSED
19 <sup>th</sup> CLOSED	20 <sup>th</sup> OPEN	21 <sup>st</sup> CLOSED	22 <sup>nd</sup> OPEN	23 <sup>rd</sup> CLOSED	24 <sup>th</sup> OPEN	25 <sup>th</sup> Anzac Day

Phone: 8572 3275  
 Email: [library@tailembdps.sa.edu.au](mailto:library@tailembdps.sa.edu.au)  
 Website: [tailembendlibrary.com.au](http://tailembendlibrary.com.au)

Submitted by Angie Tomkinson.



# COUNCIL SNAPSHOT



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

## ■ March 2026 (Edition 78)

At the March meeting, I had the opportunity to serve as Acting Mayor and chair my first Council meeting. It's quite a different perspective from the head of the table, there's a strong focus on process, with less opportunity to contribute to debate. I'd like to acknowledge both Mayor Simmons, and wish him a continued speedy recovery, and Cr Pietzsch for his leadership and willingness to contest the seat of Mackillop. Following the election outcome, Cr Pietzsch will resume as Acting Mayor, and I will return to the Acting Deputy Mayor role.

The recruitment process for a new CEO is progressing well, with several strong candidates identified. A shortlist will soon be developed for interviews. In the meantime, we thank Acting CEO Myles Sommers for his continued solid leadership, including initiating regular meetings with SAPOL and the Mayor to address local community issues. Many of the Coonalpyn community groups have written to SAPOL requesting the reinstatement of a police officer in the town, and while we understand SAPOL is actively trying to fill the position, it remains a priority for our community and Council will continue to push for a positive outcome.

Several key decisions were made at the March meeting. Council supported the transition of the Tailem Bend Town Hall Committee to a more flexible operating model outside of Section 41 arrangements. We also confirmed Cr Qualman as our representative at the Murray Darling Association National Conference in Shepparton in August 2026 and provided support, both in-kind and financial, to the Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day at Old Tailem Town on 3 May. The event includes, historic displays, family entertainment, food court, free haircuts and health checks, grocery hamper giveaways for struggling families and a Yellow Brick Road activity trail for children. This event coincides with the Tintinara Lions Club's annual market, making for a busy and exciting weekend across the region. In addition, 21-year leases were formalised for the Tintinara, Cookes Plains and Peake CFS stations.

Council has submitted two grant applications under the Sustainable Communities Funding Program, focusing

on the continued growth of Wellington East. One project relates to infrastructure planning, including roads, services and development readiness, while the second focuses on upgrading wastewater disposal. Wellington East remains our fastest growing township, and it is encouraging to see strong local engagement, including the recent formation of a community group with around 50 attendees. A key outcome from that meeting was the clear need for a dedicated community meeting space.

A number of important policies were reviewed and adopted, including those relating to Emergency Management, Asset Management, and Media and Communications. These policies ensure Council remains compliant, well-governed and prepared to respond to both operational and emergency situations.

The Roads and Infrastructure Committee continues to focus on practical outcomes, including investigating opportunities to reuse green waste on an 'as-is' basis, reviewing asset management systems, and updating the Footpath Network Expansion Strategy to ensure it remains relevant. Progress continues on key capital projects, including the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) and CWMS (Community Wastewater Management System) in Meningie, while road maintenance practices such as patrol grading levels of service and safe road-roller strategies are also under ongoing review.

The Coonalpyn Caravan Park recorded 227 powered site bookings in Feb alone, not including unpowered visitors, highlighting its continued popularity. The new Coonalpyn toilet block is nearing completion, with landscaping still to come, and the existing mosaic will remain in place. Customer service demand also remains steady, with 255 requests lodged in January, the majority of which have already been completed.

Council's financial position continues to track well against budget. While global factors may present some uncertainty moving forward, it is encouraging to see steady progress across infrastructure, community initiatives and regional development.

Cheers Lisa 😊

# COORONG Council News

Mar - Apr 2026

## 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 given Meningie's outdoor park furniture a new lease of life, with damaged bench timbers replaced, sanded and stained. All teams have been kept busy maintaining parks and gardens, especially from the impacts of little corellas.

