



# Yankalilla REGIONAL NEWS

MAY 2025

1ST TO 31ST MAY 2025

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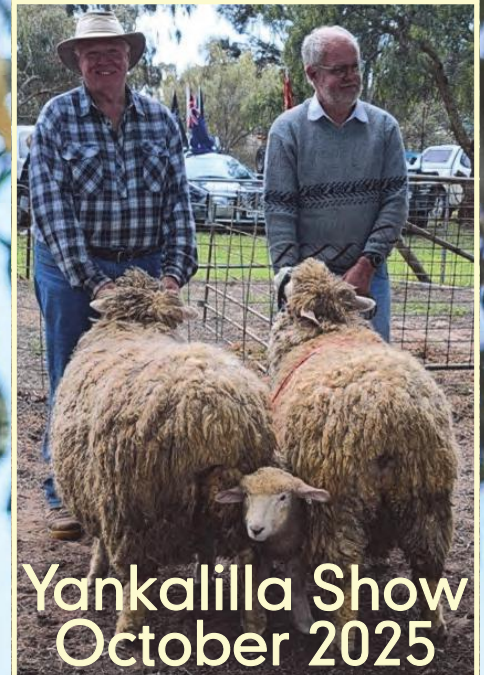


# DCY BUDGET Have your say and a sausage too!

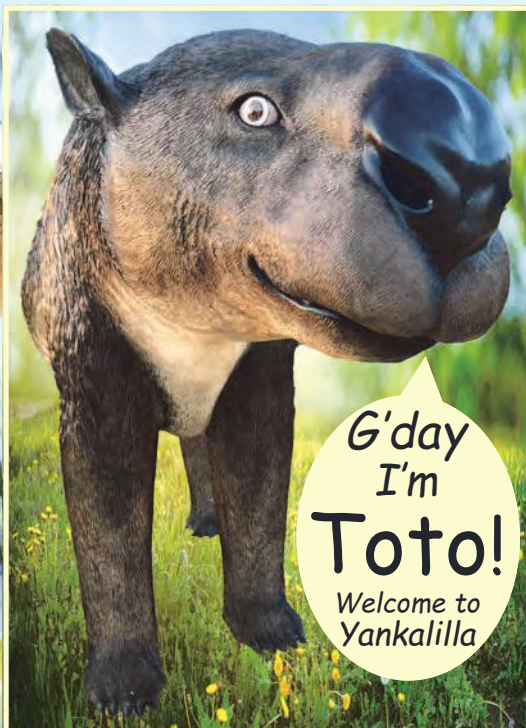
**Toxic Algal Bloom  
Kills Wildlife**

**Normanville:  
'Top Tourism Town'**

**Federal Money:  
Main South Road**



**Yankalilla Show  
October 2025**



G'day  
I'm  
**Toto!**  
Welcome to  
Yankalilla

**Lions Quiz Night**

**Music For Change**

**Fleurieu Food Festival**

**Winter Solstice Dance**


**Southern Fleurieu Film Society**

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**Yankalilla Red Cross**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Op Shop Fashion Parade. A fun afternoon was had by all and we raised \$770. We have started our Mother's Day Multi Raffle and if you would like tickets, please see one of our members or contact Coralie 0447 870 730. Drawn on Monday 5th May.

If anyone is wanting to donate to Australian Red Cross to assist in the most recent flood disaster, you can do so by depositing funds into our bank account:

Red Cross Society - Yankalilla  
BSB 105092

Account No. 351015240.

If you require a receipt please let Coralie know. Thank you.



**Congratulations to the  
Yankalilla Cricket Club C1  
GSCA Premiers 24/25!**

**Yankalilla 7/158 (35)**

**defeated Myponga-Sellicks 10/146 (34.5)**

Front (L-R): Jeremy Parsons, Joel Kay, Travis Bartlett, Brad Fitzgerald, Kohen Major, Hudson Cook, Jack Fitzgerald, Coby Hosking

Back (L-R): Andrew Cook, Craig Allen, Patrick O'Leary, Jacob Parsons, Kym Hosking



*Cover photo: These Mum and Joey koalas were spied recently looking a bit parched in our long lasting dry conditions. Hopefully we get some rains soon. Photo by Gillian Rayment.*

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Second Valley Myponga  
Normanville Rapid Bay  
Yankalilla Delamere  
Carrickalinga Cape Jervis

## Normanville wins 'Top Tourism Town' Award

Normanville has just been named South Australia's Small Tourism Town of the Year at the 2025 South Australian Top Tourism Town Awards. This puts Normanville in the running to represent SA at the national awards.

The judges loved our stunning beaches, the serenity of Yankalilla Bay and the famous rolling hills and rugged coastline. They were also charmed by the warm community vibe of events like the New Year's Pageant, or just kicking back at the Beach Café.

The Top Tourism Town Awards spotlight towns under 5,000 population that go above and beyond for their visitors and leave

them with memorable experiences. In turn, being selected for Nationals will give Normanville some useful publicity on TV (Hello SA TV), several magazines (Adelady, SA Life), and bragging rights to put on signage at our town entry points.

In acknowledging the award, Yankalilla Council thanked the Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre team and Yankalilla and Normanville Progress Association. Together, they put together the a persuasive submission that showcased the town's innovation, sustainability, and visitor experience flair.

*Fiona Vogel - Copywriter  
www.fionavogel.com.au*

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The Yankalilla Regional News welcomes your items of local interest, letters, news, events and meetings.

