

Tailem



Topics

AUGUST 2026

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MURRAYLANDS WINTER BALL DRAWS BIG CROWD TO TAILEM BEND



Elegance, music and community spirit were on full display as dancers from across South Australia gathered in Tailem Bend for the sold-out Murraylands Winter Ball.



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Murraylands Winter Ball Draws Big Crowd to Tailem Bend

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

The Murraylands Winter Ball attracted a capacity crowd to the Tailem Bend Town Hall on Saturday, 18 July 2026, with dancers from across South Australia gathering for an unforgettable evening of ballroom dancing, music and friendship.

The popular annual event celebrated the timeless tradition of social dancing, bringing together people of all ages for a night filled with elegance, laughter and community spirit.

The evening showcased a wonderful mix of traditional ballroom and old-time dances, with couples gliding gracefully across the dance floor to classic tunes. Waltzes, foxtrots, quicksteps and other favourite dances kept the floor busy throughout the night, while beautifully decorated surroundings and a welcoming atmosphere encouraged everyone—from experienced dancers to newcomers—to join in the fun. Immaculately dressed guests added to the occasion, with sparkling gowns, stylish suits and polished shoes creating a truly glamorous scene.

The popularity of the event was evident long before the music began. Streets surrounding the town hall were lined with parked cars as visitors travelled from near and far to attend. Inside, the hall buzzed with conversation and excitement as friends reunited, new friendships were formed and generations shared the dance floor together. Young adults danced alongside seasoned ballroom enthusiasts, highlighting the broad appeal of this cherished community event.



ABOVE: Charlotte and Emma McEnroe, of Tilley Swamp, enjoyed a wonderful evening at the Murraylands Winter Ball.



ABOVE: Peggy Bennett and Rex Schillabeer, of Murray Bridge, share a smile at the Murraylands Winter Ball held at the Tailem Bend Town Hall.



ABOVE: Adelaide couple Zoe Lazaroff and Decklan Abbott enjoyed a memorable evening at the Murraylands Winter Ball.

Organisers were delighted with the outstanding attendance and the positive response from guests, many of whom described the evening as one of the highlights of the winter social calendar. The Murraylands Winter Ball once again demonstrated that ballroom dancing remains a vibrant and welcoming tradition, bringing communities together through music, movement and the simple joy of dancing.

COVER: Martina Racioppa, Michael DeLeso of Adelaide and Sophie Lazaroff of Tunkillo

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The Hall Café Reopens

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

For Patti and Adz Matos, the reopening of The Hall Café isn't just the start of a new business—it's the fulfilment of a dream built over many years, and one they hope to share with the whole community.

The couple first discovered Wellington East while travelling home from the Phillip Island Superbikes. The passionate motorcyclists instantly fell in love with the Murray River, its welcoming communities and what the region had to offer. It wasn't long before they had bought a home and married in Jervois after spending more than 25 years together – this is where they began restoring an old hut on their property.

While searching for restoration ideas, they visited The Hall Café in Wellington East to admire the restoration completed by the previous owners. That's when Patti's lifelong dream came rushing back. *"I walked through the doors and thought, 'I'd love to own a place like this one day', Patti said. 'I kept telling Adz, 'This is it. This feels right.'"*

When the café unexpectedly came onto the market during the Murray River floods—complete with a temporary lake view—they took a leap of faith, but unfortunately for the couple, soon after, both lost their jobs, forcing them to rethink everything.

"It was one of the hardest periods of our lives," Adz said. "We had to decide what really mattered. The café stayed because it wasn't just a business—it was Patti's dream, and now it's our future." Patti, who has Chilean heritage, and Adz, whose family is Portuguese and Italian, want The Hall Café to become, once again, a true community meeting place.

"The Hall Café truly belongs to the community as much as it does to us," Patti said. "Our soft opening is all about meeting people, hearing their ideas and growing together."

Patti is especially excited about developing the cafe's gardens and building a close relationship with Pangarinda Botanic Gardens, drawing inspiration from native plants and exploring local Indigenous ingredients in future menu ideas.



ABOVE: Adz and Patti Matos are the new owners of Wellington East's only eatery, which will reopen this month.

Adz's passion is motorcycles. Having owned more than 80 bikes - including his treasured Aprilia and Kawasaki Ninja SX - he believes the region is a hidden gem for riders. Just minutes away, The Bend Motorsport Park at Tailem Bend has earned an international reputation as one of Australia's premier motorsport destinations, attracting major national and international racing events on its world-class circuit.

The Hall Café will open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, with its soft opening on Friday, 17 July.

"We want to honour what came before us," Patti said, "and together with the community, write the next chapter." Everyone is warmly invited to call in, enjoy a meal, share their thoughts and help bring this much-loved local gathering place back to life.

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Farewell to a Valued Community Member

Editorial courtesy of Brenton Qualmann on behalf of the Taillem Bend Progress Association.

On behalf of the Taillem Bend Progress Association, we acknowledge the passing of Greg Black, formerly of Taillem Bend.

Following the devastating Canberra bushfires, Greg, his late wife and son Alex made Taillem Bend their home in 2003. Greg quickly became an active and valued member of our community. He was a founding member of the Taillem Bend Auto Club, contributed to the Botanic Gardens Sports Club, built the much-loved pizza oven, and was well known for his unique home gardens.

For many years, Greg was an active member of the Taillem Bend Progress Association and played an important role in the production of Taillem Topics, preparing and printing the newspaper each month.

TBPA Chairman and Taillem Topics distributor Brenton Qualmann said, "Thank you so much, Greg, for your contribution."

Taillem Topics Editor Josephine McGrath also paid tribute to Greg, saying,



ABOVE: Remembering Greg Black – A valued member of the Taillem Bend community.

"When I first became Editor of Taillem Topics, Greg was always kind, patient and supportive. His encouragement meant so much during those early days, and I will always be grateful for his guidance and friendship."

Our sincere condolences go to Julie, his family and all who knew and loved Greg. His contributions to Taillem Bend and the many lives he touched will be remembered with gratitude.



History Highlights - TB Historians Association

Report submitted by Maxine Kiddie, Taillem Bend Historians.

Welcome to our initial newsletter.

Taillem Bend Historians became an incorporated organisation in 2017. Our aim is to preserve the history of Taillem Bend and surrounding districts. We work closely with the Coorong District Council, who have assisted us with restoring, cataloguing and housing our treasured historical records. We have also been fortunate to receive support from local service clubs, businesses and many individuals who have shared their experiences and precious photographs.

Taillem Bend Historians produced the East Wellington Cemetery Book and Barney Hattam's book, a reproduction of his personal diary – both excellent reads. We have also created a History Room in the old Parcel Office at the Railway Station, which is open for the public to peruse and is tended by Leann, John and Kathleen.

We have won the South Australian History Trust Award and an Australia Day Award for our presentation of history. We have conducted four successful History Exhibitions, and numerous people have benefited from our research into family enquiries.

In 2023, we researched the death of young Mounted Constable Charles Ballantyne McCullagh, who died on duty on 26 July 1885 whilst trying to stop a runaway horse and dray. With the assistance of the SA Police Historical Society, led by John Whyte APM OAM LEM, and the Coorong District Council, we celebrated the installation of a commemorative cut-out memorial near the Railway Station.

Our President, Kathleen Kromwyk, has compiled an incredible database of more than 4,000 railway workers who lived in the town. Elizabeth Nicholls, our Secretary, is an outstanding researcher and prepares our exhibition presentations.



ABOVE: L to R. Helen Bowering, Wanda Hopkins. Committee members Leann McLean, Raylene Freeth, Kathleen Kromwyk, Brenton Qualmann, Maxine Kiddie, Elizabeth Nicholls.

Raylene Freeth is our Treasurer, while Maxine Kiddie enjoys both researching and gathering photographs. Our committee also includes Leann and John McLean, Brenton Qualmann and Lyn McDonald. We have also enjoyed social trips, including visits to Eudunda, Lamerloo, Mannum and Meningie.