The Taillem Bend Train Park's historical interpretive sign has been replaced and the Tintinara and Coonalpyn playgrounds have received a top up of soft fall mulch.



Above: Renewed historical interpretive signage installed at the Taillem Bend Train Park.

## Unsealed Road Renewal Program

The 7km re-sheet of **Loveday Bay Road** by Council's construction crew is now complete, as is the 2.5km renewal of **Todd Road** at Culburra.

Works have commenced on 5km of renewal at **Taunta Hut Road** which are expected to be completed in mid-April before works shift to **Deepwater Road**.



Above: Unsealed road renewal works on Loveday Bay Road, Narrung

## Railway Terrace Carpark, Taillem Bend

Temporary fencing went up in late February and works are now underway, with new kerbing and civil works taking place.



Above: New kerb works at Railway Terrace car park, Taillem Bend.

## Coonalpyn Changing Places Toilet Facility

The prefabricated building was installed in mid-February, and internal works are now underway. Upgrades to the septic system have also been carried out to increase capacity for the larger facility.



Above: Coonalpyn Changing Places Building under construction.

## Key Decisions

At the March 2026 Council meeting the Elected Members agreed to change the date of the June 2026 Ordinary Council meeting which will now be brought forward a week to 10am on Tuesday, 23 June 2026 to ease the pressures of the end of financial year process.

In-kind and financial support was endorsed for the upcoming Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day to be held on Sunday, 3 May 2026 at Old Taillem Town. This event is designed specifically for rural families, with the aim of providing a

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

E: [council@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@coorong.sa.gov.au)

P: 1300 785 277

A: PO Box 399,

Taillem Bend SA 5260



day of fun, relaxation, and social connection away from farm-related stressors.

The future of a number of the district's Country Fire Service (CFS) properties has been secured with Council granting new leases for 21 years plus a right of renewal for an additional 21 years at Tintinara, Cooke Plains and Peake CFS Stations. This cements Council's support for the continuing work the CFS and their volunteers undertake to keep our communities safe.

A SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) project will be implemented for the Community Wastewater Management System in Meningie. The project will improve reliability, compliance and operational oversight of the town's eight pump stations and wastewater treatment plant.

The safety of the Fulwood Avenue and Northcott Terrace intersection in Tintinara will be addressed with funds committed through the 2026/27 Sealed Roads Renewal Program.



The project will address the intersection layout and change the confusing Y-junction to a clearer T-junction and clarify which road users have priority when travelling through the intersection.

### Community update on Wadmore House

Following the close of the Expression of Interest (EOI) period on 27 February 2026, Council has begun reviewing all submissions received.

Members were pleased to see a strong level of interest from the community.

Council is now working closely with those who expressed interest to gather more detail about their proposals.

This next stage will help Council to better understand:

- what each interested party

hopes to achieve at the site

- any potential financial implications for Council
- the community benefits each proposal may offer

No decisions have been made at this time.

Once this additional information has been collected and Council has developed potential options, a further report will be tabled with Elected Members for their consideration.



### Want to read more?

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



*The world of discovery starts at your local library*



Visit your local Coorong Libraries Branch in:

- Coomandook
- Coonalpyn
- Meningie
- Tailem Bend
- Tintinara

# 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 10am - 12pm. **Come and join us. Contact Sandrina 0428 104439 or Stephen 0427 978699**
- **TAILEM BEND PROGRESS ASSOCIATION;** JOIN THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION! For meeting details **please contact: Maxine Kiddie: 0439 387 750**
- **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**

## TUESDAYS

- **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 0401 239 630 or Ian Eckermann 8572 3850.**
- **TAILEM BEND AUTO CLUB;** Tailem Bend Auto Club (TBAC) meeting every Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Tailem Bend Football Club. Please contact the TBAC Facebook page for more information.

## 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**

## THURSDAYS

- **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**
- **YOGA AT THE JERVOIS HALL;** Every Thursday at 9am during school terms. Just \$15.00 - All welcome, bring your mat with you.