**Advertising rates** in The Yankalilla Regional News are very competitive. Your advertisement will reach more than **5,100 households** in the Southern Fleurieu every month.

This makes The Yankalilla Regional News the most effective way to advertise services and products throughout the Fleurieu Coast.

The Yankalilla Regional News is an independent publication produced and distributed by Paul Jelfs



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Ph 8382 4466 - Fax 8382 2166

## ADVERTISING RATES

Size (width x height)	B & W	Colour
1/32P 4.5x3.1cm	\$35	\$57
1/24P 6.3x3.1cm	\$45	\$80
1/16P 4.5x6.5cm or 9.5x3.1cm	\$65	\$116
1/12P 6.3x6.5	\$90	\$151
3/32P 14.5x3.1cm	\$103	\$167
1/9P 6.3x8.8	\$110	\$198
1/8P 9.5x6.5 or 4.5x13.4 or 19.4x3.1	\$127	\$216
1/6P 6.3x13.4 or 9.5x8.8	\$154	\$267
3/16P 4.5x20.4 or 14.5x6.5	\$180	\$307
2/9P 6.3x18 or 12.85x8.8	\$210	\$361
1/4P 9.5x13.4 or 19.4x6.5 or 6.3x20.3	\$233	\$410
1/3P 19.4x8.8 or 12.85x13.4 or 6.3x27.3	\$316	\$527
3/8P 9.5x20.4	\$344	\$612
4/9P 12.85x18	\$396	\$716
1/2P 19.4x13.4 or 9.5x27.3	\$469	\$799
9/16P 14.5x20.4	\$513	\$896
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3/4P 19.4x20.4	\$680	\$1174
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Advertorial text	Poa	Poa

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### Back Page

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The official due date for each Newsletter is the 15th of the month. The Christmas and New Year issues each cover 1.5 months.



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## Editor's Comments

Hello Readers,  
April was an eventful month, you could say, with the Festival Fleurieu, Easter, school holidays and a sea of visitors enjoying it all. Add a toxic algal bloom spreading around the Fleurieu coast and most recently, a 'monster' (as some media reported it) shark cruising along our beaches. Of course it included Normanville and Carrickalinga in its itinerary - Normanville having just picked up a 'Top Tourism Town' award, it would have been curious for sure!

Now on to the more serious stuff, and I don't mean the Federal election which will take its course with not much in the way of surprises. I mean the District Council of Yankalilla Budget! It is a scary document indeed. Lots of figures in RED and not much guaranteed other than large rate increases for years to come. Don't take my word for it, have a look at the commentary on pages 14-17, then make

**Next Issue: June 2025**  
**Deadline: 15th May 2025**

Puzzle (page 23) Solution: Playing inside is fun

the decision to go to the YDRA's sausage sizzle info session and put your say forward to the DCY. This will be something they can't ignore or sweep under the rug by saying they had 'only a few responses' to their consultation. The new committee of YDRA are not going to let the DCY off the hook that easily.

A recent 'put motion' by Deputy Mayor Olsson raised a few eyebrows. The discussion in the meeting was about FRWA and finances. There was a lot of discussion to which Cr Olsson tried to have the motion decided by putting a motion to vote on the motion immediately, thus stifling reasonable debate. That 'put motion' was lost and discussions on the important topic continued for another hour. This 'put motion' practice is viewed by some as undemocratic and it has the effect of stopping debate or discussion on topics that should not be swept under the rug. It is not the first time Cr Olsson has employed this tactic in Chambers.

Until next issue...

Cheers,

Paul Jelfs - Editor

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## Yankalilla Ladies Probus

*We Have a New Meeting Venue!!*

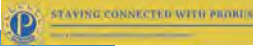
Please make a note of our new meeting venue:  
**Sanders Hall** (Next door to the Uniting Church  
Yankalilla)

**121 Main Street, Yankalilla.**

We also have a new committee following our AGM held in March. Thank you to all those who have worked so hard on the committee in the past, and a big welcome to our new committee members. Sue Field continues as our President, so we are in good hands.

The AGM day being a rather full day, we did not have a guest speaker in March. Our speaker for 28th May is Councillor Karin Hatch, who will speak on our local spectacular geography.

We have interesting speakers and outings through the year. Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, January to November, at Sanders Hall next door to the Uniting Church at 121 Main Street, Yankalilla. Visitors are welcome.



(to the left  
behind the  
shrubbery)

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# Club Fleurieu – A Club for Everyone!

## Day Trips in April & May

A highlight in our April calendar was a day trip for a "Captain Proud" Paddle Boat Cruise and Lunch on the River Murray. Due to the YRN deadline, we've had to make do with a generic paddleboat picture, but there will hopefully be some actual photos in the next issue! The trip was open to both members and non-members. There was a maximum of 54 people and the trip quickly booked out.



Due to this popular demand, a second Cruise & Lunch has been organised for **Wednesday 28 May**. As at mid-April there were still some places available. The all-inclusive cost is **\$30 members, \$70 non-members**, payable early

May. Bookings are via the sign-up sheet in the Club foyer which is accessible at all times, and priority will be given to those who missed out on the first trip. Many thanks to the organisers for arranging these events.

## MAY DIARY DATES

### Thursday 1st: **Movie Night, 7.00pm start**

Southern Fleurieu Film Society presents *Woman at War*, a movie set in Iceland. From 6.00pm we will serve a themed meal for \$15. The Icelandic menu may prove the most intriguing yet, with fish most likely to feature! Meal bookings are now required, via phone or email. Bjorn's Bar will be open for refreshments and icecreams. Visit [sffs.org.au](http://sffs.org.au) if you would like to join the Film Society, and enjoy a movie (and optional meal) each month.