Our recent History Exhibition attracted many visitors, with display boards showcasing the district's past and over 800 photographs of railway men presented by Kathleen. Former residents, including Mary McLaren (*McLoughlin*), Val and Brian Leckie, Rex Phillips and Andrew Olley, enjoyed reconnecting with local history. Lindy Taeuber also generously donated several Taeuber family books, helping preserve another important part of our district's story.

We will send a newsletter periodically and welcome your input or queries. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 9.30am at the Taillem Bend Function Centre, behind the Town Hall. Alternate meetings feature a guest speaker.

**Our AGM will be held on Friday, 14 August.
Please feel free to contact us at stbhistorians@outlook.com.**

Questions Remain After TB AI Factory Meeting

Editorial courtesy of the Murray Bridge News, edited with the assistance of AI.
Read the full article in the Murray Bridge News.

More than 250 people attended a public meeting in Tailem Bend to hear about Firmus Technologies' proposal to build a multi-billion-dollar AI factory near the town. While the company provided details about the project, many residents left with ongoing concerns about its impact on the community.

Questions focused on water and electricity use, environmental impacts, noise, and the future of artificial intelligence. Some residents expressed frustration and anger, while others sought more information before forming an opinion.

Firmus CEO Tim Rosenfield, Energy General Manager Paul Grzanic and Head of Property Will Close answered questions throughout the evening, promising the company would work closely with the community.

Mr Rosenfield said Firmus was founded to build AI facilities differently from many overseas data centres, which he described as less efficient. He said the company wanted to provide evidence and transparency so residents could make informed decisions.

The proposed AI factory would be built on Westbrook Road, about four kilometres northeast of Tailem Bend. Unlike traditional data centres that mainly store information, the facility would perform the complex calculations required for artificial intelligence.

The project is expected to create around 500 construction jobs and a further 500 ongoing operational positions over at least 20 years. While many roles would require specialised technical skills, there would also be opportunities in security, cleaning and maintenance. Firmus also plans to build housing for workers in consultation with the Coorong District Council.



ABOVE: More than 250 residents packed the Tailem Bend Town Hall to hear details of Firmus Technologies' proposed AI factory and raise questions about its potential impacts on the community.



ABOVE: ABC Media Team Interviewing Acting Mayor Jonathan Pietzsch.

Water use was a major concern. Firmus estimates the facility would require about 112 megalitres of water each year, using a mostly closed-loop cooling system that continuously recirculates water. Additional water would only be needed during extremely hot weather, and the company committed to funding any SA Water infrastructure upgrades required.

Electricity demand also drew attention. The AI factory would initially require around 600 megawatts of power, increasing to 1.2 gigawatts when fully operational. Firmus said it has partnered with energy company Gunvor to develop new renewable generation and battery storage by 2032, with plans to support twice the electricity it consumes. The facility would also reduce operations during periods of high demand to help ease pressure on the grid.

Residents also questioned possible health and environmental impacts, including noise, radiation, heat and effects on wildlife. Firmus said its facilities would comply with Australian standards and pointed to similar AI factories operating in Launceston, Melbourne and Singapore without reported issues.

Questions were also raised about Firmus co-founder Oliver Curtis, who served a prison sentence for insider trading nearly two decades ago. Mr Rosenfield acknowledged the concerns and said the company has strong governance and experienced leadership.

The meeting concluded with some residents remaining opposed, while others welcomed the opportunity to ask questions. Firmus has committed to holding more public meetings before lodging a development application with the South Australian Government, which will ultimately decide whether the project proceeds. If approved, the development could significantly increase council rate revenue and contribute to improved local infrastructure and services.



Tailem Bend Lions Serving Our Community

Report submitted by Lions members Joyce Holmes.

THE HANDOVER

Our Annual Handover was held on July 5th at the Tailem Bend Bowling Club. Officers for the coming year are President Doug Holmes, 1st V President Marcia Yorke, 2nd V President Reuben Gurney, Secretary Raylene Thomas, Ass. Secretary Josephine McGrath, Treasurer Lyn Simcock, Membership Chair Joyce Holmes, Lion Tamers Marion Martin and Dwayne Thomas, Tail Twister Ian Eckermann, Den Manager Karen Sommerville, Ian Eckermann, Peter Sacco, Reuben Gurney Clearing Sales Committee and Catering Committee. The Handover was conducted by Immediate Past District Governor Simon Westwood, who also presented Life Membership to Bevan Jaensch.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for the roles they carried out over the last 12 months

A big thank you to Bruce and Judy for reporting for Tailem Topics over the last few years.

We sincerely Thank the Tailem Bend Bowling Club for the use of their Clubrooms for the Handover and for the lovely 2 Course meal that they provided for us.

SKIN CANCER BUS AND DEN SALES

The Tailem Bend Lions club is hosting the skin cancer bus on the 4th and 5th of August. The bus will be situated at the Lions Den, bookings are essential for the Skin Cancer Screening by phoning Ring Karen 0400 310 131. Give Karen a call there may be some late appointments available.

**We will also have the Den open for Sales
between 9.00am-3.00pm**



Tailem Bend Auto Club Mid-Week Cruise

Report submitted by Michael Holliday.

On Thursday, 18th June, 29 people, consisting of members, family and friends of the Tailem Bend Auto Club, set off from the Swanport Hotel car park at 9.45am for a lunch destination at the Greenman Inn, Ashbourne.

We travelled via the historic railway town of Milang for our first stop and coffee break at the Old Post Office, Finniss.

The day started out a bit on the cool side but turned out to be very pleasant. It was a great day with good food, great company and plenty of conversation, making it a fun-filled day.

A big thank you once again to Steve and Cindy for organising another great cruise for 18 of our historic and modern cars.

MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in helping to support your local community, come along and join us for a meeting to see what we do. If you would like to just help out at our Den Sales or Clearing Sales Contact President Doug 0401 239 630 there is no obligation to become a member. If interested in joining please speak to any member regarding the Club. The money raised by the Club goes into supporting the local community and various Lions Projects. Meetings are held 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month Contact President Doug on 0401 239 630 for time and place of meetings.

CLEARING SALE

An On-Line Clearing Sale was held on July 21st. We thank Jeff Klitscher for giving us the opportunity to hold the sale for him.

SPONSOR

The Tailem Bend Lions Club are proud to be Gold Sponsor for the Tailem Bend Christmas Pageant again this year.

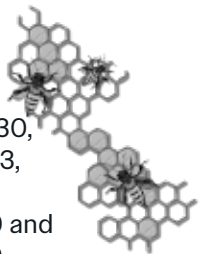
Community Callout – Lions Den Repairs

The Club is seeking assistance from the community to repair a leaking roof around the chimney at the Lions Den. Anyone able to assist is encouraged to contact Life Member Lion Ian Eckermann on 8572 3850.

HONEY SALES

Honey is available from

Lions Reuben Gurney 8572 4730,
Raylene Thomas 0417 840 473,
Marion Martin 8572 4785,
Margaret Eckermann 8572 3850 and
Doug Holmes 0401 239 630



ABOVE: TBAC some of us waiting to begin the cruise at the Swanport Hotel

The Changing Face of Tailem Bend #165

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

**In this month's memories,
we look back at the stories of Father Jack Boog, the barge
Dart and the primary school fire.**

Tailem Bend Man Is New Priest

M/V Standard Year: 1983–1988.

A former Tailem Bend man, Father Jack Boog, is Murray Bridge's new Catholic priest. Father Boog, 43, is replacing Father De Vries, who has been transferred to Strathalbyn.

Father Boog grew up in Tailem Bend and went to the Marist Brothers School in Mt Gambier. He went to the seminary in Adelaide and, after that, had three appointments as an assistant priest – at the Adelaide Cathedral, Glenelg and Plympton. He was then appointed parish priest at Millicent, where he has been for the last 11 years.