## THURSDAYS

- **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**
- **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**
- **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.
- **YOGA AT THE JERVOIS HALL;** Every Thursday at 9am during school terms. Just \$15.00 - All welcome, bring your mat with you.
- **8 BALL NIGHT;** Every Thursday at 6-8pm Swanport Hotel, Just \$5 - Join now - call the office on 8166 7577

## 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](mailto:chsp@tbcc.org.au) for more information.
- **Tailem Bend RSL SUB-BRANCH;** Open for meals every Friday. **TO BOOK MEALS** contact Sandy Przibilla on 0419 856 744. Or visit our FB: @ Tailem Bend RSL for our menu and Specials.

## SATURDAYS

- **ST LUKE'S MARKET DAY;** Held on Saturdays. For more information please call Tony Aylene 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 Maureen Gibson on 0417 084 864 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 - Perfect

Submitted by Doreen Lutz on behalf of Trinity Lutheran congregation.

## I want the perfect score; I want the perfect day; I want to look perfect;

According to my dictionary, 'perfect' means : having all essentials, unblemished, faultless, excellent in all respects, correct, precise. I think we all know that we will never have a perfect life. In my experience things are never perfectly perfect.

In Genesis chapter 1 we read that, when He created the heavens and the earth, 'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good'. Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command and ate of the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. (Genesis 3). Their punishment was to be banned from the Garden of Eden and God's companionship.

We break God's commandments every day in our thoughts, in our actions, in our hearts and in what we sometimes say. Breaking God's Law earns us punishment just as it did Adam and Eve. We will never, by ourselves, be able to regain that companionship with God and be with Him in the Garden of Eden and in eternal life. Nothing that we do can ever be perfect enough.

However, God sent His Son, Jesus, to show us the way back to Him. Jesus took God's punishment for us by dying on the cross on Good Friday. Only with the help of Christ and the Holy Spirit can we be saved and enter eternal life. Jesus is our 'way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' (John 14 v 6). 'For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day'. (John 6 v40).

May God bless you with His Love, and may you know that He has forgiven you and reaches out to you through His Son. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, (Mark 16 v16).

## 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, Tailem 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, Tailem 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, Tailem Bend  
Every Sunday 10am.  
Pastor Garry and Jane Leech.  
Email: garry@revivalcity.church  
Mobile: 0437 905 269

### TRINITY LUTHERAN

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

# Community Notice Board



## Friends of the Tailem Bend Hospital Inc

### Call for New Volunteers

The Friends of the Tailem Bend Hospital Inc is a dedicated volunteer catering fundraising group that has proudly supported our local community for the past 38 years. With a team of just eight current committed volunteers, the group has raised over \$800,000 — a remarkable achievement that has directly benefited the Tailem Bend Hospital, local Medical Centre, and Doctors' residences.

Their contributions have helped fund vital medical equipment, the construction of a palliative care room, and the furnishing of doctors' housing, ensuring high-quality services for our community.

After decades of extraordinary service and leadership, President Gwenda Zadow and her team will be retiring as of 30 June 2026. Gwenda would sincerely like to thank her members, past and present, without their commitment over the years this achievement would not be possible.

As a result, we are now seeking expressions of interest from individuals or groups who may wish to continue this important catering service that has long supported the hospital and community.

If you are interested in volunteering or taking on this role, please contact:

📞 Gwenda Zadow: 8572 3057  
📞 Tailem Bend Hospital: 8572 5800

Your support can help continue a proud local legacy.

If you are interested in volunteering or taking on this role, please contact:

📞 Gwenda Zadow: 8572 3057  
📞 Tailem Bend Hospital: 8572 5800



## THIS IS WHAT EASTER MEANS FOR YOU?

Submitted by Doreen Lutz on behalf of the Mallee Lutheran Parish.

### Does Easter mean Hot Cross Buns, Easter Eggs or a long weekend holiday?

To Christians, Easter is the reason we thank God for His amazing gift of forgiveness of our sins through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus, and for His assurance that those who repent, are baptised and believe in Christ, will be saved from an eternal life in hell, for an eternal life in heaven.

