

Tailem



Topics

JUNE 2026

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PRESERVING LOCAL HISTORY...



Local historians have unveiled a new exhibition celebrating and preserving the rich history of Tailem Bend and surrounding districts as part of South Australia's History Month.



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Editorial and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Tailem Bend Correspondent.

A passionate group of local volunteers brought history to life on Friday, May 1, 2026, in Tailem Bend's Town Hall Function Room, with the opening of a new regional exhibition as part of South Australia's History Month.

The showcase, created by the Tailem Bend Historians, highlights the rich stories of the town and surrounding districts, aiming to preserve and share the area's heritage with the wider community.

The exhibition is the result of months of work combining three previous displays with additional research and newly gathered material. Committee members Elizabeth Nicholls, Maxine, Kiddie, Raylene Freeth, John McLean, Leanne McLean, Lyn McDonald, Kathleen Kromwyk, Brenton Qualmann with numerous volunteers, have each contributed their own expertise, covering topics from railway history to early township development and family histories.

Now operating from dedicated rooms - provided by the Coorong District Council just over a year ago, the group meets weekly on Mondays and continues to build an extensive archive of regional records. Their resources span Tailem Bend and surrounding areas including Wellington, Cooke Plains, Peake, Karoonda, and beyond, reflecting the diverse interests of members, some of whom have authored books and undertaken significant independent research.



ABOVE: Tailem Bend Historians, Vice President Elizabeth Nicolls of Tailem Bend.



ABOVE: Coorong District Councillor, Brenton Qualmann with Tailem Bend Historians President, Kathleen Kromwyk, both of Tailem Bend, opening "The Story of Tailem Bend & Regions" exhibition, during SA History Month on Friday, May 1, 2026.

The exhibition will be open to the public on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays until May 21, offering visitors a chance to step back in time and explore the district's past.

In addition to staging exhibitions, the historians regularly assist the public with research inquiries, particularly in family and local history, receiving multiple requests each month. Their ongoing work ensures that the stories of the region are not only preserved but actively shared with future generations.

For more details contact President, Kathleen Kromwyk on 0428 233 100 or Vice President, Elizabeth Nicolls on 8572 4265.

COVER: Tailem Bend Historians, committee member Raylene Freeth of Tailem Bend.

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ABBA ARRIVAL 50 Years

This year celebrates the 50th anniversary of ABBA's release of ARRIVAL, their most famous album, released in 1976. The album was followed up with ABBA's historical 1977 tour of Australia.

ARRIVAL became the No.1 album of that year and produced five No.1 hits, including Dancing Queen, Fernando and Knowing Me Knowing You. Uniquely presented, this visual and exciting show highlights all songs from that album. It connects those wonderful ABBA years of the 1970s to the celebration of ABBA's 2021 reunion of Benny, Bjorn, Agnetha and Frida with new music.

Guaranteed to touch your emotions and have you, the audience, singing along with your favourite ABBA hits.

Tickets:

\$42 Adults : \$39 Concession

Table of Ten - \$360 (in one transaction)
= \$36 a ticket.

(Ticket fee applies) **Welcome, Companion Card.**

Over the phone bookings -
CALL 0421 651 451 or online - <https://www.trybooking.com/1522657>

Cabaret seating in tables of ten.
Licensed Bar **(No BYO, thanks, can bring a plate of nibbles)**



ARRIVAL 50 YEARS

25 JULY, SATURDAY
2 pm matinee & 8pm

Murray Bridge Performing Arts & Function Centre
17 Bridge St, Murray Bridge

BOOK NOW
BOX OFFICE: 0421 651 451




Heart MAKING WORKSHOP

Make your own felt hearts as part of the 1000 Hearts global kindness community

2nd Friday of each month during school term

10am - 12 noon
Stay for as little or as long as you like!

Tailem Bend Community Library (at the school)
Enter via Library Lane and the gym carpark

COST: A donation would be appreciated towards materials

Wellington East Marina Community Association

Its time to form a committee

at this **A.G.M.**

Tuesday 9th June 2026
6.30 pm at the
Tailem Bend Community Library




Your voice, your place — let's make it great!

Its time to support our local community!

Constitution and Agenda available

Contact Angie
message 0437 329 454

Editorial and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Tailem Bend Correspondent.

Movie makers again turned to Old Tailem Town on Sunday, May 17, 2026, as the historic attraction hosted filming for a new movie production whose title is yet to be officially released.

The latest scenes were shot inside the 1883 Southern Lilmur Hall, a beautifully preserved town hall-style building transformed into a lively two-up gambling scene packed with extras, lighting rigs and swirling theatrical smoke.

Cast and crew included a strong contingent of local participants from Murray Bridge, Jervois and Meningie, highlighting the region's growing connection with the South Australian film industry. Producers chose Old Tailem Town for its authentic streetscapes and remarkable period detail, with the attraction continuing to build a reputation as a magnet for movie makers searching for realistic Australian heritage locations.

Filming inside the hall created a demanding atmosphere, with heat building quickly from the crowded room. Movie lights and smoke machines used to recreate the intensity of an old-style social gathering. Despite the conditions, performers and extras delivered energetic and convincing scenes throughout the day and night, with organisers praising the enthusiasm and professionalism of everyone involved.

Locals embraced the opportunity to take part in a major production while showcasing the Murraylands region to a wider audience.



ABOVE: Rob Ward of Tailem Bend, Extra in the two-up scene.

Old Tailem Town once again proved why it remains one of South Australia's most unique tourism icons — a living time capsule offering filmmakers a rare glimpse into Australia's past and an ideal backdrop for storytelling on the big screen.



ABOVE: Actors and extras film a lively two-up scene inside the historic Southern Lilmur Hall at Old Tailem Town.

Strawberry Cheesecake - Recipes by Apprab

Article submitted by Tailorm Topics Editor.

Ingredients

Base

- 1/2 punnet strawberries
- 1 pkt Milk Arrowroot Biscuits
- 200g butter or margarine

Cheesecake Filling

- 250g cream cheese
- 600ml cream
- 395g tin sweetened condensed milk
- 1 pkt Cottee's Instant Pudding (strawberry)

Topping

- 600ml cream
- 1/2 punnet strawberries
- Chocolate flakes

Method

Base - Using a food processor, chop biscuits finely and place into a mixing bowl. Melt butter in a small cooking pot on the stove top. Add melted butter to biscuits and mix together. Put biscuits into a 20" cheesecake pan and press onto the base and sides as well. Refrigerate until set.

Slice strawberries and layer over the biscuit base. Refrigerate.

Cheesecake Filling - Using a food processor, cut cream cheese and place into processor, then add sweetened condensed milk a little at a time and mix into a smooth paste. Add cream and mix together, but do not overdo it as the cream will curdle. Place filling mixture into a large mixing bowl.

Add pudding mixture and whisk until mixture has thickened.



ABOVE: Strawberry Cheesecake made by Lorraine McGrath.

Place into cheesecake biscuit base and refrigerate until set, about 1-2 hours.

Topping - Remove cheesecake from cake tin and place on serving plate. Thicken cream and decorate with cream, strawberries and chocolate flakes.

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Tailem Bend Lions Serving Our Community

Report submitted by Lions members Judy, Bruce and Jo.

TAILEM BEND LIONS CLUB – MAY REPORT.

Our President, Lion Doug Holmes, was required to change our next meeting date due to the clashing of events. This meant the annual invited guests and members' "Lawn Bowls Dinner and Bowls Night" was held later in April.

We commend the Tailem Bend Lawn Bowling Club for allowing us to enjoy their wonderful club facilities for both dining and evening lawn bowls under a balmy April evening.