His main hobbies are flying – he has his pilot's licence – and breeding budgies. But Father Boog prefers they are kept in the background, and that people realise they are his hobbies and do not interfere with or distract from his work.

He said last Friday that he was keen to find what made Murray Bridge be Murray Bridge, and what importance the river played in the town.

"I want to get in touch with the man on the land. In Millicent we mainly had the paper and fishing industries. Here things are much different, we have a different climate and different agricultural industries."

"There was a strong Victorian influence in Millicent, and I am interested to see what influences Murray Bridge."

He said that he hoped Murray Bridge would be granted city status soon, because then it would have an identity and not become just a satellite town.

When Mobilong Prison opens, Father Boog will be the Catholic chaplain. He said this would be interesting as he had never been in gaol – either as an inmate or a chaplain – and he wasn't sure what to expect.

Father Boog said that although Murray Bridge was twice the size of Millicent, his new parish was only slightly bigger.

*"The Murray Bridge parish is very organised and seems to have an active lay involvement.
I am looking forward to working with the parish in both committee and pastoral involvement."*



ABOVE: Father Jack Boog.

Big Loss in School Fire

M/V Standard Year: 1984

Tailem Bend – Children here are attending makeshift classes in the wake of last week's \$100,000 primary school fire.

The fire, which started before 3am Thursday, destroyed three classrooms and an activity/recreation area in three transportable buildings. Two blocks were completely gutted, and the third will be demolished. A doorway to the school's main building was also damaged in an attempt to start another fire.

Principal Neville Gotch said an oily rag was found in the fuel inlet of the school bus.

Police Technical Services from Adelaide investigated the fire, which was believed to have been deliberately lit, and the Coroner will prepare a report.

Eight fire units attended the scene – CFS units from Tailem Bend, Jervois, Murray Bridge and Cookes Plains, and Murray Bridge's Metropolitan Fire Service. Police from Tailem Bend and Murray Bridge CIB also attended.

Tailem Bend CFS Deputy Group Captain David Jaensch said a resident living near the school raised the alarm just after 3am, but all the fire crews could do was contain the blaze. He said there was little danger of the fire spreading to the rest of the school, which was separated from the three buildings by an asphalt playground.

Mr Gotch was woken by a phone call at 3.05am and arrived to see the inferno.

The Changing Face of Taillem Bend #165

"What are your thoughts when you see something like this? I don't remember," he said while surveying the charred and smoking remains that morning.

Although the fire would not cause much disruption to school routine, thousands of dollars' worth of equipment was lost, including a video recorder, overhead projector, musical instruments, a piano, and four air conditioners.

"It has taken the school years to build up the activity room, mainly through fund-raising," Mr Gotch said.

The Education Department would reimburse part of the loss, but nothing could replace the hours of community work. Children returned to school on Friday, using two classes normally reserved for special lessons.



ABOVE: The devastating fire destroyed three classrooms and an activity room at Taillem Bend Primary School, causing more than \$100,000 in damage.

Historic Barge Leaves Saturday

M/V Standard Year: 1983–1988

A 109-year-old barge, which played a vital role in the history of the River Murray, will be raised on Saturday from its resting place near Murray Bridge and towed to Goolwa.

It is the Dart, which will be towed by boats of the Victor Harbour/Goolwa Sea Rescue Squadron members to the River Murray Interpretive Centre at Signal Point, being developed as a Bicentennial project.

Project consultant Mr Max Draheim said yesterday squadron members had, for the last few weeks, been preparing the barge for the journey to Goolwa. The tow will be under the direction of the squadron's leader, Mr Ron Anderson. The barge has been resting on the bottom, in shallow water opposite the Murray Bridge pumping station, for about the past 18 months.

On arrival at Goolwa, it will be slipped at Murray River Development's shipyard for further maintenance work. Captain Keith Veestra has offered his services to supervise the team of volunteers, which will do initial restoration work on the vessel, Mr Draheim said. The Dart was of composite construction – the bottom half of the hull is wooden planked, up as far as the waterline, with steel topsides and decking.



ABOVE: Mr Gavin Doecke inspects the 109-year-old barge Dart, downstream from his caravan park at Avoca Dell, on Tuesday.

It was built at Wyuna (Vic) in 1875 and played a number of roles as a river barge, carrying timber, general cargo and water. Water carrying is one of the least-known functions for which river barges were used, according to Mr Draheim.

He said fresh water was loaded well upstream of salt incursions and carried downstream for the railways at Taillem Bend and the pumping plants on the Goolwa barrage construction project prior to 1940.

The barge, used at one stage by the Engineering and Water Supply Department as a pile-driving vessel, was bought by Mr Alan Moritz in 1968 for restoration in association with the Oscar W at Murray Bridge.

After his death, both vessels (partly restored) were put on the market. The SA Government bought the Oscar W last year, and Signal Point recently bought the Dart.

"Both vessels will be used to complement development of the Goolwa wharf and Signal Point environment," Mr Draheim said.

Restoration work is under way on the Oscar W. Victor Harbour/Goolwa Sea Rescue Squadron members, who are doing the job as a training exercise, will start work on raising the old barge on Saturday morning and plan to reach Goolwa late Sunday afternoon. Mr Draheim said the trip would be a momentous occasion.

"I couldn't guess when a barge was last towed along the Murray in SA," he said.

He said he could not estimate the time at which the barge would pass Murray Bridge on its journey downstream. That depended entirely on how well the re-floating operation went.

Quote for the Month

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

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

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

CTSA UPDATE



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THANK
YOU

VAL SPARROW

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Thank You, Val!

this edition's first volunteer spotlight shines on Val, who has been a dedicated CTSA volunteer driver in the Tailem Bend region for the past six years.

Throughout her time with CTSA, Val's commitment to our clients has never wavered. She has always gone above and beyond to ensure people could access the services and appointments they needed, often providing not just transportation, but a friendly face and caring support along the way.

Val has embraced every aspect of volunteer driving, including participating in the Defensive Driver Training held at The Bend earlier this year. During her six years with CTSA, she completed an impressive:

155 one-way trips

338 volunteer driving hours

7,310 kilometres travelled

These achievements are a testament to her generosity, reliability, and willingness to help others.

Val has also been heavily involved in many other activities through TBCC over the years, and we have been incredibly fortunate to have her share her time and talents with CTSA. Thank you, Val, for everything you have done for our clients and community.

Val is relocating to Strathalbyn, we wish her well in her new community

Have you seen our new branding?



THANK
YOU

ELLEN CHARLTON

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Thank You, Ellen!

We farewell Ellen from Meningie, another highly valued long-term CTSA volunteer driver who began volunteering with us in 2019.

Ellen was always willing to lend a hand, transporting clients to both local and city appointments, and nothing was ever too much trouble. Her dedication played a significant role in enabling CTSA to station a vehicle in Meningie, thanks to the high number of trips undertaken by Ellen and other volunteer drivers in the region.

Over her six years of volunteering, Ellen completed an astounding:

143 one-way trips

434 volunteer driving hours

21,308 kilometres travelled

These figures reflect an extraordinary level of commitment and service to the community.

Ellen's kindness, reliability, and willingness to help others have made a lasting impact on the lives of many clients, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has contributed.

Thank You to All Our Volunteers

Without Val, Ellen, and the many other volunteer drivers who have supported CTSA over the years, our service simply would not be what it is today. Their dedication helps ensure that community members can remain connected to essential medical appointments, services, and social opportunities.

We sincerely thank both ladies for their outstanding achievements and their generous spirit. Their contribution has made a real difference in the lives of so many people.

Could You Be Our Next Volunteer Driver?

CTSA is always looking for volunteer drivers across all regions, but we are currently experiencing a particular shortage in Tailem Bend.

If you are looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community, whether you can help with local trips or city appointments, we would love to hear from you. Our clients rely on the CTSA service, and volunteer drivers are the heart of what we do.