Sinning is breaking the rules. There are so many rules and regulations in our lives that, knowingly or unknowingly we break them each day.

Just by walking diagonally across the road, instead of in a direct line, we are committing a sin in breaking the rules of the road. We could be punished with a fine. If our jaywalking caused an accident then, what we might think of as a minor breaking of the law, becomes much worse, and we would definitely deserve punishment for doing so.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command to not eat of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, they were punished by being separated from God. (*Genesis 2*).

God gave us the Ten Commandments; His Law for us to live by. We cannot, by ourselves, perfectly abide by the law. We can break the law in thought, action and words, and we deserve God's punishment when we break God's Law.

Thousands of years ago it was normal for people to make sacrifices to their gods in an attempt to please them. For Christians, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to live the life of a human and to be our sacrifice when He was crucified on a cross on Good Friday; dying as punishment for our sins.

Three days later, (**Easter Sunday**), Jesus arose from the dead. His resurrection showed God's power over death and the devil.

Jesus Christ became our way back to God. He calls us to repent, to recognise that we have sinned; to ask forgiveness for our sins; to believe in Him. He is, *'the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'* (*John 14 v 6*). *'For the Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life.'* (*John 6 v 40*).

Easter means God offers you, and me, forgiveness. If we accept His forgiveness we can inherit eternal life. A life without pain, fear or suffering. Until then we can live our lives on earth knowing God is always with us, whatever happens.

**May God Bless you this Easter.**

Rotary



Clubs of South Australia

## Pioneer Adventure Day

[www.RotaryPioneerAdventureDay.au](http://www.RotaryPioneerAdventureDay.au)

Sunday 3 May 2026 | 9am to 4pm



### OLD TAILEM TOWN PIONEER VILLAGE

Princes Highway, Tailem Bend, South Australia

A day of fun, entertainment, hair cuts, displays, giveaways and food.

HEALTH CHECKS : Heart; Blood; Skin; Hearing; Breastscreens; Mindfulness +

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FUN for all ages. Leave the Farm / Shop behind for a Day.

Rotary Family Sponsorship Packages available to help you attend.

<https://reg.planetreg.au/Rotary-PAD-Register-Interest>



# Community Notice Board

## Jokes of the Month

How does the Easter Bunny stay in shape  
**Eggs-ercise!**

I only know 25 letters of the alphabet...  
**I don't know y.**

What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?  
**A hot cross bunny.**

I told my computer I needed a break...  
**it said "No problem" and froze.**

Why was the Easter Bunny so upset?  
**He was having a bad hare day.**

## Quotes of the Month

*"The person who works their entire life in a mirror factory just can't see themselves doing anything else"*  
submitted by Lyn Gooddard.

*"In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity."*  
by Albert Einstein.

*"Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned."*  
by Peter Marshall

## Poem of the Month - Night Hunter



*I am the Cat of Cats. I am  
The everlasting cat!  
Cunning, and old, and sleek as jam,  
The everlasting cat!  
I hunt the vermin in the night—  
The everlasting cat!  
For I see best without the light—  
The everlasting cat!*

## TAILEM TOPICS SUBMISSION INFORMATION : 2026

**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!

### **::Tailem Topics Subscriptions ::**

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

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

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

<b>Police:</b> Taillem Bend	8572 4210
<b>Ambulance</b>	000
<b>Fire &amp; Rescue</b>	000
<b>CFS:</b> Taillem Bend	000
<b>CFS:</b> Jervois	000
<b>Taillem Bend Medical Centre</b>	8572 5897
<b>Poison Information</b>	13 11 26
<b>Parent Helpline</b>	300 364 100
<b>RAA</b>	0429 029 021
<b>Hospital</b>	8572 5800