### Tuesday 13th: **Barbecue Lunch, 12 noon**

\$15 per person, bookings required.



### Wednesday 21st:

#### Club Lunch, 12 noon

with a special **Mother's Day theme & raffle**

**Mains:** Barramundi with Prawns or Lamb Shanks, both accompanied by vegetables.

**Dessert:** Tiramisu

\$20 members, \$25 non-members. Bookings essential.

### Friday 30th:

#### HAPPY HOUR & Dinner, from 5.00pm

A Fried Rice dish will be on the dinner menu, or just come along for a drink or two and catch up with friends. Bjorn has chips and a selection of icecreams at the Bar if you'd like a snack with your drink.

The Games Room will be open for a game of pool or darts. Chess and other board games are also available.

Please book if you wish to have dinner.

\$20 members, \$25 non-members.



\* Please note there will be no Night Bingo in May \*

140-142 Main South Road  
Yankalilla SA  
Phone **08 8558 2053** Mobile **0477 111 315**

Email [yankover50s@gmail.com](mailto:yankover50s@gmail.com)  
Website [www.clubfleurieu.com](http://www.clubfleurieu.com)  
and find us on Facebook

**club fleurieu**

## Yankalilla Men's Probus

Our last meeting, April 1st, no joke, again we heard tunes played by Bryce and Ken. Our guest speaker Rev Dean Eland spoke to us about his time in the suburb of Redfern NSW working on social development back two decades ago. Craig organized a trip to the local museum for April 24th to inspect changes that have occurred there. May the 22nd we plan to visit Pitchford Produce at Currency Creek and hear from the owner, Graeme how he grows vegetables using organic, biological, and conventional methods of farming. He uses integrated pest management to

reduce reliance on chemicals while encouraging beneficial insects to do some of the work needed. Now this is a trip we can get our teeth into. Should you wish to join us at our next meeting, Tuesday 10am the 6th of May you are most welcome. Probus member Matt Robertson, our treasurer will give a ten-minute profile on his life and our guest speaker, Bryon Hearn talking about bee keeping. Well that promises to be a buzz. For more information contact Bruce Burford on 0412474421.

Bryce on Piano with Ken on Trumpet



**2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
Friday 6th June at 7.00pm  
Second Valley Hall

7pm GUEST SPEAKER  
Ms. JoAnne Bouzianis-Sellick  
7.30pm AGM

Light refreshments provided.

For further information- contact David Olsson- 0417 813692 or email [olssons@ozemail.com.au](mailto:olssons@ozemail.com.au)



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[www.southernoceanconstruction.com](http://www.southernoceanconstruction.com)

**Cape Jervis Community Club**  
 17 Ransford Ave, Cape Jervis  
[capejervisclub@gmail.com](mailto:capejervisclub@gmail.com)  
 Phone 8598 0088 **set menu**  
 Open every Thursday for meals from 5.30pm. All Welcome.

**Yankalilla Market**  
 Craft, Produce, Collectables, Coffee, Food, Live Music

**YDHS Events in History Festival month**

**S**outh Australia's History Festival is month long and statewide. Search the full program [festival.history.sa.gov.au](http://festival.history.sa.gov.au) or grab a printed program from the Yankalilla Library, Drakes or the Visitor Information Centre. The Yankalilla Historical Society is pleased to present two events

Free event but please book ph 85582043 or online <https://events.humanitix.com/doing-the-graveyard-shift>

District-Early Burials', covering names of those in 14 burial grounds from the 1850's to 1900. Followed by cemetery tour and plaque dedication in the adjoining state heritage-listed 1856 cemetery, which also features some early slate headstones. Refreshments provided by Lions Club

**FRIDAY 23 May DOING THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT**  
 10am (YDHS Friday talks)  
 Yankalilla Library Main Hall  
 Q&A Forum with Four Guest Speakers

**SATURDAY 24 May CEMETERIES OF THE YANKALILLA DISTRICT**

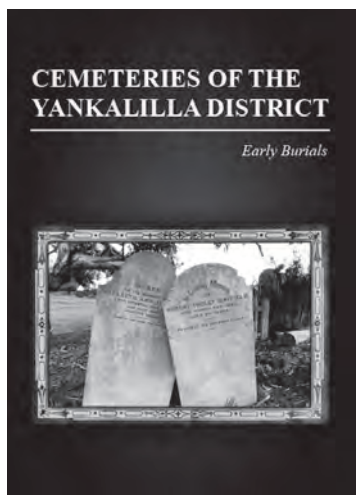
10am Normanville RSL hall 18 Main South Road  
 Join us at the former Normanville Wesleyan Chapel for the launch of the booklet 'Cemeteries of the Yankalilla

Free event but please book 85580240 or online <https://www.visitfleurieucoast.com.au/cemeteries-of-the-yankalilla-district>

**Next Market!**  
**17th May**

**3rd Saturday each month**  
 9am-1pm - Agricultural Hall Between Yankalilla & Normanville  
 Indoor & Outdoor Sites Available  
 Bookings Essential.  
**Mattie 0447 044 721**  
**Judy 0411 287 201**

**E**ver wondered who looks after historic graveyards? What happens to a cemetery when it is no longer used or is sold as part of a church property? Come and hear how people in the Yankalilla district have dealt with these issues. Guest speakers are Alan Barnes (Uniting Church former Methodist Wesleyan cemeteries and legislation and policy of private ownership), Marilyn McLaren (community strategy to retain Myponga cemetery), Nigel Pile (Lions Club work maintaining historic cemeteries), Georgie Tape (private owner Inman valley Uniting Church and cemetery).