If you'd like to find out more about becoming a CTSA volunteer driver, please contact Mel at TBCC on 8572 3513. We need you! 🚗❤️

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026



CHSP UPDATE

The Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) continues to play an important role in supporting older Australians to remain living independently, safely and connected within their own communities. CHSP provides entry-level support services for eligible people aged 65 years and over (50 years and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people), including community transport, social support, domestic assistance, meals, home maintenance and other practical supports.

CHSP funding is allocated on a financial year basis, meaning available service capacity can vary throughout the year depending on demand and funding availability. If you have been waiting for home support services, we encourage you to contact the TBCC team to discuss your circumstances and how we may be able to assist.

With the transition to the Support at Home Program (SAHP), some older Australians have been approved for services but may still be waiting for their allocated supports to commence. During this transition period, TBCC may be able to provide some interim support while you are waiting for your SAHP services to begin. Interim support is negotiated on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration your individual circumstances, needs and available service capacity. Please contact us to discuss how we may be able to support you.

At TBCC, we remain committed to delivering respectful, reliable and responsive services that help older people remain connected, maintain independence and participate in community life. Our dedicated staff and volunteers support people across our region through practical assistance, community transport and social connection programs that make a meaningful difference in people's everyday lives.

Client Contributions

As a CHSP provider, TBCC operates within the CHSP guidelines and charge client contribution fees for services. These contributions help support the ongoing delivery of quality services to our community.

Information about current client contribution fees is available on the TBCC website, or you can contact our team for further information. We encourage anyone experiencing financial hardship to speak with us, as we are committed to ensuring services remain accessible.

Your Feedback Matters

TBCC values feedback from all clients, families, carers and community members. Your feedback helps us understand what we are doing well and where we can continue to improve our services. If you would like to provide feedback, share a suggestion, raise a concern or make a complaint, you can:

- Contact the TBCC office directly;
- Complete a Feedback and Complaints Form; or
- Request support if you need assistance to provide feedback.

All feedback and complaints are treated respectfully, confidentially and fairly. We will listen, acknowledge your concerns, investigate where required and work with you to achieve the best possible outcome.

Feedback & Complaints

Concerned about CHSP or SAHP 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**.

At TBCC, we appreciate the trust our community places in us and welcome feedback as an important part of continuously improving the services we provide.

For more information about CHSP services, SAHP transition support, client contributions or to discuss your individual circumstances, please contact the TBCC team.

C4C UPDATE

CELEBRATE CONNECTION UPCOMING EVENTS

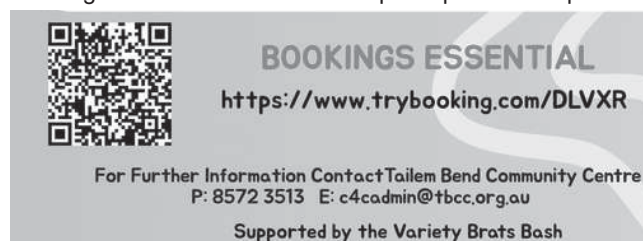


LITTLE LEAPERS – Sensory and Movement Program 19 July – 20 September 8.30am – 9.30am.

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 funding from the Variety Brats Bash.

Bookings are essential and Parent participation is required.



Dairy Adventures - Mannum (Bookings Essential)

Tuesday, 29 September 2026, 9am - 10.30am,

Old Taillem Town - Taillem Bend (Bookings Essential)

Thursday, 1 October 2026, 10am - 11.30am

Dairy Adventures - Mannum (Bookings Essential)

Thursday, 8 October 2026, 9am - 10.30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW Woodburning Class - TBCC

Thursday's - 10am - 12pm

CHSP: \$2.50 - Non CHSP \$5.00

TBCC Pavilion opening - Station Master's House

Friday, 14 August 2026, 11.30am

RSVP: 3 August 2026 to info@tbcc.org.au

Paint & Sip Evening (Bookings Essential)

Sip Happens.... Gnome Worries

Friday, 4 September 2026, 5pm - 8pm

CHSP: \$30 - Non CHSP \$50

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Foodland Manager Retires

Editorial courtesy of Helen, Manager of Taillem Bend Foodland.

I (Kathryn Mattne) have recently retired from my position as Manager of Foodland and would like to share some of my memories over that time.

I came to Taillem Bend as Assistant Manager in 1995 and followed Quentin Kuchel as Manager in 1997.

My family has always had ties to Taillem Bend. My Grandfather Jack Schwerdt served as police sergeant. He and his father and brothers were well known for sheaf tossing and became state champions and record holders for many years including the world record.

As a young girl I would often visit my relatives at Taillem Bend staying with the families of Lelene and John Schwerdt and Joanne and Matt Garam. I would save all my pocket money to spend at the Bakery and Eudunda Farmers store (*Foodland today*).

My father Alex Warnest was Manager of several stores with Eudunda Farmers, including Mannum.

I am proud of the Eudunda's heritage and was involved in the Centenary book and more recently photo displays and memorabilia assisted by the Taillem Bend History Group.

I have seen many changes to the store over the years including the implementation of scanning, refurbishment, 7 day trading and importantly the change to the Foodland banner. Foodland is proudly SA owned and operated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank previous and current staff members who have contributed greatly to the growth of the store over the years. I would like to thank local businesses, service and sporting clubs, community groups and individuals for your ongoing support.

I would also like to acknowledge our local suppliers, customers and contractors for your commitment and continual support and patronage. As Taillem Bend is now benefiting from more tourism, I have welcomed the opportunities that this brings not only for Foodland but for the wider community and township.

In conclusion, thank you to everyone who welcomed me to Taillem Bend and for your friendship over the years. I am looking forward to spending time with family and friends, enjoying the footy and gardening, travelling and motor-sport with husband Steve.

Wishing everyone best wishes and success for the future.



ABOVE: Kathryn celebrating retirement with Alistair Schuller, Managing Director Eudunda Farmers, Foodland work colleagues and family.

Elders Real Estate Has Moved

Editorial courtesy of Ebony Millikin.

Elders Real Estate has recently relocated from Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend to our new office at Shop 3/7 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge.

While our office location has changed, our commitment to the Taillem Bend community remains the same. Our experienced local agents John Robinson, Ali Bolt and Jack Freestone are regularly in Taillem Bend conducting

property inspections, appraisals and meeting with buyers and sellers. We continue to actively market and sell properties throughout Taillem Bend and the surrounding districts.

Whether you're thinking about selling, searching for your next home or simply curious about the current market, our team is here to help. We'd love to welcome you into our new office or you can contact us on (08) 8572 8000 to discuss your real estate needs.

Community Notice!

AirTouch 500 at The Bend 2026

We would like to inform the community that The Shell V-Power Motorsport Park will be hosting the AirTouch 500 at The Bend Supercars Enduro between 11-13 of September.

Noise generating activities at the events will include the following:

- **Main Race Circuit each day of the events:
8.00am racing starts, 5.30pm racing finishes**
- **Track clearing horns may be sounded as early as 7:00am each day**
- **Post racing activities on Friday and Saturday nights,
including micro speedway may conclude as late as 9.30pm**

The times provided above are approximate and may be updated on our website. Times may also be subject to change if there are on-track delays on the day.

In addition, we bring the following to your attention:

- **Helicopter activity may be expected in the area.**
- **Changes in traffic conditions are anticipated, involving temporary speed limits and higher than normal traffic in the area surrounding The Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, including but not limited to Mallee Highway and Dukes Highway.**

Please refer to our website for further information,
or for complaints, please contact 8165 5780.

We sincerely hope to see you at the event.
The Shell V-Power Motorsport Park



SEPTEMBER 11-13 2026

Coorong Connects

Tech Made Simple

Term 3 2026



Free Tech Sessions

Phones / Tablets / Computers / Laptops

Patient, jargon-free help for everyday technology in your local library.

Topic 1

Getting Started With Technology

Understand device types, what they can do, and basic terminology.