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

<b>Coorong Realty</b>	8572 4555
<b>Efficient Electrical &amp; Air Conditioning</b>	0426 243 414
<b>Elders Real Estate</b>	8572 8000
<b>Foodland Supermarket</b>	8572 3866
<b>Jam Motorsport Shop</b>	0414 281 846
<b>Krispy Kreme</b>	8200 5764
<b>Murraylands Firearms</b>	(08) 7554 1000
<b>Old Taillem Town Pioneer Village</b>	0419 359 532
<b>OTR Motorsport Park</b>	8200 5847
<b>OTR Murrayview</b>	8200 5764
<b>Railway Café</b>	0448 274 317
<b>Riverbend Motel</b>	8572 3633
<b>Rivercity Mechanical</b>	8120 1899
<b>Riverside Hotel</b>	8572 3655
<b>SA Motorcycles</b>	8572 3672
<b>Shell Coles Express Taillem Bend</b>	8286 2308
<b>Smedley Tyre Service</b>	8572 4037
<b>Subway</b>	8572 3884
<b>Taillem Bend Automotive</b>	8572 4044
<b>Taillem Bend Bakery</b>	8572 3603 / 8572 3604
<b>Taillem Bend Hardware</b>	8572 3284
<b>Taillem Bend Hotel : Liquor Legends</b>	8572 3515
<b>Taillem Bend Newsagency</b>	8572 3523
<b>Taillem Tandoor</b>	0434 455 535

To be included above please send your business name and number to [Taillemtopics@gmail.com](mailto:Taillemtopics@gmail.com)

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PO Box 399 Taillem Bend, SA, 5260.  
Phone: 1300 785 277 | Fax: 8572 3822  
Email: [council@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@coorong.sa.gov.au)

## POST OFFICE

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

## COMMUNITY LIBRARY : (ON PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS)

1 Murray Street, Taillem Bend, Phone: 8572 3275  
Monday to Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm (Closed from 1pm - 1:30pm)

## TAILEM BEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

## MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY PASSENGER NETWORK

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

## TAILEM BEND KINDERGARTEN

49 Trevena Road, Taillem Bend  
Phone: 8572 3348

## TAILEM INFO STATION

Railway Station, Taillem Bend  
Phone: 8572 4277 | Mon - Fri, 10am - 3pm

## TAILEM BEND DISTRICT HOSPITAL

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

## MEDICAL CENTRE & IMMUNISATIONS

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

## TAILEM BEND RSL SUB:BRANCH

57 Trevena Road, (corner of Seymour St & Trevena Rd)  
To Book Meals contact Sandy Przibilla on 0419 856 744.  
For further enquiries, contact Dave Morgan (*Chairperson*)  
on 0419 808 769 or Michael Holliday (*Secretary*) on 0403 271 781

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

47 Railway Tce, Taillem Bend (opposite Police Station)  
Open: Mon, Wed, Friday: 9:30am - 5:00pm Saturday: 10:00am - 2:00pm | Closed Sunday & Public Holidays Phone: 8572 3544

## TAILEM BEND PRIMARY SCHOOL

1 Murray Street, Taillem Bend  
Phone: 8572 3266 | Fax: 8572 3026  
Email: [DL.0424.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:DL.0424.info@schools.sa.edu.au)

## TAILEM BEND PHARMACY

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

## LIFELINE TAILEM BEND OP SHOP

20 Princes Highway, Taillem Bend  
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75 RAILWAY TCE, TAILEM BEND



## Share your feedback... Revised Roadside Signage Policy

Council is inviting community, business and tourism stakeholders to share their feedback on our revised Roadside Signage Policy.

Roadside signage helps locals and visitors find community facilities, tourist attractions, services and businesses while keeping our roads safe and our towns looking great.

The updated Policy aims to establish a clear and consistent approach to the management, assessment, installation and maintenance of roadside signage across the district.

### The revised Policy and Feedback can be provided by:

- **Online** via the QR code or on Council's website
- **Hard Copies** available at a Council Office
- **By email:** [council@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@coorong.sa.gov.au)
- **By post:** PO Box 399, Tailem Bend SA 5260



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

**Feedback closes 27 April 2026**



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

# 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](http://www.murraybridge.news).*

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 25 Seventh Street Murray Bridge SA 5253  
 [murraybridge@johnstonwithers.com.au](mailto:murraybridge@johnstonwithers.com.au)



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Get in touch!

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