Our President Doug welcomed 43 guests and members, who sat down to a magnificent two-course meal prepared by the members of the bowling club, to whom we extend our thanks, along with a selection of beverages from their bar service. The evening's major raffle, coordinated by Secretary Raylene, culminated in 10 prizes being awarded and provided exciting moments for many.

Twenty-four attendees elected to play a 10-end bowls tournament. Retired Lions member and always a local supporter, Bob Hughes, took out the best stance as exhibited in the photograph. Many commented that "the young fella hasn't lost his poise and keen eye on the kitty."

Den Sale Update

Apologies for changing our May Den Sale date as it clashed with a number of other engagements by our members, so we had to push it out to the last weekend in May. Thank you to all of our readers and followers for your understanding and continued support.

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.

STOP PRESS – "VERY RARE" OPPORTUNITY

Early announcement regarding an upcoming large online clearing sale located in Coonalpyn, SA.

Date: 21st July, 2026

Our club has accepted a nomination by the vendor to be in attendance to service our community.

This clearing sale will be conducted online and briefly features 29 years of precious collections of very rare vintage tractors and associated workshop equipment.

Please check local papers for further information regarding this very rare clearing sale.



ABOVE: Lions members and guests enjoying a wonderful evening at the annual Lawn Bowls Dinner and Bowls Night held at the Tailem Bend Lawn Bowling Club.

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. We will confirm at the next meeting to our readers and community the method of registration to attend this unit.

Community Callout – Lions Den Repairs

The Club is seeking assistance from the community to repair a leaking roof around the chimney at the Lions Den. As many members are no longer able to undertake roof work, help from a qualified or capable person would be greatly appreciated. Anyone able to assist is encouraged to contact Life Member Lion Ian Eckermann on 8572 3850.



Donation Reminder



The Club kindly reminds the community **not to leave items** such as mattresses or bedding at the Lions Den, as disposal costs must be covered by the Club. If you have items to donate, please contact Lion Ian on 8572 3850 or Lion Bruce on 0401 106 010 to arrange collection if suitable.

Honey is available from Lions Members:

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

The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #163

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

**In this month's memories, we look at the
Tailem Bend Lions Club and the Chemplus chemist.**

Tailem Lions Notch up 25 Years

M/V Standard year 2000.

Tailem Bend Lions Club will mark its 25th anniversary with a celebratory dinner at the Riverside Hotel this Tuesday night. Fifty to 60 people are expected to attend the celebrations, marking 25 years since the club was chartered and its 30 members inducted into Lions on April 24, 1975.

Inaugural president was the late Wally Ditmar, a local bank manager who was also a well-known sporting identity, while the inaugural secretary was Peter Squires of Old Tailem Town. None of the charter members remain within the club, but some still live in the area.

The new club was sponsored by Murray Bridge Lions, and its president at the time, Joe Stacey and his wife Betty, and secretary Fred Fachrmann will be attending and outlining the history leading to the foundation of the Tailem Bend Lions. Also attending the celebratory dinner will be Member for Hammond Peter Lewis and his wife Kerry. *"We hope to see as many of the old members present as possible,"* spokesman Ian Eckermann said.

In a history that has seen the club rise to a maximum of 37 members, Mr Eckermann said community projects had included:

- *Being involved in landscaping of the war memorial area.*
- *Helping with several upgrading projects on the riverfront.*
- *Contributing to the gymnasium fund.*
- *Making a substantial contribution to the tennis club to assist in the expense of upgrading its courts, as well as supporting other bodies.*
- *Erecting five bus shelters for the protection of children while they waited for the bus.*
- *Regularly helping with the picnic race club and with the Twilight Country Festival.*
- *Helping to sponsor a hearing dog for a local person.*

Mr Eckermann said that while concentrating on helping local groups, Lions International and Australia had various project funds to which all clubs contributed, and these had in turn been able to assist Tailem Bend at times. He said that about 15 years ago, the club was granted the continuing use and enjoyment of the old scout hall, which became its Lions Den.



ABOVE: Tailem Bend Lions Club's Lion Tamer Ian Eckermann, outside the club's headquarters.

Work meetings are held monthly at the Den and alternate fortnightly dinner meetings at a local hotel. The Den was also very handy for uses such as zone meetings and garage sales, which had been an income earner for the club as well.

Mr Eckermann said that currently, the club had just seven members and one of its main thrusts was to encourage new quality members to assist with worthy causes. Current president is Kevin Krueger, secretary Trevor Johnson, and treasurer Doug Holmes.

Lions' work, helping others, 'very rewarding'

Tailem Bend Lions member Ian Eckermann has found being a Lion *"very rewarding, especially the comradeship and the fun in working together to help others."*

Mr Eckermann, a real estate agent, first joined the organisation with the Torrens Valley Club about 27 years ago, subsequently transferring to Karoonda and later Tailem Bend Lions. He has been with the Tailem Bend club for 18 years, has served as president twice — once with Karoonda and once at Tailem Bend — and is the current Lions Tamer or contact for the club's dinner meetings.

The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #163

"We can do things more effectively working as a group than individuals and have fun doing them as well," Ian said of Lions. He recommends involvement in the organisation to others. "Service-minded people could well have the same rewards and benefits from the experience of Lions."

It was a very well-organised movement — well structured in terms of assistance to clubs and backup — and was the biggest service club in the world. Lions were just ordinary people who gave their time to assist others.

Chemplus' Managerial Stability

M/V Standard year 2000.

Managerial stability has been established at Tailem Bend's Chemplus Pharmacy since Peter Green was appointed manager last November.

Mr Green, a pharmacist with 27 years' experience, was appointed after what he said had been a succession of managers after the current owners, James Cameron and John Alexandrou, took over. Messrs Cameron and Alexandrou also own the two Chemplus pharmacies at Murray Bridge — one in Bridge Street and the other in Southside Shopping Centre.

Mr Green said he believed customers preferred to see familiar faces whenever and wherever they shopped.

He graduated as a pharmacist from London University in 1970 and came to Australia in 1974. His first job on arriving in his newly adopted country was at Murray Bridge, managing one of the two pharmacies then owned by Andrew and Natalie Hay. He remained as manager of the chemist shop in the Woolworths complex until he left. The Hays sold both shops in 1994. Mr Green, who had become a partner in the business, sold his share when he left.

Tailem Bend Chemplus also has a depot at Karoonda, which is open during regular pharmacy hours. Prescriptions left at the Karoonda depot before 4pm on any weekday can be collected after 5.30pm the same day. The prescriptions are faxed to Tailem Bend, filled, and returned by courier to Karoonda, where they arrive about 5.30pm — the pharmacy remains open until 6pm.

Mr Green's wife, Sue, who used to work with him in Murray Bridge, now does aged care work and relieves at Murray Bridge and Tailem Bend, and also works one day at Karoonda. Mr Green said he had found working at the



ABOVE: Jeannette Hill has been working in pharmacies ever since she left school at age 16. Now a mother of two, she began working at Tailem Bend Pharmacy in 1986. Full trained in all aspects of work as a pharmacy assistant, she counts among her working career a time at Birks Chemist, in Adelaide.

Tailem Bend Chemplus Pharmacy a refreshing change after having been so long at Murray Bridge, and enjoyed meeting new customers. He said he felt he had been well received by customers and was ably supported by assistants Jeanette Hill and Kimberly Zadow.

All History

The history of Tailem Bend Pharmacy dates back to 1925. One of the early — possibly the first — chemists was a Mr Manning. Long-time locals would, however, probably associate the name Jeff Nottage with the pharmacy more than any other.

He owned and operated the pharmacy for more than 25 years and, according to current manager Peter Green and staff, Mr Nottage enjoyed a good rapport with local people.