- Tue 4 Aug — Coonalpyn, 10:30am
- Tue 4 Aug — Tintinara, 2pm
- Tue 11 Aug — Meningie, 2pm
- Wed 12 Aug — Coomandook, 10:30am
- Fri 14 Aug — Taillem Bend, 10:30am

Topic 2

Setting Up Your New Device

Build confidence in initial setup, accounts, passwords, updates & accessibility.

- Tue 18 Aug — Coonalpyn, 10:30am
- Tue 18 Aug — Tintinara, 2pm
- Fri 21 Aug — Taillem Bend, 10:30am
- Wed 26 Aug — Coomandook, 10:30am
- Wed 26 Aug — Meningie, 2pm

Topic 3

WiFi & Mobile Networks

Learn how to get online safely and stay connected anywhere.

- Tue 1 Sep — Coonalpyn, 10:30am
- Tue 1 Sep — Tintinara, 2pm
- Fri 4 Sep — Taillem Bend, 10:30am
- Tues 8 Sep — Meningie, 2pm
- Wed 9 Sep — Coomandook, 10:30am

Topic 4

Online Safety & Scam Awareness

Recognise suspicious activity online and take simple steps to protect from scams.

- Tue 15 Sep — Coonalpyn, 10:30am
- Tue 15 Sep — Tintinara, 2pm
- Fri 18 Sep — Taillem Bend, 10:30am
- Wed 23 Sep — Coomandook, 10:30am
- Wed 23 Sep — Meningie, 2pm

Banksia Heliantha – A Popular Native Cut Flower

Article supplied by Kaye Bartlett.

Many gardeners will remember *Dryandra quercifolia*, but following botanical reclassification it is now known as *Banksia heliantha*.

The change was made because there was already a *Banksia* species named *quercifolia*. As both plants have distinctive oak leaf-like foliage, the name *quercifolia*—meaning "oak-leaved"—had been applied to each. To avoid duplication, the former *Dryandra quercifolia* was renamed *Banksia heliantha*.

Banksia heliantha is well regarded in the cut flower industry, producing attractive flower stems that can grow up to 80 centimetres long, making it a popular choice for floral arrangements.



ABOVE: *Banksia heliantha* (pink form), formerly known as *Dryandra quercifolia*, is prized for its striking flowers and oak leaf-like foliage.

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✓ COONALPYN – Bakery/LPO

✓ Online – coming soon

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The Rotary Club of Tailem Bend Chronicles

Article submitted by Angela Thorley, Secretary of the Rotary Club of Tailem Bend.

With winter has come the cold and the wet weather, however we are still braving the cold going out to The Bend to take tickets for the Roll Racing. This fund raiser is just one of the ways we support the community grants we give every year.

Successful grants in 2026

This year, three organisations have received financial support for their various projects. Meningie Kindergarten, Tailem Bend Kindergarten and Country Education Foundation of Murray Mallee (CEF) were successful.

Thinking about Volunteering?

If this is you, we really would like you to consider joining the Rotary Club of Tailem Bend. Why would you do it? Well in many ways you get as much out of volunteering as you put into it. We build friendships and develop and refine many skills we probably weren't aware of. There are also many opportunities to work with the two clubs of Murray Bridge plus other clubs across the state. When we do this, it gives us a sense of purpose whilst helping others in need in our own area plus Rotary clubs and charities across the world.

Our Club meets at the Riverside Hotel Tailem Bend, every 2nd and 4th Monday for a dinner meeting where have an invited speaker or we have a monthly meeting. If you are interested, please contact our President Phil Roberts via email, philroberts61@yahoo.com and we would love to see you there.

Guest speaker Dave Roberts

Our last speaker was very enjoyable and informative. Dave is a South Australian Cinemaphotographer who has produced footage of many ads or films that you may have seen. Some have gone overseas whilst others you will have viewed when streaming. Who has seen the goofy RAA ads? Dave and his team were responsible for them.



ABOVE: Phil Roberts and Ashley Clothier direct patrons when taking tickets for the Roll Racing at The Bend.



ABOVE: Dave Roberts shows Phil Roberts the advertising for his film Isla's Way after being the guest speaker for the night.

He also filmed and produced "Isla's Way", an award-winning documentary. Dave started out at film school and then worked his way by creating lifelike sets for a nature documentary series before working in production and finally in his own business. We finished the night with a short 5

minute film which was full of drama as well as being highly entertaining.

Breakfast Club

We are continuing with Breakfast Club held at the TB Primary School this term with two new helpers: Margaret and Kay.



ABOVE: Phil Roberts and Sandy Przibilla prepare breakfast for hungry Tailem Bend Primary School students.

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REVIVAL CITY CHURCH
TAILEM BEND

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

WHEN: Every Third Thursday of the Month

TIME: 10am - 12pm

WHERE: Revival City Church
6 Jacob St Tailem Bend

FREE FOR EVERYONE!
Come along for a cuppa and a chat

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**

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

The Tailem Bend locomotive roundhouse reached a remarkable milestone, on June 27, 2026, with almost 100 years passing since it became the heart of South Australia's country locomotive operations and helped transform the town into one of the state's most important railway centres.

While speaking with members of the Tailem Bend Historical Society about the anniversary, they suggested we contact Bob Sampson, Chief Executive Officer of the National Railway Museum at Port Adelaide, whose knowledge of South Australia's railway history helped explain why Tailem Bend became such a vital part of the network.

Bob said the locomotive servicing operations at Murray Bridge had simply outgrown their original facilities. The Murray Bridge locomotive depot was built around a 65-foot turntable, but by the mid-1920s the arrival of larger, heavier steam locomotives meant there was no longer enough capacity to efficiently turn and service the new engines. The construction of the new Murray Bridge railway bridge also played a role in the decision to relocate the major servicing depot.

"Tailem Bend offered the room to build a much larger facility," Bob said. "The new depot included an 85-foot turntable, a substantial roundhouse and extensive sidings where locomotives could be serviced, repaired and prepared for their next journeys."

The move marked the beginning of a new chapter for Tailem Bend. Day and night, steam locomotives rolled into the depot to be refueled, watered, inspected and turned before heading out again across South Australia's expanding rail network.



ABOVE: Steam locomotives once filled the Tailem Bend railway yards, where engines were refuelled, serviced and turned before continuing their journeys across South Australia.

Engineers, fitters, boilermakers, firemen and drivers all became part of the town's daily rhythm, with the railway providing employment for generations of local families.

For decades, the roundhouse was far more than a railway workshop. It became a symbol of Tailem Bend's importance to the state's transport system, connecting country communities with Adelaide and carrying everything from grain and livestock to passengers and mail.

Although steam locomotives have long since disappeared from regular service, the roundhouse remains one of Tailem Bend's most significant industrial landmarks. Its approaching centenary provides an opportunity to reflect on the vision that created the complex, the engineering that kept it operating, and the thousands of railway workers whose dedication helped keep South Australia's railways moving for much of the twentieth century.



Government of South Australia

Coorong Health Service Health
Advisory Council Inc.

Call for Nominations

Nominations are hereby called to fill four (4) vacancies on the Coorong Health Advisory Council at the Annual General Meeting. The current incumbents eligible for renomination are:

Lynda Henderson
Tony Hughes
Anne Milln
Valda Rigney

Nominations must be in writing, signed by two residents of the Community and the nominee, who must also be a resident of the Community.

The AGM will be held on **Wednesday 14 October 2026 at 3:30pm** at the **Meningie Community Health Centre** when voting shall take place if more than the required number of nominees have been received.

Nomination forms are available from the Hospital Administration Department and must be received by the Returning Officer up till 5:00pm on Friday 9 October 2026.

"Community member" is a collective term referring to persons who live in the Coorong Council area or who live outside the Council area but who use or may use services provided by or associated with the Tailem Bend & Meningie Hospital/s.

Alicia Williams Returning Officer
PO Box 63, TAILEM BEND SA 5260

W34481



Government of South Australia

Coorong Health Service Health
Advisory Council Inc.