**We also have the Restore, Repair, Revive Biddle Cottage:**  
**9.30am Sunday 18 May**  
 Join us and Conservation Architects Robyn Taylor and Paul Stark for the initial workshop/working bee. Find out about the plans for the future of the local historic Biddle Cottage - 265 Parawa Road, Torrens Vale - which is in urgent need of some TLC before it becomes a ruin. To find out how you can be part of the solution phone Sue Speck 0448438974 or email [yank.hist.soc@gmail.com](mailto:yank.hist.soc@gmail.com).

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**Hey locals and lovely visitors!**

**I**t's your girl **Kendehl**, here with **Nikita** and **Mum** - your favourite family trio from **K's Delicious Catering!** We're buzzing with excitement to share all the delicious things we've been up to this past month, and what's coming next. First up, a huge thank you to everyone who came by and supported us at the **MVYC Fundraising Fete, the Preloved Patch Grand Opening** in Sellicks, the **Easter Saturday Market** in Yankalilla, and of course, all those beautiful **private events** we had the joy of catering! Your smiles, chats, and support mean the world to us and help us keep feeding and supporting people experiencing **homelessness and domestic violence** - our core mission. And let's talk about the vibe at the **Murray Sunset Culinary Festival in Goolwa** - wow! What

an atmosphere! The sun was shining, the community was glowing, and our little catering fam (that's me, Nikita, and Mum!) was busy serving up the love. We felt so welcomed by both the organisers and patrons, and we're thrilled to say... **we've been invited back for Preloved Patch May 2025 Sellicks, Murray Sunset Culinary Festival June 2025 in Goolwa, MVYC Fundraising Fete Hackham, July 2025!** Stay tuned for that one - it's going to be another beautiful gathering. But wait, there's more! We're heading to **Tasting Australia in Maitland** and we'd love to see your faces there. We're bringing all the flavour - think: **Local lamb sausages** with delicious combos like seaweed & garlic, lemon & turmeric, and classic plain

**Lamb cutlets** from our friends at **Babbage Farm Butchery**  
 Paired with stunning wines from **Barley Stack Wines**  
 Plus, our amazing partners at **The Coeliac Society of South Australia** will be right alongside us, spreading awareness and offering support for those with **coeliac disease and associated conditions**.  
 Come say hi, enjoy some truly local food and wine, and know that every bite helps us keep giving back. And don't forget - **Mother's Day** is just around the corner! Keep an eye on our socials to grab a **breakfast platter or ready-to-go meal for Mum**. Or better yet, book us for your next event - we'd love to be part of your special day. **With love and full bellies,** The K's Delicious Catering Team (advert on left page)

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## Appreciation

I would like to give a big Thank You to Dr. Paul Worley of SFFP for his care and attention. We are lucky to have him in our area. Also to the friendly and helpful Reception Ladies - so good at a sometimes difficult time! Much appreciated  
*Kath Banks*

## An open letter to the community

My name is Jim Glasgow, I am a resident of Deep Creek and a member of the CFS, so you can only imagine my surprise when I learned that Parks SA allow camp fires in Deep Creek park at designated camp sites from the 14th of April (other than total fire ban days), well before the end of fire ban season in the Mount Lofty fire ban district. Now that the fire ban season has been

extended to May the 15th this year due to one of the driest seasons on record, this puts Parks SA a full month out of step with the rest of the fire ban district. I have been told this is because they like to encompass school holidays within their camp fire allowance season as it increases bookings. Now, I'm not inferring that Parks SA are revenue driven, I'm sure they want people to have the whole camping experience, but I would also think that with their intimate knowledge of the park and its conditions that some discretion and judgement would come into it on a season to season basis. I can only hope that members of the public show some common sense when it comes to the size and control of their camp fires so that all CFS volunteers have a safe and happy Easter with their families, or that Parks SA have the necessary people and appliances ready for any trouble.

Thank you.  
*Jim Glasgow*

## Readers' Poetry

### Yellow Flowering Gum

by Chris Battams

The Yellow Flowering Gum holds its giant arms aloft as the great moon comes and in the eternal grey of night it sings about that sacred rite in cliffs and caves and waterfalls where ancient painted Gods are joined with sacred animals and what was done that night was not held by them to be sin nor the passing of the Waratah held within the clenched birth of its first flower primal surge and the cry of a mournful bird

Over hill and the marbled rock the sacred desert hunters came running in time to the sacred flame and in the still twilight of night they beheld creation and the sight and sound the voice of Tjukurpa Creation Spirits of the dark earth dancing tribes of the Spirit men spoke of legends of times when in rock and tree and sacred bird the first man spoke the first word

Chris Battams recently finished his 12<sup>th</sup> academic qualification, has poetry published in 5 countries, has lectured at the Sorbonne University in Paris, and been a guest lecturer/poet throughout France, was preselected for the 2006 State Election, and previously ran for Brighton Council in 1993. Chris is a retired Science teacher, living at Back Valley.

This poem - Yellow Flowering Gum - won the first Victor Harbor Poetry Slam in 2011.