Mr Nottage sold the pharmacy to Ray Willatt eight years ago, who then sold it three years later to James Cameron and John Alexandrou, who operate in the Chemplus group.

Quote for the Month

"Life is ours to be spent, not to be saved." — D.H. Lawrence.

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



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



141 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend SA 5260
Phone: 8572 3513 | Email: info@tbcc.org.au
Web: www.tbcc.org.au

CTSA UPDATE

Community Transport South Australia is refreshing the look of our fleet, with new branding currently being rolled out across our vehicles. As the update progresses, you'll start to notice the new design more frequently in the community. Before long, this friendly and recognisable look will be what greets you at your door when you book transport with us.

We would also like to inform passengers that BusBiz has introduced a fare adjustment for the Coorong Coaches medical bus service, effective 1 July 2026. The return fare from Taillem Bend to Adelaide is now \$36. This fare includes complimentary travel for a carer if a support person is required for your appointment. Please note that this service is cash-only, with payment made directly to the driver upon boarding.

This month, 32 of our volunteers successfully completed a Defensive Driver Course at The Bend Motorsport Park. Delivered over two days, the program combined hands-on training with opportunities for team connection. Funded by the Department of Human Services and delivered in partnership with the Rural City of Murray Bridge, the course has equipped our drivers with enhanced skills to safely manage emergency situations, strengthening the safety and quality of our service.

We are currently seeking volunteer drivers in the Taillem Bend area, as several of our valued volunteers have recently relocated and are now supporting CTSA in other regions.

Volunteering is a flexible way to give back to your community—whether you can spare a few hours or commit more regularly. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please contact Mel on 8572 3513 for more information about the accreditation process.

We also welcome volunteers interested in assisting with vehicle cleaning. Keeping our vehicles clean and well-presented is an important part of delivering a high-quality service. Volunteer hours can be recorded for Centrelink requirements, where applicable.

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

27 YEARS

BRIAN LLOYD

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

What inspired you to become a volunteer driver?
I had family on the board of the Murray Mallee Community Transport Scheme, and they mentioned there was a shortage of drivers. At the time, I wasn't working and was looking for something meaningful to fill my time, and I've always enjoyed driving. Volunteering gave me the opportunity to give back to the community by helping people who needed assistance getting to appointments and who genuinely appreciated the support.

It was initially intended to be a temporary role until I found employment. However, even after returning to work, I have continued volunteering because I truly enjoy it. It's rewarding to see how much it means to people to be able to get to their appointments, do their shopping, and stay connected, and to witness the happiness and gratitude they show.

🎵 Favourite road trip song: "On the Road Again" – Canned Heat version

☕ Tea or coffee on the road: Both sound good, but mainly water

🗺️ Dream road trip destination: Great Ocean Road – drove it 10 years ago

🍪 Best snack for the road: Coonalpyn Bakery

❤️ What do you enjoy most about volunteering?
The driving and the company of clients—just knowing that they appreciate the volunteers. Also, the coordinators.

Celebrate Connection - upcoming Events

FREE EVENT

MOVE, PLAY, GROW

LITTLE LEAPERS

LITTLE LEAPERS – Sensory and Movement Program 19 July – 20 September 8.30am – 9.30am.

The Communities for Children team have collaborated with a local Early Childhood Teacher to deliver a FREE 10 week sensory and movement program for children 0-5years, to be held on Sunday mornings at Murray Bridge South Primary School gym.

This program has been kindly supported by the Variety Brats Bash.

Bookings are essential and will open on 15 June 2026 – Parent participation is required.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

<https://www.trybooking.com/DLVXR>

For Further Information Contact Taillem Bend Community Centre
P: 8572 3513 E: c4cadmin@tbcc.org.au
Supported by the Variety Brats Bash

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



Want to be a part
of something special?

Join the Tailem Bend Community Centre (TBCC) Board of Management

Make a meaningful difference. Share your skills.
Help shape stronger, more connected communities.

About TBCC



TBCC is a volunteer-driven, not-for-profit organisation delivering a wide range of services that support individuals, families and communities across the Riverland, Murray Mallee and Limestone Coast (RMC).



Our Vision is to be a self sustaining enterprise that supports the drivers needs of the communities we serve.

Our Values



Respect, Integrity, Inclusion, Collaboration, Accountability. Creating connection, belonging, and stronger communities through meaningful social change.

Board Expectations

As a Board member, you will be expected to;

- Attend and actively participate in Board meetings
- Read Board documents and contribute to informed decisions
- Act ethically, with honesty and in the best interest of TBCC and the communities we serve
- Maintain confidentiality
- Support TBCC's vision, values and strategic direction



Board meetings are generally held at 5:00pm on the first Wednesday of each month and may be conducted face-to-face, virtually, or in a hybrid format. Additional meetings may be scheduled as required.

Induction and Support

Should you be successfully voted onto the board, a comprehensive Board induction pack will be provided along with relevant governance, compliance and organisational training to support you in your role and ensure you feel informed and confident.

The Role of the Board



The Board of Management provides governance, strategic direction, and oversight to ensure TBCC remains sustainable, compliant, community-focused, and aligned with its vision and values.

Board members work collaboratively to:

- Support the long-term direction and sustainability of TBCC
- Ensure good governance, accountability, and compliance
- Oversee financial management and risk management
- Contribute to strategic planning and decision-making
- Support the CEO and monitor organisational performance
- Advocate for positive community outcomes

Who we are looking for



We welcome people with a wide range of skills and life experiences who care about their community and want to share their time, knowledge and ideas.

Experience in areas like governance, finance, business, health, education, transport, marketing, legal, HR, risk or community development is valued but not required.

Want to know more?

Contact us 08 8572 3513 or email secretary@tbcc.org.au
www.tbcc.org.au/

CHSP UPDATE

'Lets talk about Aged Care

On Tuesday, 12 May 2026 the Community Centre was full of lively conversation as more than 50 people attended a recent workshop hosted by Natasha and Cynthia from the Department of Health, Ageing and Disability.

The session provided clear, practical guidance on using My Aged Care, MyGov and the Find a Provider tool, Cyber Security, helping attendees feel more confident accessing services.

Guest speakers from Care Finder MB, ARAS, Carers SA and Murray Mallee Aged Care (MMAC) shared valuable information and support options, while the open Q&A gave participants the chance to ask questions and connect.

The event wrapped up with a relaxed cuppa, leaving attendees feeling informed, supported and better connected to local services.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beetlejuice Bus Trip

Wednesday, 21 October 2026

Bus departs: 9.30am from 141 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend or 9.45am Swanport Hotel Carpark.

CHSP: \$150 | Non-CHSP: \$165

Payment due by: Friday, 18 September 2026



Wood Burning Classes

Beginners Welcome
Equipment Supplied

Wood Burning is the art or technique of decorating wood, with burn marks, creating designs through the controlled application of a heated, pen-like tool

Thursdays, 10am-12pm

CHSP: \$2.50 | Non-CHSP: \$5.00



WALKING SOCCER

Mondays, 10am-11am

Night Visions Illuminate-Bus Trip

Bus departs: 3.45pm from 141 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend

CHSP: \$50 | Non-CHSP: \$60

Payment due by: Friday, 19 June 2026

'Feedback & Complaints

Information about how to lodge feedback & complaints was shared:

Concerned about our services or would like to make a complaint please call the centre on 08 8572 3513 or email ceo@tbcc.org.au

Alternatively please call My Aged Care on **1800 200 422** or if you need help contact older Person Advocacy Network (OPAN) on **1800 700 600**



TB Auto Club Cruise Through the Hills

Report submitted by Michael Holliday.