Coorong Health Advisory Council Inc Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 14 October 2026

**Meningie Community
Health Centre**

at 3:30pm

All welcome

Agenda: Welcome - Apologies -
Election of Coorong Health Advisory
Council Members

Julie Barrie, Presiding Member
Coorong Health Advisory Council

W34431

Tailem Bend Community Library

New Books August 2026

ADULT FICTION

ADAMS, Jennie: Sons of Australia – The Mackays ~ Australian Romance
ANDERSON, Lainie: The Death of Nora Black ~ Australian Historical Murder Mystery
ASHCROFT Jenny: Secrets of the Watch House ~ Historical Thriller
BAILEY Sarah: The Housemate ~ Australian Mystery Thriller
HADFIELD Chris: The Defector ~ Fighter Pilots, War
HONEYMAN Gail: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine ~ Life Changing
HOOVER Colleen: It Starts with Us ~ Romance
KANER Hannah: Sunbringer ~ Fantasy, War
KEARSLEY Susanna: The Rose Garden ~ Time-travel Romance
LaPLANTE, Lynda: Whole Life Sentence ~ Detective, Mystery
McTIERNAN Dervla: Three Reasons for Revenge ~ Australian Thriller
PATTERSON James & LUPICA Mike: Never Say Die ~ Legal Thriller
ROBERTS Nora: Hidden Nature ~ Romance, Thriller
STEEL Danielle: The Devil's Daughter ~ Family, Sisters
STEEL Danielle: Felicia's Favourites ~ Family Secrets
STEEL Danielle: Second Act ~ Romance
TOIBIN Colm: Long Island ~ Historical, Family
WAINWRIGHT Holly: He Would Never ~ Family, Holidays
LARGE PRINT
COURTENAY Bryce: Four Fires Volume 1 ~ Australian Historical Family
COURTENAY Bryce: Four Fires Volume 2 ~ Australian Historical Family

LARGE PRINT

COURTENAY Bryce: Four Fires Volume 1 ~ Australian Historical Family
COURTENAY Bryce: Four Fires Volume 2 ~ Australian Historical Family

NON FICTION

HOPE: – How street dogs taught me the meaning of life
THE TRIALS OF BILLY FREEMAN: – From child convict in Wiltshire to pioneering farmer in a new Australian province
HABITATS OF AUSTRALIA, NEW GUINEA & THE SOLOMONS: – A field guide for birders, naturalists, and ecologists
HOW TO TALK TO AI (AND HOW NOT TO)

BOOK REVIEW

Three Reasons for Revenge By: Dervla McTIERNAN

Someone's been waiting.
Someone's been watching. A gripping high-stakes novel of suspense about three seemingly unconnected people, caught in a lethal web of deceit and unhealed wounds.

Alexis Turner walks into the police station to report an assault. By the end of the day, she is nowhere to be found.

Soon after she disappears, three identical packages arrive at three very different doors: a respected psychologist's home, a socialite's mansion, and a struggling single father's run-down apartment. Inside, each gift is perfectly tailored to its recipient – and each will tear apart the life of its intended victim.

Detective Sergeant Judith Lee is smart and experienced, but this is no ordinary case. Someone with intimate knowledge of their targets is orchestrating these attacks. Someone who knows exactly how to hurt each victim where they're most vulnerable. And she's convinced that somehow, it connects back to Alexis Turner.

As she races to uncover the connection between three seemingly unrelated people, Judith discovers she's no longer just investigating the game – she's being forced to play.



*Three gifts. Three victims.
One deadly game.*

MONDAY MEMORIES

Come along to the
Tailem Bend Community
Library

Monday, 31st August 2026
10 am start.

Come along and reminisce
about the days gone by with,
Football Memories

Phone 8572 3275 for more information.
Please Book.



MUSIC HALL MEMORIES

Come along to the
Tailem Bend Community
Library

Monday, 10th August 2026
10 am start.

Come along and reminisce
the 'Music Hall' Days
All welcome

Phone 8572 3275 for more information.



Submitted by Angie Tomkinson.



SNAPSHOT



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

■ July 2026 (Edition 82)

After a long and rigorous process Council has announced the appointment of Scott Reardon as its new CEO. Scott previously worked at the DC of Karoonda East Murray and brings extensive local government experience. He is keen to build on the district's strengths and support continued growth. We also remain grateful to our Interim CEO Myles Somers, for guiding the organisation over the past six months during the recruitment process. He's been an absolute gem!

There was a well-attended public meeting hosted by Firmus in Tailem Bend on 15 July to discuss its proposed AI Centre. The meeting gave the community an opportunity to ask questions about water use, electricity demand, jobs, traffic and the broader impact on our district. While some people remain cautious, others see the potential economic benefits, and I believe the meeting was a valuable first step in providing information and encouraging open discussion.

Council reviewed and clarified its Kerbside Waste, Recycling and Green Organics Collection Service Policy. After strong debate about some possible inconsistencies, the matter was deferred until more information can be provided.

Elected Members (EM) have given in principle support to The Children's Voice sub-committee of the Tailem Bend Progress Association to turn an unused piece of reserve land on Moir Street Tailem Bend into a playground. This park is being driven mainly by the children and their parents and will be built using grant money and via community fundraising.

EM's approved a further three-month extension of leave for Mayor Paul Simmons.

Work on the Tailem Bend Land Use and Infrastructure Provision Plan, including identification of land for future rezoning and growth, remains on track, as do the streetscape plans for Tintinara, Coonalpyn and Tailem Bend. Council secured \$508,000 to enable design work and costings for streetscape and precinct projects in Tailem Bend.

EM's agreed to continue advocating for legislative reform to overturn the 25-year-old rates exemption for electricity generators in SA.

Progress on the Wellington East Structure Plan has been delayed until SA Water's proposal is further advanced, as the two projects are closely linked. Council will revisit the Structure Plan during 2026/27, with funding applications continuing to support the work.

Great to see that The Lakelander were successful in getting a grant to develop a new website.

The creation of a master plan for the Coonalpyn Caravan Park Precinct is scheduled to commence in early 2026/27. The park received favourable online because of its PayWave payment system.

There were 201 transactions over 18 powered sites during June 2026. The existing emergency access gate at the Coonalpyn Swimming Pool has been relocated which will provide an extra car parking space.

A sonar scanning project that commenced in November 2024 remains on track. The project is verifying burial records and auditing data across all six Council cemeteries

The Memorandum of Understanding for the Meningie Community Library has now been signed. It's taken almost a decade to reach this point before a sod has even been turned. Government certainly doesn't move quickly!

The Coorong Community Health Committee, established in April 2026, has now met several times. The issue of local health services has become even more urgent following the unexpected announcement that doctors in Tailem Bend will be withdrawing their services

Council has considered five options for Wadmore House, ranging from selling the site to retaining and restoring the building through a Council-led redevelopment. While Council has identified a preferred option, the proposal will now be released for community consultation before any final decision is made.

Council will undertake community consultation around the leasing of part of the Tintinara Railway land to the Community Men's Shed (adjacent to Lake Indawarra).

A big shout out to the amazing volunteers at Pangarinda Botanic Garden who have clocked up 1783 hours of work during 2025/26. Congrats to the Coonalpyn Progress Working Group who have been improving the structure that houses the old tractor near the new toilets.

Throughout June 2026, approx. 279 km's of patrol grading was completed across the district. The unsealed roads renewal program continues to make good progress, with works on Deepwater Road & Pascoe Road nearing completion. However, on Burns Road, wet weather has delayed the final stage of works. Overall, the 2025/26 program delivered 38.5 km's of unsealed road renewals.

Cheers Lisa 😊

COORONG Council News

Jul - Aug 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 undertaken maintenance at the Coonalpyn Caravan Park, pressure cleaned the Tintinara Apex Park's picnic area, provided bins for a community event in Meningie, shifted one of the Meningie Parklets, mowed the Wellington East Cemetery grounds and repaired a broken swing in the Taillem Bend Playground.