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*Opinions*

**Debt and Pontoons**  
At the beach on 3rd April. Rain and “funding” at the bottom of the rainbow.  
*Tony Nicholl*



**Expressions of Interest Now Open**

Expressions of interest are now open to participate in the 2025 Fleurieu Food Festival. We're inviting local venues, producers, chefs, brewers, distillers, artists and experience operators to contribute to this year's program – a region-wide celebration of the Fleurieu's food, drink and creative culture throughout August. In 2025, the festival is projected to attract over 12,000 attendees, including interstate, intrastate and local visitors. It's a valuable opportunity for businesses to increase visibility, drive bookings and connect with new audiences during the quieter winter season. Fleurieu Peninsula Tourism will lead the marketing campaign, working alongside the Fleurieu Food Committee to promote the program across South Australia and beyond. Whether it's a special lunch, tasting, workshop, tour or creative experience – we'd love to hear your idea. Let's continue to showcase the diversity and quality of the Fleurieu Peninsula – one bite, sip, and story at a time.

**EOIs close: 28 May 2025**  
**Expression of Interest: Fleurieu Food Festival**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0yHejHDBK8OX0BYTuBd13H1FyITd\\_ZYJDjuuh7jxEM1GQNg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0yHejHDBK8OX0BYTuBd13H1FyITd_ZYJDjuuh7jxEM1GQNg/viewform)



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# Southern Fleurieu Film Society

The star rating for last month's French movie, **This Crime is Mine**, was a 4. Votes ranged from 2 stars to 5, with discussion comments showing appreciation of the fun, the cleverness and the lavish look of the of the 1930s France film.



In May, **Woman at War**, will take us to beautiful Iceland, greener than Greenland and less icy. There is a lot to like about this film. It has a very topical theme: one person can make a difference, in this case, a 50 year old woman juggling work, choir leadership, imminent parenthood of a Ukrainian orphan, and environmental activism. It has serious themes, but a sense of humour and a beautiful background score. Look out for the quirky pop ups of three musicians and three Ukrainian singers.

The movie was a prize winner at Cannes' Critics' Week. As the

Cannes Film Festival is in May, this seems a very good (optional) opportunity to frock up for this month's 'red carpet' movie. Raid the wardrobe or op shops now to bring a bit of glam on May 1st. Screening details are:

■ **Yankalilla at Club Fleurieu on Thursday May 1st**

■ **Victor Harbor, Victa Cinema, on Tuesday May 6th**

■ **Goolwa in Centenary Hall on Wednesday April 7th**

Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start.

Club Fleurieu will again offer a pre-screening meal. We have heard rumours of fermented shark, but will confirm through an email to members. Please email

[Louise.Allstrom@gmail.com](mailto:Louise.Allstrom@gmail.com) to book for 5:30. Cost is \$15 and there will be a vegetarian option.

New members are very welcome. See the 2025 programme and archived reviews of previous films at <https://sffs.org.au>

Remember, members can borrow movies that have been screened here. They can invite a guest, and can also have someone attend in their place if unable to get to any of the screenings, at any venue. Visit the website to find out all you need to know.

<https://sffs.org.au>

You can also contact Mike Tye (Chairperson SFFS) on 0438 800 066 or through [mike@michaeltye.com.au](mailto:mike@michaeltye.com.au)



Local contact is Caroline on 0431 438 993.

## MAY

### Woman at War

Yankalilla, Thursday 1st  
Victor Harbor, Tuesday 6th  
Goolwa, Wednesday 7th

### ICELAND 2018

Adventure | Comedy | Drama  
Director: Benedikt Erlingsson

Halla is a fifty-year-old independent woman but behind the scenes she leads a double-life as a passionate environmental activist.



CHILD-FRIENDLY EVENT | LUCKY DOOR PRIZE, FREE CHILDREN'S LUCKY DIP, RAFFLE | GREAT LINEUP | FREE CAMPING FOR TICKET HOLDERS | BRING YOUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENT FOR A JAM AROUND THE BONFIRE AFTER THE EVENT

# music for change

**Where:** Yankalilla Showgrounds Hall, corner Jervois Road and Main South Road, Yankalilla

**When:** Saturday 31 May 2025 | Gates open at 5pm

**Tickets:** Adults \$15/Children under 5 FREE/Children under 16 \$5/ Special family entry (2 adults, 2 children 5-16) \$35  
Bar facilities, hot beverages and food available for purchase, including Barking Bean, Zen's Fairy Floss, Incendio Pizza (gluten-free pizza available, but you MUST order early) - no BYO

**Bookings:** Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre: in person; by phone 08 8558 0240; online at [www.visitfleurieucoast.com.au/music-for\\_change#/event/148098](http://www.visitfleurieucoast.com.au/music-for_change#/event/148098) or scan the QR code

A fundraiser for Women for Change organised by

Fleurieu Refugee Support Group



Second Valley Soldiers' Memorial Hall

## Winter Solstice Dance

(nearly) Saturday 14th June 2025

"Self Righteous Brothers"  
-Back by popular demand-

Thai & Aussie Hot Food Available  
"Hunger Eze"

Bar open from 6.00-10.30pm  
BYO snacks & nibbles — (NO BYO drinks)

**Tickets: \$30 /Hall Members \$25**

Online from  
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Or contact Hall Committee by email  
[secondvalleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:secondvalleyhall@gmail.com)

## MUSIC FOR CHANGE – LAST CHANCE REMINDER

An event brought to the community by the Fleurieu Refugee Support Group

On Saturday 31st May 'Music for Change' will be held at the Yankalilla Show Agricultural Hall. Local artists and others from the wider community will provide a magical night of entertainment and soul enriching experiences for you and your family, while supporting women and girls in Afghanistan.