On Thursday, April 30, a group of Tailem Bend Auto Club members and their families met at the Swanport Hotel car park, ready to depart at 9:30am for their final destination of Mt Compass Tavern for lunch.

Our first scheduled stop was the Strathalbyn Bakery for coffee and cake. After this short but welcome break, we travelled along Bull Creek Road and Nangkita Road to our final destination. As we travelled the planned route, everyone enjoyed the beautiful countryside bathed in sunshine.

The food and conversation were enjoyed by the 29 people in attendance before everyone climbed back into the 16 cars and headed home.

**A big thank you to Steve and Cindy
for organising the day's cruise.**



ABOVE: Members of the Tailem Bend Auto Club enjoying lunch and great company during the club's cruise to the Mt Compass Tavern.



ABOVE: The happy Tailem Bend Auto Club group enjoying a wonderful day together at the Mt Compass Tavern.



ABOVE: A drone view of the Tailem Bend Auto Club vehicles parked at the Mt Compass Tavern during the club's day cruise.



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The Rotary Club of Tailem Bend Chronicles

Report submitted by Angela Thorley.

What a busy day Sunday May 3rd was! This was the culmination of months of planning and organising for the Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day held at Old Tailem Town. The main focus was to give a free day out for farming and rural communities who have been struggling through drought, increased costs of living and high costs of fuel and fertilizer.

Rotary and Inner Wheel clubs contributed physically and financially, along with many sponsors to contribute to a free day including entry, food, fun and entertainment. Free health checks included skin cancer checks, heart health and breast screening.

Leading the team in organising the day were BILL MARLES, Project Manager Rotary S.A. Drought relief -Fodder to Farms and member of Rotary Adelaide Central, **ROXANNE ROWLAND**, President Rotary Club of Murray Bridge and **TINA** and **DANNY SQUIRES** of Old Tailem Town. The Rotary Club of Tailem Bend organised bins of potatoes and onions for "give-a-ways", pantry items from Foodland, personal items from the local chemist, line dancing demonstrations, spinning demonstrations, the Adelaide 1/14 Remote Control trucks and volunteered to work as parking attendants and on food stalls.

The day was a success, with about 600 farmers attending and about 220 volunteers (including 140 Rotary members from 15 clubs). Most importantly, some potentially life-threatening conditions from melanoma, high blood pressure and undiagnosed diabetes were identified. That alone, made the day worthwhile.

Attendees were treated to free give-a-ways with things for all the family. Beanies, biscuits, liquorice and flavoured sweet straps, yellow brick road, haircuts, massages, grocery and pamper packs and Op Shop goods were just some of the items included.



ABOVE: Phil helping out at the BBQ Stall.



ABOVE: Phil Roberts, President of the Rotary Club of Tailem Bend presents a donation to Heart Print Charity at the Musical Bingo Night.

Entertainment included bands, line dancing, facepainting, horse and cart rides, children's craft and demonstrations like spinning and 1/14 remote control trucks just to name a few.

If you would like to see some photos of the day have a look at the following website to see just what a cracker of a day it was. <https://rotarypioneeradventureday.au/about-pioneer-adventure-day/what-a-wonderful-day> and <https://rotarypioneeradventureday.au/photo-gallery>

Heart Print Musical Bingo

Last Friday members of our club attended a fund raiser for this worthwhile charity. An exciting and fun evening had us all, listening keenly to identify songs played and fill the bingo cards. Our Rotary club presented the charity with a donation at the end of the evening.

Country Education Foundation (CEF)- Murray Mallee Inc

This group is giving out grants for country people who need additional financial support to further their education in a career. You will see notification of this in school newsletters, an article in the next Murraylands Life Magazine and also on various posters and billboards. Go to their website for more information.

<https://cef.org.au/foundations/murray-mallee/>

It is supported by **Rotary Clubs** of St.Peters, Murray Bridge, Mobilong and Tailem Bend.



ABOVE: Pioneer Adventure Day held at Old Tailem Town.

Coorong District Council, Annual Business Plan

MEDIA RELEASE

The Coorong District Council has released its Draft 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget for public consultation and is encouraging residents, ratepayers and stakeholders to have their say.

The draft plan outlines the Council's proposed services, projects and financial position for the 2026/27 financial year, and has been shaped by the Council's Community Vision Plan 2026–2030, Long Term Financial Plan and asset management priorities.

Acting Mayor Cr. Jonathan Pietzsch said the plan reflects a careful balance between maintaining essential services, renewing critical infrastructure and responding to ongoing cost-of-living pressures.

"This draft Annual Business Plan is about focusing on our core responsibilities while ensuring we remain financially sustainable," Cr. Pietzsch said. "We have deliberately prioritised asset renewal, particularly roads and infrastructure, while being mindful of the economic challenges facing our community." "Community feedback is essential in helping Council refine the final plan and ensure it aligns with local priorities."

Key highlights of the Draft 2026/27 Plan include:

- An average rate increase of 6.56%, comprising CPI (4.2%), growth (1%) and a rate net increase (1.36%)
- A \$6.87 million capital renewal program, with major investment in sealed and unsealed road renewal, buildings, plant and equipment, stormwater and wastewater assets
- Delivery of strategic projects including the Fulwood Avenue / Northcott Terrace sealed road alignment, continued planning for growth at Wellington East, and Narrung jetty renewal planning (subject to funding opportunities)

- Continued commitment to asset management and financial sustainability, following ESCOSA's assessment of Council as being in a "mostly sustainable" position

- A focus on maintaining core services while limiting cost growth in a period of global and economic uncertainty.

Interim Chief Executive Officer Myles Somers said the draft plan reinforces Council's long-term approach to responsible financial management. *"This plan reflects prudent spending, a strong focus on asset renewal and a commitment to minimising required rate increases, in line with ESCOSA's advice, whilst also planning for future growth,"* Mr Somers said.

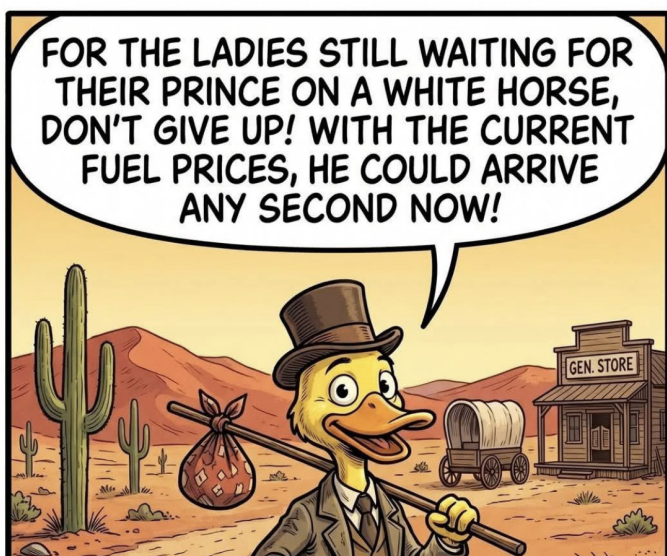
Community engagement on the Draft 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget, along with the draft Long Term Financial Plan and Schedule of Fees and Charges opened on Friday, 1 May 2026 and will close at 5:00pm on Friday, 29 May 2026. Submissions received during the consultation period will be considered by Council at a Special meeting in June, before the final Annual Business Plan and Budget is adopted on Tuesday 7 July 2026.

The draft documents and details on how to make a submission are available on Council's website at www.coorong.sa.gov.au.