The teams have also addressed some of the less glamorous aspects of maintaining our spaces such as vandalism and fire damage in the district's public toilets, clearing the stormwater discharge at Meningie and unblocked the RV point in Meningie.



Above: Meningie parklet relocation

New Directional Signage in Taillem Bend

Railway Tce in Taillem Bend has received some new directional signage that helps residents and visitors find their way. The new signage is designed to blend and compliment the town's connection to railway history by using old railway sleepers.

The new signs help direct pedestrians to the Council office and Chambers, Taillem Bend Town Hall, public toilets and Taillem Info Station.



Above: New directional signage installed on Railway Tce, Taillem Bend

Tintinara Health Centre Access Improvements

Residents of Tintinara and surrounds are now able to access the Tintinara Health Centre easier following the sealing of the carpark on Carcuma Road. Line marking has now been completed and a concrete footpath installed to connect to the Health Centre.

Welcome Scott Reardon

We are delighted to welcome on board Scott Reardon as Council's new CEO.

Scott comes to Coorong after having spent time as CEO at neighbouring council, the District Council of Karoonda East Murray. Scott is looking forward to becoming part of a region that offers opportunities for growth, innovation and community development.

Scott is expected to commence with Coorong in late September.



Above: Scott Reardon, photo thanks to the District Council of Karoonda East Murray



Above: Completed carpark and path at the Tintinara Health Centre.

W: www.coorong.sa.gov.au

E: council@coorong.sa.gov.au

P: 1300 785 277

A: PO Box 399,

Taillem Bend SA 5260



Key Decisions

In July 2026 Elected Members made a number of key decisions:

- Approved the 2026/27 Annual Business Plan and Budget.
- Provided a community group loan to the Tintinara Golf Club to purchase a fairway mower
- Gave in-principle support for a community playground project in Tailm Bend
- Agreed to consult on a sub-lease of railway land to the Tintinara Community Men's Shed
- Agreed to release an Options Paper for feedback on the Wadmore House Precinct, which will include Council's preferred option.

Visit Council's website at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk over the coming weeks to have your say on the Wadmore House Precinct Options Paper.

Let's Talk..

Council has a few items open for community engagement at the moment. We would love for you to have your say on the following topics currently open for feedback:

Draft Community Engagement Policy

Our Draft Community Engagement Policy sets out how Council will inform, consult and involve our community in decision-making. It's all about making sure your voice is heard and helps shape the future of our district.

Draft Infrastructure Damage & Reinstatement Policy

This new policy has been developed to help protect Council-owned infrastructure and ensure any damage resulting from development, construction, utility works or other activities within the public realm is repaired appropriately and at no cost to the community.

Intention to Grant Lease - Tintinara Oval

Council is considering leasing part of the Tintinara Oval to TORA for 21 years, with the chance to extend the lease for another 21 years.

Visit Council's website at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk to have your say on these topics by 7 August 2026.

Coorong Connects Tech Sessions

Would you like to feel more confident using your phone, tablet, laptop or computer?

Coorong Connects is a free series of hands-on workshops designed to help members of our community build confidence with everyday technology in a friendly and supportive environment.

Whether you're new to technology, have recently purchased a new device, or simply want to learn new or refresh your skills, these practical sessions will help you navigate the digital world with confidence.

No technical knowledge is required and participants are encouraged to bring along their own device.

Workshops will be delivered across the Coorong district in your local library at Tailm Bend, Coonalpyn, Meningie, Coomandook and Tintinara.

Find out more and view the full program on Council's website at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/coorongconnects

Want to read more?

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



Coorong Connects

Tech Made Simple



Patient, jargon-free help for everyday technology in your local library.

FREE sessions — no bookings required

View the program or find your local session at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/coorongconnects



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.
- **WALKING FOOTBALL (SENIORS);** Every Monday 10am–11am at Tailem Bend Primary School. Free community activity run through the Tailem Bend Community Centre (TBCC). For details, contact Martin (TBCC) or Denise/Tammy at the Tailem Bend Community Centre.
- **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;** The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Tailem Bend Hospital Inc will be held on Thursday 10th September at 1.30pm at the Tailem Bend Hotel. The monthly General Meeting will follow the AGM. All welcome to attend.
- **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 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 - IF JESUS LIVED AT OUR HOUSE!

Submitted by Doreen Lutz.

Luke 19:10 Jesus said, *"The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost"*

Recently I began thinking about the people of our community in and around Tailern Bend. I asked myself some questions. How do we as a church let our community know how much they are loved not just by us, but more importantly, by God.

How do we communicate God's love to those we work with, socialize with, play sports with, and even live next door to?

How would Jesus touch His community?

I thought about this. I wondered, *"If Jesus lived at my house"* how would he see my community?

Here's a few thoughts I had. I hope they encourage you and maybe even inspire you to see your neighbors, your community in the same way Jesus might see your community.

If Jesus lived in my house, He'd see His neighbors with the eyes of compassion and concern. Just like the prodigal son in Luke Chapter 15,

Jesus sees us as valuable and has gone to great lengths to search for us and find us.

If Jesus lived in my house, He'd talk to Father God about His neighbours before He talked to His neighbors about Father God. Jesus always prayed before he did anything and perhaps, we need to also.

If Jesus lived in my house, He'd love His neighbors enough to invest time in them. Jesus spent time with Zacchaeus and his house. He spent time with those that everyone else didn't want to hang around with. He invested in them.

If Jesus lived in my house, He wouldn't just share His faith, He'd show it! Jesus did more than just talk about faith in God, He showed what it looked like in practical ways.

When I thought about Jesus living in my home, it helped give me a different perspective on how I might see those I live next door to, or work with. The reality is this, that Jesus does live in my house – through me.

I now have the opportunity to show others, what Jesus is really like.

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, Tailern 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

TAILERN BEND CATHOLIC PARISH

1st and 3rd Sunday: Mass at 9am
2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday (LWHC) 10am
13 Station Drive, Tailern 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, Tailern Bend
Every Sunday 10am.
Pastor Garry and Jane Leech.
Email: garry@revivalcity.church
Mobile: 0437 905 269

TRINITY LUTHERAN

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

Community Notice Board

THE BEND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION

Local residents are invited to attend The Bend's annual Community Consultation Evening on Tuesday, 4 August 2026 at 4:00 PM at The Bend Welcome Centre.

The session provides an opportunity to receive updates, ask questions and provide feedback regarding venue operations. To register your attendance, or indicate your interest please visit:



**Registrations close Tuesday, 28 July 2026.
We welcome and value feedback
from our local community.**



HOW ARE YOU?

Hi, how are you, How was your day week Month?' The reply we usually, get or give, is, 'Yeah, fine thanks.'

When you receive this reply do you give a sigh of relief that you are not going to have to listen to a 'tale of woe'; do you accept the statement and carry on as normal; or do you stop and think are you really fine? Am I really fine?

Have you answered like this but you really feel that the world is on your shoulders and you do not know where to get answers or help? We can be afraid ashamed or distrustful of revealing any problems we have and therefore we cover up with everything is 'fine'. We know that the world around us is not fine.

We can feel depressed, discouraged, worn out or frustrated by what is happening, and then we can feel like giving up. Jesus tells a story of a farmer who sowed good wheat seeds in his good field. Then, one night his enemies came and sowed a weed which looks like wheat.

When the farm workers saw the weeds they went to the farmer and asked, 'Did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?..... Do you want us to go and pull them out?' The farmer told them if they tried to pull out the weeds they might pull out some of the good wheat with them. They were to allow the weeds and wheat to grow together until the harvest. Then the weeds could be harvested first, bundled up and burned. Then the good wheat could be harvested. (Matthew 13 verses 24-30) St Paul knew that being a Christian does not mean we will have a trouble-free life. He was put into prison for his beliefs.