There will be bar facilities and hot beverages and food available for purchase including Barking Bean, Zen's Fairy Floss, Incendio Pizza (gluten-free available but you must order early). As this is a fundraising event, NO BYO. Free camping on the Showgrounds for ticket holders and a campfire will be going for those wanting to jam after the main performances.

There will be a great lineup of musicians who have volunteered their time to support the cause (including: Wendy McPhee, Margie Russell and the Russell Sisters, violinist Christine Stokes and family, guitarist Hugo,

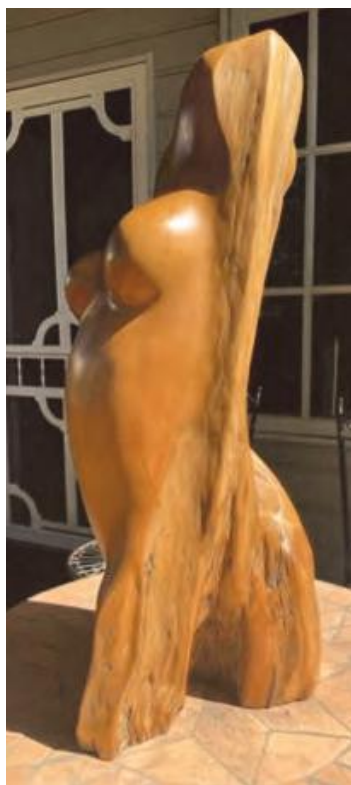
Carrickalinga band 'Ambiguous Folk', Kym Mitchell, Paul Motiekaitis, Karen Pater, and Robert Bean)

Details of how our funds are distributed and the real differences they make will be available in a rolling slide show as well as a brief presentation on the night.

Local businesses and individuals have donated generously to the prizes for the raffle to be drawn on the night (including Seagrass Villas 2 nights accommodation, welcome bottle of wine and breakfast provisions, 43 Jetty Road, 1 night accommodation, Little Norma, 1 night accommodation, a case of Allusion wine, handmade prize winning quilt donated by the Threads Sewing Group, a Huon Pine Sculpture valued at around \$1000 donated by Geoff Bromilow, and more to come...) We must, of course, thank Alison Fort (A Fort Graphic Design) for developing our posters and fliers for the event as she has done for our fundraisers over many years.

**DOOR PRIZE** Grass Tree Gully (1 night accommodation) and for the kids there will be a free lucky dip.

This is a wonderful opportunity for a great night out with family or friends that will raise hope and bring positive changes for those trapped in merciless situations. Numbers are limited so **GET IN**



## Have you booked for An Evening with Colonel Light on May 15?

An Evening with Colonel Light at Bungala House, Yankalilla is set to be a sumptuous celebration of Colonel William Light's decision for Adelaide's location, and his visionary planning of the new colony. This event's focus is in keeping with the 2025 SA History Festival theme of 'Decisions'.

The event will start at 6pm on Thursday, 15 May, and combine theatre, music, a raffle, a silent art auction, as well as food and drink, with some tantalising history and a bit of historical fiction.



Colonel William Light, who arrived on the brig *Rapid* in 1836, and fulfilled the role of the state's first Surveyor-General, was himself an artist, (and writer). Light's artworks document a range of natural and man-made environments across the world, including Rapid Bay and Yankalilla. Bungala House is planning to stage a series of printed images of some of Light's artwork for the event.

Photos by Kathryn Pentecost



Bungala House is located at 34 Main Street, Yankalilla, and currently operates as an accommodation and function venue in a uniquely beautiful garden setting. Visitors are invited to dress up in historical costumes: all sailors, pirates, wenches, fine ladies and gentlemen are welcome and there will be a special staging area where guests can, for fun, take selfies while dressed in their finery.

As numbers are limited, patrons are asked to book via:

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



# music for change

**RAFFLE TICKETS**  
\$5 each or 6 for \$20

Get in early!

Purchase your raffle tickets now to ensure you are in with a chance to WIN one of our fantastic prizes. Email [refugeefleurieu@gmail.com](mailto:refugeefleurieu@gmail.com) OR text Brian on 0402 340 029

Raffle tickets will also be available for purchase at the event (cash or card).

Prizes have been generously donated and include accommodation packages, a gorgeous handmade quilt, and much, much more!

All money raised will go to Women for Change helping women and children in Afghanistan with food and education.

Fleurieu Refugee Support Group

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**EARLY** (Adults \$15, Children under 5 free, Children Under 16 \$5, Special Family entry \$35 – 2 Adults, 2 children 5-16)

Event tickets available from the Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre in person, online at <https://www.visitfleurieucoast.com.au/music-for-change> and via phone 08 8558 0240

And, if you can't come on the night but want to support the event, please consider purchasing some raffle tickets.

Two of the prizes  
A fabulous quilt and  
A Huon Pine sculpture



# Yankalilla & District Lions Club

## April Dinner Meeting

We were very pleased to have David Horn as our guest speaker at our April dinner meeting.

David is well known to us as a past District Governor, Council Chair and CEO of Australian Lions Hearing Dogs. He is always informative and entertaining.



David took us through his life journey from being a 20-year-old farm hand to where he is today and the impact that Lions had on his personal development.



David had been around the Lions organisation for a long time, but it took 15 years before somebody asked him to join the organisation.

David left us with several messages.