Community Information Sessions:

Residents are invited to attend a public meeting to learn more about the draft 2026/27 Annual Business Plan, draft 2026/27 – 2035/36 Long Term Financial Plan, and draft 2026/27 Schedule of Fees & Charges:

- Wednesday 13 May 2026, 6:30pm – Meningie Bowling Club
- Tuesday 26 May 2026, 6:30pm – Coorong



ABOVE: Photo by Paul Bartlett of Pangarinda Volunteers at a thank you to Volunteers Luncheon at Tintinara bowls club

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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.

**MURRAY
BRIDGE
NEWS**

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Happy 90th Birthday, Glenys

Article and images supplied by Jeanette Kozikowski.

We had a beautiful afternoon celebrating the 90th birthday of our dear friend, Glenys Cocks, at the Riverside Hotel – a very special milestone.

After celebrating with her friends and family on February 21st, we gathered with Glenys the next day, surrounded by familiar faces and shared memories from our time at Tailem Bend Primary School.

There's something so meaningful about reconnecting with people who've been part of your life's journey. Our friend is doing incredibly well for 90, although truthfully, that comes as no surprise to any of us who know her. Her warmth, spirit, and zest for life continue to shine, and it was a joy to celebrate not just her birthday but the many wonderful years and friendships we've all shared. It was a truly lovely day we'll all treasure.

Apologies to our readers and to Glenys for the delay in publishing this special celebration. Through an editorial oversight, the story was unfortunately missed earlier, but we are delighted to now share this wonderful milestone with the community.



ABOVE: Birthday celebrations for Glenys Cocks as she marked her special 90th milestone.

MURRAY
BRIDGE
NEWS

Hanging up his Mailbag

Editorial and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Tailem Bend Correspondent.

After more than half a century delivering letters and parcels, Tailem Bend postman Alan "Burtie" Burt is hanging up his mailbag. After 53 years on the job, he's officially calling it a day—much to the surprise of locals who assumed he'd simply keep going forever.

Burtie, a quietly spoken figure who has always preferred to stay out of the spotlight, has been part of daily life in the town for generations. Known for his kindness and willingness to help, he's been far more than just the postman—he's been a steady, familiar presence in the community.

He began his rounds on a pushbike, graduated to a motorbike, and in more recent years has occasionally used a van – mainly to cope with the modern avalanche of parcels. "There's a lot more of them now," he admits, in what might be the understatement of the online shopping era.

Asked about his retirement plans, Burtie doesn't hesitate – he's planning on doing "as little as possible" – a goal many admire, but few achieve with such commitment.



ABOVE: Burtie Delivers His Final Round.



ABOVE: After 53 years delivering mail throughout Tailem Bend, Alan "Burtie" Burt is retiring, farewelling generations of locals who have come to know and appreciate his friendly and familiar presence.

Over the decades, Burtie has delivered mail to the same families across five generations, watching children grow up, move away, and often return again. For him, that's been the best part of the job—the people, the connections, and simply being part of the community.

As he steps away from his round, Tailem Bend farewells not just a postman with his trademark moustache, but a constant presence – one who will be genuinely missed.

Celebrating Community at Pangarinda Garden

Article and images supplied by Emily Brown, Coorong District Council.

Pangarinda Botanic Garden came alive during Botanic Gardens Week, welcoming more than 20 visitors for a memorable day of nature, creativity and connection.

Guests enjoyed a guided tour through the gardens, followed by a relaxed morning tea and a hands-on “Art in the Park” lino printing workshop led by local artist Ann Lund.

The event was made possible by the dedication of volunteer coordinators, whose enthusiasm and hard work created a warm and engaging experience for all involved.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and helped celebrate the beauty of our gardens and the strength of our community.



ABOVE: Botanic Gardens Week event at Pangarinda Botanic Garden.



ABOVE: Visitors enjoy lino printing during Botanic Gardens Week at Pangarinda Botanic Garden.



ABOVE: Visitors enjoyed a relaxed morning tea together at Pangarinda Botanic Garden during Botanic Gardens Week, sharing conversation and community spirit after the guided tour and activities.

A Celebration of Community Spirit

Article and images supplied by Emily Brown, Coorong District Council.

National Volunteer Week was marked with a heartfelt gathering at the Tintinara Bowling Club on 21 May, bringing together more than 90 volunteers from across the district to share in an afternoon of appreciation and connection.

The room was filled with stories, laughter and a genuine sense of community, as volunteers enjoyed a meal and the chance to reflect on the many ways they contribute to life across the region. Special thanks were extended to guest speakers Max from the Mannum Dock Museum, who captivated the audience with tales from his decades of volunteering and dedication to paddleboat restoration, and Glen from Keith Show Revved Up, who spoke openly about breathing new life into a much-loved event while keeping its strong agricultural roots.

A highlight of the day was the presentation of service pins, recognising the ongoing commitment of members from the Meningie Gun Club, Taillem Bend Historians and Tintinara Bowling Club.

It was a meaningful way to say thank you to the many volunteers whose time, energy and passion help keep our communities thriving.



ABOVE: L to R, Acting Mayor Cr. Jonathan Pietzsch, Taillem Bend Historians committee member Maxine Kiddie, Taillem Bend Historians President Kathleen Kromwyk and Council Member Brenton Qualmann.



ABOVE: Volunteers from across the district gathered at the Tintinara Bowling Club to celebrate National Volunteer Week, sharing an afternoon of friendship, appreciation and community connection.

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A Stroll Through Himley Hall Grounds

Article submitted by Jeanne Phipps, Kingswinford, Dudley, England.

I once knew a man who had danced with a lady who herself had danced with the Prince of Wales – the man who later became Edward VIII before famously abdicating the throne to marry Mrs Simpson.

The Prince spent his final weekend before abdicating at Himley Hall with his friend, the Third Earl of Dudley. The Earl was married to Lady Rosemary Leveson-Gower, who had once been engaged to the Prince of Wales. However, the proposed marriage was vetoed by his father, King George V – much like his later marriage to Mrs Simpson.

Today, I frequently walk through the grounds of Himley Hall, now owned by Dudley Council. It was there that I met Kerry Mason, who for many years worked as a guide at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley. The museum is somewhat like Tailem Old Town, with its collection of historic buildings, although it sits beside a canal. Inside the houses are glowing coal fires rather than the dust I remember from my visit, when I met the remarkable Mr Squires. Kerry shared many interesting stories about the Earls of Dudley and their connection to Australia.

The Second Earl of Dudley, William Humble Ward, served as the fourth Governor-General of Australia from 1908 to 1911.



ABOVE: Ducks wander through the picturesque grounds of Himley Hall, adding to the charm and peaceful atmosphere of the historic estate.

Australian Prime Minister Alfred Deakin reportedly regarded him as “*nothing really important, nothing done thoroughly*” and not a particularly popular figurehead.

However, the Earl’s wife, Rachel Gurney, was much admired in Australia. After touring the Outback, she helped establish the New South Wales Bush Nursing Scheme, which later became part of the health department in the 1970s. She also founded a club for Australian officers in London and helped establish the Australian Voluntary Hospital in France in 1914.

I look forward to my next visit to Tailem Bend, which was originally planned for May 2026 to celebrate our 80th birthdays with my friend of 69 years, Doreen Lutz. Sadly, the trip has been postponed for safer times.



The Spirit of Truth

Article submitted by Tracey Woidt on behalf of the Mallee Lutheran Parish.

We live in a world curious about spiritual things and there are lures into many different spiritual paths or enlightenment. There are many spirits in the world and all of them except one come from a place of deception. All except one. The Holy Spirit. The Spirit of Truth. So, who is He and what does He do?

He is God – the 3rd person of God (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) and He is holy. That means He is pure, without fault, there is no darkness or deception in Him. Before Jesus died, He told His disciples that they would not be left alone, that Father God would send the Holy Spirit to help us. That’s what He does as well – He helps us. He points us to Jesus, that is one of His jobs, because in Jesus there is salvation and life everlasting. The Holy Spirit establishes our faith, helping us to grow in relationship with Jesus.