Like the wheat seeds were left to grow and struggle with the weeds, we have to live in a world which is not all good. We are surrounded by lots of evil. However, Paul tells us in Romans chapter 8, 'I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ... We ourselves ... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved.'

'Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently!' (**Romans 8 v 24-25**)

So we can reply to the question, 'How are you?' by saying, 'I am fine because I have God on my side who will harvest me from among the evil weeds.' We can tell others how they can obtain this hope through Christ. We can suffer knowing all will be good in the end.

Submitted by Doreen Lutz for the Mallee Parish

Blue Light SA



Youth events in a supervised and safe environment free from drugs, alcohol, violence and bullying.

Find out more by visiting www.bluelightsa.com.au
Like us on Facebook - Blue Light (SA) Inc

TERM 3

Wednesday 23rd September
Footy Colours Disco.
Tailem Bend Football Clubs.
brooms.

**THURSDAY 13TH -
FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST
2026.**

Tailem Bend Primary School
year 6 Camp at Monarto Zoo

TERM 4

Wednesday 2nd December
Christmas Theme Disco
Tailem Bend Town Hall.

Community Notice Board

Jokes of the Month

"I used to be a baker, but I couldn't make enough dough"

submitted by Lyn Gooddard.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes.

She gave me a hug.

Why did the computer go to art school?

It wanted to improve its graphics.



Why did the ute bring a pencil?

It wanted to draw a trailer.

The older I get,
the earlier it gets late.

My favourite exercise is a cross
between a lunge and a crunch.

It's called lunch.

Quotes of the Month

"Make peace with the face that people
will always see their own version of you in their minds.
You don't have to be responsible for who they think you are."

"The future depends on what you do today."

Mahatma Gandhi

Poem of the Month - Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know. He gives his harness bells a shake
His house is in the village though; To ask if there is some mistake.
He will not see me stopping here The only other sound's the sweep
To watch his woods fill up with snow. Of easy wind and downy flake.

My little horse must think it queer The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
To stop without a farmhouse near But I have promises to keep,
Between the woods and frozen lake And miles to go before I sleep,
The darkest evening of the year. And miles to go before I sleep.

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

LOCAL BUSINESSES

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 Tailem 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 Tailem Bend	8286 2308
Smedley Tyre Service	8572 4037
Subway	8572 3884
Tailem Bend Automotive	8572 4044
Tailem Bend Bakery	8572 3603 / 8572 3604
Tailem Bend Hardware	8572 3284
Tailem Bend Hotel : Liquor Legends	8572 3515
Tailem Bend Newsagency	8572 3523
Tailem Tandoor	0434 455 535

To be included above please send your business name and number to Tailemtopics@gmail.com

COORONG CIVIC CENTRE & ART GALLERY

(Coorong District Council) Open 9am - 4:30pm Mon to Friday
95 - 101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend.
PO Box 399 Tailem Bend, SA, 5260.
Phone: 1300 785 277 | Fax: 8572 3822
Email: council@coorong.sa.gov.au

POST OFFICE

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

COMMUNITY LIBRARY : (ON PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS)

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

TAILEM BEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

MURRAY MALLEE COMMUNITY PASSENGER NETWORK

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

TAILEM BEND KINDERGARTEN

49 Trevena Road, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 3348

TAILEM INFO STATION

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

TAILEM BEND DISTRICT HOSPITAL

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

MEDICAL CENTRE & IMMUNISATIONS

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

TAILEM BEND RSL SUB:BRANCH

57 Trevena Road, (corner of Seymour St & Trevena Rd)
To Book Meals contact Sandy Przbilla 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, Tailem 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, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 3266 | Fax: 8572 3026
Email: DL.0424.info@schools.sa.edu.au

TAILEM BEND PHARMACY

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

LIFELINE TAILEM BEND OP SHOP

20 Princes Highway, Tailem Bend
Phone: 8572 4942 Open: Mon to Friday 10:00am to 4pm
Proceeds aid LIFELINE Crisis Support Line 13 11 14

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Thien Vo and Cassie Vo

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EMAIL: TAILEMBENDPHARMACY@YAHOO.COM.AU

75 RAILWAY TCE, TAILEM BEND



Let's Talk about....

Draft Community Engagement Policy

Help shape how Council listens, shares information and works with our community.

We're reviewing our Community Engagement Policy and we'd love to hear what you think.

This policy guides how Council keeps the community informed, asks for feedback, and involves people in decisions that matter.

Whether you live, work, run a business, volunteer, belong to a local club, or simply enjoy spending time in our district, your perspective is important.

We're committed to:

- Sharing information in clear, easy-to-understand language
- Giving people enough time to have their say
- Providing different ways to get involved
- Listening to community feedback
- Showing how feedback helps shape decisions

Share your thoughts on the Draft Community Engagement Policy and help us improve the way we connect with our community. **Feedback closes at 8am on Friday, 7 August 2026.**

Feedback can be provided:

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



www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk



www.coorong.sa.gov.au/letstalk



Let's Talk about....

Draft Infrastructure Damage & Reinstatement Policy

Coorong District Council is seeking community feedback on a new Draft Infrastructure Damage & Reinstatement Policy.

The policy aims to ensure that roads, footpaths, verges, street trees, drainage assets and other Council infrastructure are protected during development and construction works, and that any damage is repaired at the responsible party's expense.

What does the policy do?

- Protects Council-owned infrastructure
- Sets clear requirements before works begin
- Establishes standards for repairs and reinstatement
- Helps maintain public safety and amenity
- Ensures repairs are paid for by those responsible for the damage, not the community.

Share your thoughts on the Draft Infrastructure Damage & Reinstatement Policy.

Feedback closes at 8am on Friday, 7 August 2026.

Feedback can be provided:

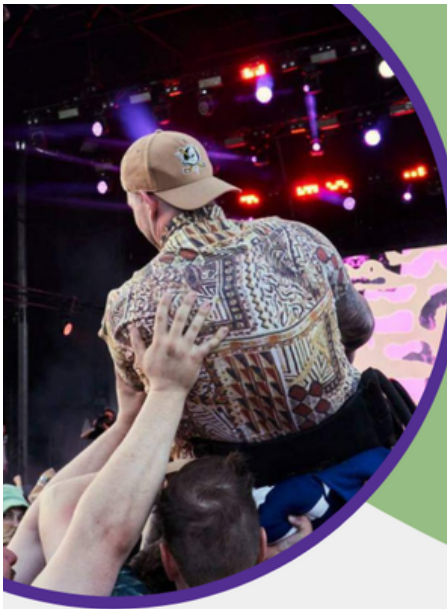
- By viewing the policy and completing an online **feedback form** by visiting the **website** or scanning the **QR Code**
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- **By post** PO Box 399, Taillem Bend SA 5260



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FREE Disability Inclusion Training FOUNDATIONS

Creating communities where everyone can fully participate, connect and belong

Foundations Training Workshop

Join us for a practical and engaging workshop designed to help council staff, volunteers and community members **create more accessible and inclusive experiences** in all areas of their communities.

Creating an inclusive community starts with building confidence, knowledge and understanding. **Disability Inclusion Foundations Training** is an engaging and practical workshop that provides participants with the **skills and tools to create more accessible and inclusive** workplaces, services and communities. Co-designed and delivered by facilitators with lived experience of disability, this training **encourages meaningful conversations and practical action** that can be applied immediately.

Topics you will explore:

- Understanding disability through the **Social Model of Disability**.
- Challenging attitudes, assumptions and **unconscious bias**.
- Inclusive **language** and effective **communication**.
- Practical ways to **improve accessibility and inclusion** in everyday work.
- Building confidence to engage respectfully with people with disability and **create more inclusive communities**.

Workshop Details

Date: Friday, 14th August, 2026

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Tailem Bend Town Hall:

95-101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend
SA 5260

Register Now!

Email: Emily Brown –

ebrown@coorong.sa.gov.au

Phone: 1300 785 277

Please include your name and contact details