- As a Lion I matter. Every Lion makes a difference

- There is no harm asking somebody to join the Lions club.

- What you do does matter. Never doubt the impact you have.

- Change thinking from what can you do for us to what can I do for you.

A very inspirational talk.

## Brian Dedicoat receives 10-year award

Well done Brian Dedicoat!

At our April dinner meeting Brian (on left) received the award for 10 year's service from our President Russell Boxer.

Very well done, you have put in many hours of volunteering during that time which we are all very much appreciative of.



## Fleurieu AgFest

A great day at AgFest feeding the visitors. Thank you to everyone who called in. See you next year.



## Future Events

**Lions Quiz Night** - Details: **Friday 16th May**. Yankalilla Bowling Club. Contact Gill McFayden for table bookings on 0422 165 490.

## Interested in joining the Lions Club ?

New Lions members are always welcome to join our organisation to help us serve the community in many ways whilst having fun and making new friends at the same time.

For more information on the Yankalilla & District Lions Club activities please feel free to follow us on Facebook;

<https://www.facebook.com/yankalillaanddistrictionsclub>

or look us up at

<https://www.yankalillalions.com/>



# QUIZ NIGHT Friday 16th May

Yankalilla Bowling Club

7pm for 7:30pm start

\$10 per person

BYO SUPPER & NIBBLES (NO DRINKS)

BAR FACILITIES AVAILABLE

To book your table (8 per table)

please call:

Gill McFayden 0422 165 490

Limited spaces so book early to avoid disappointment!

Proceeds to Lions' community projects

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# Lions Club of Yankalilla and Districts

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## Discussions - Letters - Opinions Email: editor@yrn.com.au Or Post to: Box 2110, Normanville SA 5204

### Council Budget and Community Consultation

I have been taking a close look at what Council has in the proposed budget and Long-Term Financial Plan. The first thing I note is that the Local Government Financing Authority (LGFA) has told Council that it can't borrow any more until Council addresses its debt position.

The second thing is that Council and the Local Government Financing Authority have entered into a Covenant agreement. This agreement sets out financial outcomes the Council must achieve in order to have the continuing financial support of the LGFA. Put in simple terms, the LGFA's ongoing financial support is conditional on Council getting its financial affairs in order over an agreed timeline.

The minutes of the 7th of March Audit and Risk Committee indicate the goal of achieving an operating surplus is currently running a year behind the agreed target date. Also, the Audit noted that Debt in relation to the Operating Surplus Ratio, Net Financial Liabilities Ratio, Asset Renewal Ratio and Debt reduction were also running at least a year behind the terms in the covenant.

From what I can see, it appears that over recent years, Council has broken the first Rule of Financial Risk Management. That is, when seeking finance to cover the acquisition of long-term assets, the

interest rate on the borrowings should be known and locked in up front (i.e. Fixed Rate borrowings with a schedule of principle and interest payments. This ensure that the benefits arising from the asset match the profile of the debt maturity.

The Audit and Risk Committee noted that key elements of the 2025-26 Draft Budget included a Total Rates Revenue Raised increase of 6.4%, incorporating inflation (2.4%), growth (0.2%), and sustainability (3.8%).

From what I have read, I believe that Council seems to be heading in the right direction. However, there are also very significant risks in the current financial climate. What I would like to see is a document that sets out Council's Debt Reduction Targets over the next five financial years. Such a plan needs to take into account that Ratepayers will not be happy if Council consistently raises rates by more than CPI in order to cover debt servicing. Also, Council needs to consider the possibility that, given the Trump Trade war, there is a real risk of a global recession. In this scenario, many Ratepayers might find it hard to make ends meet. Under this scenario Council may have to make significant adjustments to reflect what the community can afford to pay.

I would encourage Ratepayers to turn up to the Community Consultation meetings. I would also like to see that Council present a clear and understandable "Road Map" that details how they will know that financial sustainability will be archived without resorting to simply jacking up Rates.

*Paul Newman*

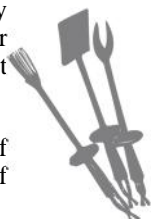
## YDRA - OUR COUNCIL BUDGET - YOUR SAY

The Yankalilla District Residents Association invites everyone to a community gathering to allow ratepayers to talk with Elected Members in an open forum. The subject of discussion is the budget, which is close to being approved. This is our chance to tell the District Council of Yankalilla what should and should not be in the budget. It directly impacts the rate increase we will all have to pay.

Come along to the **Yankalilla Skate Park on 10th May between 11am and 2pm. A free sausage sizzle** will be available (courtesy of an anonymous donor). The Mayor and all Elected Members have been invited to come and talk about the budget and hear the community's concerns. There will be lots of information available.



If you pay rates, it is in your best interests to be here to have a say in the future of our district. The DCY is dangerously close to being insolvent and having the proverbial rug pulled out from under them. That word 'administration' is not far away if we are not active in stopping the slide into oblivion. Millennials and Gen Zers, you could start to take an interest now, before things get really tight for you in a couple years time when you are left holding the bag - *just a thought*.



This is the first event of the new YDRA committee under new President, Amanda Crossley and a whole new committee of eager residents, who are prepared to take on the hard tasks. Show your support by becoming involved for the betterment of this place we all call home. This is our version of a democracy sausage!