But He can also be hindered from working in our lives. We get to decide if we listen to Him and follow His promptings, or if we ignore Him. Being a good person isn’t enough to get us to heaven. The only way is through believing that Jesus is our Saviour and it is the Holy Spirit who gives us the faith to believe.

It grieves the heart of God the Father to see us not in relationship with Jesus. He sent Jesus to take on all the sin that separated us from Him. That is His great love for us, that He would sacrifice His own Son for us. Jesus died the death that was ours and His resurrection made the way for us to be in heaven forever with Father God. That is His desire. That we would all be there with Him.

The Holy Spirit is constantly giving us the opportunity, constantly seeking us so that not one of us would miss out on going to heaven (Psalm 23:6). He is constantly revealing Jesus to us (if we are taking notice) because Jesus is the only way to heaven (John 14:6). He reveals Jesus to us through the Bible and prayer, some of us may even see a picture of Him when we close our eyes. It is as simple as asking the Holy Spirit to work in our lives. Inviting Him in to work in our hearts and minds, to show us Jesus. He is the Spirit of truth and He will lead us in all truth. He will show up, we just have to look and listen.

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. John 16:13

Tailem Bend Community Library

New Books June 2026

ADULT FICTION

ALEXANDRA, BELINDA: The Masterpiece ~ Historical Fiction
BECKLER, D.E.: Missing ~ Crime Fiction
BOX, C.J.: Battle Mountain ~ Crime Fiction
BUCHANAN, ELEANOR: The Sea Stone Sisters ~ Magical
BURKE, JAMES LEE: The Hadacol Boogie ~ Dave Robicheaux
CAPLIN, JULIE: A Girl's Best Friend ~ Country Romance
DAWSON, MARK: Clearwater ~ Thriller
FLYNN, KATIE: The Mersey Queen ~ Post-War Romance
HART, EMILIA: The Sirens ~ Mythical
KELLERMAN, JONATHAN: Jigsaw ~ Crime Fiction
LEATHER, STEPHEN: Underdogs ~ Thriller
LEGG, BRANDT: Chasing Dirt ~ Tech Thriller
LOWE, FIONA: The Drowning ~ Family Dispute
MASTERS, MARY: Winds of Change ~ Bk 5, Belleville Fam Series
McCLEAVE, SIMON: The Bala Lake Killings ~ Thriller
MICHAELS, FERN: No Safe Secret ~ Survival
MONTGOMERY, ROSS: The Murder at Worlds End ~ Crime
O'LEARY, SEAN: Drifting ~ Australian Romance
PATON, MAUREEN: The Mystery at Rake Hall ~ Post-War Mystery
PATTERSON, JAMES: Judge Stone ~ Courtroom Drama
WYN CLARK, ANNE: The Cottage in the Ruins ~ Thriller

NON FICTION

MIRABELLA, KELLY NOBLE: AI Chatbots for Dummies
MYERS, RUSSELL: William & Catherine, The Intimate Inside Story

LARGE PRINT

CLIPSTON, AMY: The Lighthouse at the Cove ~ Romance
DOWNES, ANNA: Red River Road ~ Australian Thriller
O'CONNOR, MARY-ANNE: Gallipoli Street ~ War Romance
RICHARDS, DUSTY: Waltzing with Tumbleweeds ~ Western

MONDAY MEMORIES

Come along to the
Tailem Bend Community
Library

Monday, 29th June 2026
10 am start.

Come along and reminisce
about the days gone by.

All welcome

Phone 8572 3275 for more information.
Please Book.



BOOK REVIEW



The Sea Stone Sisters By: Eleanor BUCHANAN

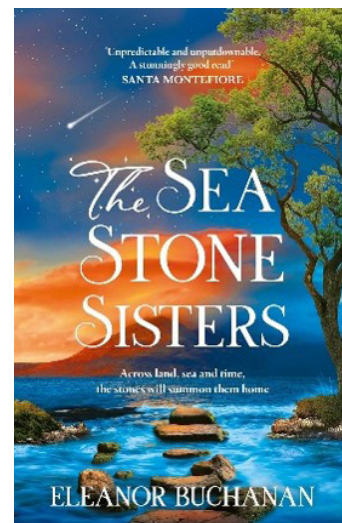
Four great stones once stood on
a remote Scottish headland - the
Sisters of Skara.

Legend has it they were raised
by a grieving father, to guide his
abducted daughters home. A
curse was placed on anyone who
laid the stones low: their family,
too, would be scattered to the
winds, never to find their way
home.

1931. When Iris Blackmore's
father knocks down the Sisters
of Skara standing stones, a dark
shadow falls on the Blackmore
family. With his fortune lost and
wife dead, his four daughters are
forced to leave their home, taking only the rings they inherited
from their beloved mother.

Iris is the first to depart, travelling east in search of an uncle who
might be able to help the family. Present day. Roz Chatton moves
to London from Australia, bringing very little with her other
than her mother's old ring. Grieving and adrift, she stumbles
on a painting of four ancient standing stones which ignites an
uncanny connection to the ring on her finger.

Determined to learn more about the origin of the painting, Roz
unearths the full story of Iris Blackmore, unravelling a family
history she could never have imagined. Four lost sisters. A family
scattered. **An epic journey home. Will you follow?**



MUSICHALL MEMORIES

Come along to the
Tailem Bend Community
Library

Monday, 22nd June 2026
10 am start.

Come along and reminisce
the 'Musichall' Days in 1987

All welcome

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COUNCIL SNAPSHOT

Cr Lisa Rowntree, Coorong Area Councillor

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



■ May 2026 (Edition 80)

Our thoughts are with the **Meningie shop owners** affected by the recent fire, while it's great news the Lakeside Butcher will reopen soon, others were not so fortunate, and we hope to see them back in business as soon as possible.

Many people have been asking about the new **Changing Places toilets in Coonalpyn** that opened on Wed 13 May 2026. The previous facilities had needed replacing for well over 10 years and no longer met modern accessibility standards. The new facilities include a specialised Changing Places facility designed for people with high support needs. The other parts of the building include regular public toilets and standard accessible toilets, which remain available for general community use. The Changing Places facility includes features such as an adult change table, hoist, shower, additional space and room for carers. This area is securely locked and can only be accessed by authorised users with a MLAK key, helping ensure the equipment remains safe, clean and available. Importantly, this project was half funded by the Commonwealth and a further third of the cost came from the State Government, meaning Council secured significant external funding to deliver something the town has needed for a long time. I am thankful to the staff who did so much work to secure the two lots of grant funding.

In May, Elected Members (EM's) authorised to extend **Mayor Paul Simmons** leave of absence until June 2026. We continue to wish him all the best with his recovery.

EM's considered the proposed funding changes to **school based libraries** that will have an effect the finances and authorised the CEO to continue negotiations with the State. In budget review no. 3, we learnt that \$554,346 worth of rate deferments relating to drought relief provisions were approved. Let's hope this season is a better.

Council provided feedback on the **ESCOSA** consultation, noting that the cost of auditing and reporting was not proportional to council size or income, with all councils charged the same flat fee. We suggested that the ongoing cost of this work be more fairly aligned to each council's size.

Council's **sealed roads program** has been affected by rising costs, particularly for fuel and oil-based materials, resulting in some projects being reduced or delayed. **Tynan Rd** has had its scope reduced for now, with further works planned over the next two years, while **Trevena Rd** and **Carcuma Rd** have been deferred due to cost increases. The **Railway Tce carpark** is continuing despite cost overruns. These changes allow

Council to manage within the existing budget, noting that ongoing market volatility may still have an impact.

After a lengthy process, EM's resolved to seek approval from the Minister to exit the retirement village scheme at **Tintinara Aged Homes**. The current requirements are costly and complex for a facility of this size and moving to standard tenancy arrangements would allow more flexible use of the units and help ensure they are better utilised.

Council is progressing a major project with SA Water to connect the existing **non-drinking water system at Wellington East to SA Water's network and convert it to a fully treated drinking water supply**. Works are already underway, with the final connection expected around May 2026, followed by a 6–8-week process to flush, sanitise and certify the system as safe for drinking. In the meantime, Council will continue maintaining the existing pipe network but will no longer be responsible for supplying the water itself.

Council has established a new volunteer group, the **Coonalpyn Progress Working Group**, as an extension of the Coonalpyn Progress Association. The group has secured funding to restore the shed housing the display tractor next to the new public toilets.

Council has strengthened its risk management by entering into a new 3-year ICT and 24/7 cyber security contract. It is disappointing to report an **increase in theft and vandalism**, including items stolen from a Council depot, fuel taken from equipment and ongoing damage to public toilets. These matters have been reported to SAPOL. Over Easter, all plant was secured in depots and quarries to help deter further incidents. Council will now review its asset monitoring and security measures to better protect community infrastructure and hold those responsible to account

In April, Council completed around 351 km of **patrol grading** across the district, along with general maintenance works including sign replacements, sign installation, tree removal, mowing, cleaning public areas and minor repairs to community facilities.

Council's **unsealed roads renewal program** is progressing well, with 24.5 km of re-sheeting already completed across several roads including Buccleuch North, Loveday Bay and Jabuk South Roads. Works are continuing, with additional projects underway at Deepwater, Pascoe and Burns Roads, and more planned through May. While the original target was 42.9 km for the year, Council is on track to deliver 38.5 km by the end of the FY, an increase on last year's 32.5 km.

Cheers Lisa 😊

COORONG Council News

May - Jun 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** teams have been busy removing fallen trees, replacing vandalised locks and changing tables in our public toilets, rotating town entry banners across the district, keeping our town entries and aerodomes tidy, pressure washing foot paths in Meningie and cleaning the mosaics covered picnic tables to remove bird droppings in Coonalpyn.



Above: Banner rotation in Meningie

In addition Council has supported local community events across the district with rubbish bins, cones and other items at the Tintinara Market and Auction Day, the Pioneer Adventure Day held at Old Taillem Town and Meningie's Historical Vehicle Display & Fly In.

Unsealed Road Renewal Program

Road renewal works are underway on **Deepwater Road, Burns Road** and **Pascoe Road**.

The 2025/26 program will deliver a total of 38.5km of resheet works - an increase from 32.5km in the 2024/25 program.

Narrung Road Shoulder Rehabilitation and Renewal Project

Works on Narrung Road continued throughout April, with the 8.5km stretch of the road having received final spray works, and line marking to be completed shortly.



Above: Spray seal works, Narrung Road.

Railway Terrace Carpark, Taillem Bend Project

Works are nearing completion at the Railway Terrace Carpark in Taillem Bend, with kerb and spoon drain construction completed. Sealing is also complete with final civil works taking place in late May.



Above: Hotmix asphalt works at Railway Terrace Carpark, Taillem Bend

Fulwood Avenue and Northcott Terrace, Tintinara

Works began in early May to upgrade the intersection to improve safety, traffic flow, and access for both local and freight vehicles. This includes reconfiguring the current layout into a modified T-intersection, along with pavement and minor footpath improvements.



Above: Progress photos of the Northcott Avenue works underway.

Council thanks the community for its patience while these important improvements are completed.

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Taillem Bend SA 5260



Key Decisions

At the May 2026 Council meeting, Elected Members considered several key reports:

- Members were updated on the State Government's current School Community Libraries funding review
- The third quarter budget review for the 2025/26 financial year was adopted
- Council will request approval from the Minister for Health and Wellbeing to remove the retirement village scheme over the Tintinara Aged Homes - this will broaden opportunities for use of the units, while maintaining a preference for retirees.
- The transition of the Wellington East Water Supply to SA Water is well underway, with final actions expected to be completed by early July.

Save the Date: NAIDOC Week 2026

This year Council will be holding one event in celebration of NAIDOC Week at Meningie on Thursday, 9 July 2026.

Stay tuned for more event details to be announced soon.



Council Elections

Did you know that Council elections will take place in November this year?

We're encouraging residents to start thinking about nominating to run for the next Council term, where you will be able to contribute to making your community a better place to live.

Nominations open: Tuesday, 25 August 2026

Nominations close: 12 noon on, Tuesday, 8 September 2026

To learn how to nominate, what it takes to run a campaign and what it means to become a Councillor, visit: www.councilelections.sa.gov.au

National Volunteer Week

To celebrate National Volunteer Week, this year Council hosted a recognition luncheon for volunteers across our district on Thursday, 21 May 2026.

The event was held at the Tintinara Bowling Club where over 90 volunteers came together to celebrate and enjoy a meal. Thank you to the Tintinara Bowling Club for their hospitality.

Thanks to guest speakers: Max from the Mannum Dock Museum for his stories about volunteering for over 30 years and his passion for paddleboat restoration of the PS Marion (and others) and Glen from the Keith Show Revved Up who spoke about reinivgorating the show while maintaining its agricultural roots and the challenges of attracting and keeping volunteers engaged.

Service pins were also presented to members of the Meningie Gun Club, Taillem Bend Historians and Tintinara Bowling Club for years of service.



Want to read more?

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



Left: Volunteers enjoying the 2026 National Volunteer Luncheon at 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;** Meetings held 3rd Monday of every month at the RSL. **Come and join us. For more 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.
- **ULYSSES LOWER MURRAY MOTORBIKE CLUB;** *A club for motobike 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 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 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 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 - YOU ARE VALUABLE!

Submitted by Garry Leech, Location Pastor - Revival City Church, Taillem Bend.

Life is hard at times. Our life experiences, hardships and relationships sometimes distort or give us a poor estimate of just how valuable we really are.

Luke 12:24 Jesus said, "Look at the birds. They don't need to plan or harvest or put food in barns because God feeds them and you are far more valuable to Him than any birds."

Did you catch that? Jesus says we're far more valuable to Him than any birds. God places great value in you and!! Have you ever wondered what creates or gives something value?

Six Things That Give Something It's Value:

1. The Value Of Something Is In Its Material Substance.

The value is linked to its rarity such as diamonds, gold or uranium.

2. The Value Of Something Is In Its Workmanship.

The skill and significance of the maker, like a watch or fine furniture.

3. The Value Of Something Is In Its Uniqueness.

The rarity of something.

4. The Value Of Something Is In Its Relationship To Others.

Singly it has no real value, but when in relationship with others it gains value. A dollar coin is just a dollar coin,

but when it's in relationship with a million other dollar coins, it's value significantly increases

5. The Value Of Something Is In Its Potential.

The possibility of it gaining value at a future date, such as collectables, property or the stock market.

6. The Value Of Something Is In What Somebody Is Willing To Pay For It. *How much is our house worth? It's worth whatever somebody's willing to pay for it.*

God says He loves us and that we're valuable. The cross proves our value. The people who told you growing up that you are worthless, were wrong and had no idea just how valuable you are.

Romans 5:8 "But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

Isaiah 43:4 The Lord God said, "You are precious to Me."

Now that's something worth remembering!

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 Office: 8532 2883

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

LETTER TO EDITOR

Submitted by Dwayne Thomas.

There have been a few rumours circulating around Tailem Bend about me recently, and unfortunately some of these stories have been getting back to Mum and causing her unnecessary upset.

Yes, I have been out of the public eye for the past three and a half months, however I am not in a nursing home or permanent respite due to my prostate cancer returning aggressively. At this stage, both my prostate cancer and colon cancer are currently clear, although I am still a long way from being considered in remission.

More recently, I have been diagnosed with a hidden medical condition that I have had since childhood, which has significantly worsened over the past 12 months. This condition is unrelated to chemotherapy side effects and existed long before COVID vaccines, despite rumours suggesting otherwise.

Over the past three and a half months, I have spent considerable time in hospital while doctors and medical specialists worked through different medications and treatments to try and stabilise my condition.

As a result, I have had to make the difficult decision to move closer to major hospitals and specialists in a larger city area. Saying goodbye to my childhood town will not be easy, but no matter where I go, **I will always be a Tailem kid.**

RIDDLE

You see a boat filled with people, yet there isn't a single person on board. How is that possible?

****All the people are married*

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Tailem Topics is currently seeking a number of regular advertisers to help support the continued production of our much-loved local newspaper.

Each month, more than 2,000 copies are distributed throughout Tailem Bend and surrounding districts, reaching homes, businesses and community groups across the region. In addition, Tailem Topics is available online and mailed directly to readers, extending its reach even further.

Advertising with Tailem Topics is a great way to promote your business, service or event while supporting a publication dedicated to sharing local news, community stories and events. Affordable advertising options are available for businesses of all sizes.

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TERM 2

Wednesday 1st JULY

Disco

SRC to choose the theme.

Tailem Bend Town Hall.

THURSDAY 13TH -

FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST 2026.

Tailem Bend Primary School

year 6 Camp at Monarto Zoo

TERM 3

Wednesday 23rd September

Footy Colours Disco.

Tailem Bend Football Clubrooms.

TERM 4

Wednesday 2nd December

Christmas Theme Disco

Tailem Bend Town Hall.

Community Notice Board

Jokes of the Month

Why did the dinosaur cross the road?
Because the chicken wasn't born yet.

Why can't Elsa from Frozen have a balloon?
Because she will "let it go, let it go."

What do you call a dog magician?
A labracadabrador.

How does the Moon cut his hair?
Eclipse it.

Knock knock. Who's there? Annie. Annie who?
Annie thing you can do, I can do better!

Knock knock. Who's there? Honey bee. Honey bee who?
Honey bee a dear and get me a glass of water!

Quotes of the Month

"The first thing a child learns when they get a drum is that they are never going to get another one."
submitted by Lyn Gooddard.

Poem of the Month - "Invictus" – William Ernest Henley (1888)

<i>Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be For my unconquerable soul.</i>	<i>Beyond this place of wrath and tears Looms but the Horror of the shade, And yet the menace of the years Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.</i>
---	--

<i>In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody, but unbowed.</i>	<i>It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll, I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.</i>
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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.

Disclosure Statement: Tailem Topics is a project of the Tailem Bend Progress Association. The contents of Tailem Topics may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the committee. Tailem Topics is compiled monthly from contributed articles and is funded by donations from said contributions and advertising. All work associated with the production of Tailem Topics is done on a voluntary basis. This issue was edited by the Tailem Topics team of volunteers. Please note: the Editor and Tailem Topics team reserve the right to amend, alter and/or omit details submitted for publication, either in editorial or advertising content. Any questions regarding the disclosure statement need to be addressed in writing, to: PO Box 278, Tailem Bend, SA 5260.

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

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

To be included above please send your business name and number to 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

POST OFFICE

109 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend,
Phone: 8572 3420
Agents for Commonwealth Bank,
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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

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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

TAILEM BEND PHARMACY

75 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend
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75 RAILWAY TCE, TAILEM BEND

Free Community Farmers Day

Editorial and images by Glenn Power, Murray Bridge News, Tailem Bend Correspondent.

Farmers and their families gathered at Old Tailem Town for the Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day, Sunday, May 4, 2026.

An initiative delivered in partnership with Rotary International to support those farming families facing drought and rising cost-of-living pressures by providing a free day focused on wellbeing, connection and community support.

Old Tailem Town Volunteer, Nathan Harvey, originally from Geelong and now living in Adelaide, said the event was designed to give farmers and their families a free break from their daily pressures. *"It's about creating a positive experience where people can relax, connect, and look after themselves,"* Nathan said. *"And everything here today is absolutely free for all of the 250 registered farming families."*

The day featured a wide variety of attractions, including food stalls, books, handmade crafts, charity groups and live music, ensuring there was something for everyone. A strong focus was also placed on health services, with free haircuts, skin checks and breast screening available—practical supports that are often difficult to access in regional areas.

More than 250 farming families registered to attend, alongside members of the public, while over 100 volunteers helped bring the event together. High attendance meant organisers even ran short of entry materials at one point, highlighting the strong community response.

Following overnight thunderstorms, the weather cleared to blue skies and a light breeze, creating ideal conditions for the event.

Nathan said the day was about more than free activities. *"It's about reminding people they're supported and not alone,"* he said.



ABOVE: L to R, Jeff Cluso, John Goodridge, Bill Miles and Hadi Jafarr.



ABOVE: Rebecca Power enjoying the community spirit at the Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day.



ABOVE: A horse and cart ride proved a popular attraction during the Rotary Pioneer Adventure Day at Old Tailem Town.

Interesting Main Street

Editorial by Glenn Power, Images by Don Green.

In Tailem Bend, the main street often sees an interesting mix of vehicles and characters, but Don Green's morning took a memorable turn when a rare Bristol 402 rolled slowly past the Tailem Bend Bakery.

Stepping out from Tailem Bend's Foodland, Don noticed the elegant British coupe gliding by and decided to follow it down the main street.

Phone in hand, he arrived outside the Tailem Bend Bakery, where the driver had stopped – so Don struck up a friendly chat while taking a series of photos.

Soon, a small crowd gathered, drawn by the car's unusual, beautiful lines and quiet presence. The owner spoke about the Bristol 402 heritage through Bristol Cars and its limited production, while onlookers swapped stories and admiration.

What began as a routine shopping trip turned into a shared appreciation of something special, with Don capturing it all.

In a town used to travelling visitors, passing highway traffic, and now the home of the world-renowned The Bend Motorsport Park, this morning shopping trip stood out for Don, bringing big smiles all around in a main street full of interesting characters.



ABOVE: Classic motoring elegance meets country charm — the Bristol 402 pauses outside the Tailem Bend Bakery.

* The **Bristol 401** saloon and **Bristol 402** cabriolet are British luxury grand tourers, produced between 1948 and 1953 by Bristol Cars, an offshoot of the Bristol Aeroplane Company. They were developed from the Bristol 400, which continued in production alongside the 401 and 402 until 1950.

The 401 and 402 use an improved version of the BMW 328 hemispherical-head engine and its unusual arrangement of two separate pushrods to operate the exhaust valves, necessitated by the **hemispherical combustion chambers** and opposite-facing valves, as used in the 400. However, the styling was an advance on that first Bristol model.



ABOVE: The rare Bristol 402 brought smiles and stories to Tailem Bend's main street during an unexpected morning stop.



The Great Unwaste Workshop

**Friday 12th June
12PM - 1PM
Tailem Bend Town Hall**

What you'll learn:

- How to store food the right way
- Tips for flexible meal planning
- Creative ways to enjoy your leftovers
- How to use up older items first
- Shopping, prepping, and serving hacks for unwasting food

This workshop is proudly brought to you in collaboration with The Great Unwaste and Foodbank SA & NT, with support from the Coorong District Council, and is presented by Foodbank SA & NT.



Free!
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