# YDRA | YANKALILLA DISTRICT residents association

# Councillor Karin's Community Chronicles

DCY Councillor Karin Hatch

## The draft 2025-2026 Budget papers: Rates vs Spending

(Please note, all information presented below as data or quotes is accurate to the best of my ability and knowledge. Also please note, anything else written below is strictly my own views, observations, and thoughts, and do not reflect those of the other Elected Members or the Staff of the District Council of Yankalilla)

As always, feel free to ring 0477 000 137 or email me with any questions about this or any other matters

**First, an apology.** People, when I ran for Council, I promised to work to: 1) Keep rate rises down, by; 2) Getting expenditure down, and 3) Offer transparency to ratepayers. While I worked hard, I was not particularly successful. I am so sorry to say that I have achieved next to nothing for ratepayers in terms of limiting the rate revenue rise or cutting expenses during the 2025-26 draft budget setting process. I can at least fulfill the 3<sup>rd</sup> promise: Transparency. I want to try and answer a question that bothers me immensely: *Why in my view can't Council expenditure be reduced?*

**My view.** Within the draft 2025-26 budget, there is not enough cost cutting of nonessential services. The draft budget has a 6.4% rate revenue rise, which is about 4% above CPI, a rise I find astonishingly high. That increase to rates generates nearly \$1M in income over last year's budget. And yet, the bottom line of this draft budget is a deficit of **\$1.37M, about \$300,000 higher** than last year. My view: The draft budget is not effectively cutting costs.

**Lesson 1 learned:** While I came into the budget setting process with clear and direct ideas to cut back on expenses and operating costs, I could not find sufficient support among the bulk of the Elected Members to act on most of them. **Example: A small idea about expensive watering.** Back in 2021-2022, a Question on Notice revealed that Council spent \$120,000 just on water. That is a lot of water! In 2024-2025 \$s, water prices are 24% more than in 2021; so, let's call it \$160,000 spent. Is using large amounts of potable water keeping lawns green in our increasing drought conditions throughout Normanville, Yankalilla and Carrickalinga an essential service? We don't water much or maybe at all at Myponga, Cape Jervis, Rapid Bay Oval, and very many other parks and reserves outside of the townships. Even for such a simple cost-cutting idea as this, there was no appetite among Elected Members to make this savings in the draft 2025-26 budget. I can come up with another 10 items like this – but with little appetite among the Elected Members to go down this track.

**Lesson 2 learned:** I now realise that I need to start working on looking for cuts to operating costs in about July 2026 in the Chamber, and put forward motion after motion at Council meetings to work toward making inroads for the 2026-27 budget. I intend to try and cut back on the predicted rate rise of **8.6%** for 2026-2027. Yes, 8.6%, or 6% over predicted CPI. Perhaps with more time to form stronger arguments, a majority of Elected Members in the Chamber may carry some of my motions that will work toward greater cost-savings.

The motion to carry the 2025-2026 draft budget to consultation along with a series of expenditures on nonessential services was carried on Thursday by the Chamber (although not unanimously). It is now over to you folks to examine the draft budget and comment as you see fit.

**Here is the important thing to note.** If the consultation process generates little feedback and comments, some Elected Members may roll out the same old tired argument as follows: *'well only 100 people commented, that's not enough for us to change our minds'*. For those Elected Members (me at least) who want to incorporate ratepayer feedback, we would then have little recourse to make any changes to the draft budget. I implore you to engage with the consultation process, which I'll outline below. Of utmost importance is that you provide written feedback: By AusPost, by email or by delivering hand-written notes to the Council by horseback, if necessary. Local government has the smallest amount of money to work with but perversely has a major impact on our day-to-day lives.

**Deficits and Debt:** Who cares? Well, I certainly do. Let's look at the numbers. The draft 2025-2026 budget carries a deficit of **\$1,365,274.**

Year on Year DCY Deficits	
Year	Surplus/Deficit
2022-2023	(\$2,537,000)
2023-2024	(\$2,669,000)
2024-2025	(\$1,069,225)
2025-2026 (draft)	(\$1,365,274)

Please note that these deficits are not the fault of the new Council administration team. In fact, no financial circumstances are ever sheeted to administration. Remember that it is the Elected Members who make budgetary decisions. This new administration group walked into this whole mess of debt and deficits. The problems we have now are due to actions by previous Chambers that took on so much debt with little regard for paying it back. Here is a quote from an excellent piece written by Fiona Vogel in the March issue of this news journal.

In a question to the Council's current Finance Manager during a recent Council meeting, Councillor Wayne Gibbs asked: "Is it correct to say that a loan of \$6.5m taken out in 2008 has not had a cent paid off the principal to date?". To this the Finance Manager answered "Yes, that is correct. \$6.5m that was taken out in 2008 has no principal paid off it."

Quote from Fiona Vogel's article in the March 2025 YRN about long-term DCY debt

Back to who cares about debt and deficit. Unfortunately, the majority of Elected Members did not support significant expenditure cuts in the new 2025-26 draft budget, so the deficit has slipped backward by about \$300,000 from 2024-2025, despite the income increase of about \$1M from the rate rise. I personally argued for a rate rise of less than the 7.6% that this Chamber approved last year this time, in the long-term financial Plan for the 2025-2026 budget. But 6.4%, still a full 4% over CPI. This lower rate rise then needed to be accompanied by significant expenditure cuts, which I certainly had no success in influencing.

As it turns out, someone else does care about our deficit. And that is the Local Government Finance Authority, which is the body that lends us money.

A request by our Council in early 2023 to routinely renew a \$6.5M Cash Advance Debenture (the floating rate type loans that we use to cover our operating costs) was instead met with a request from the Authority for a full application process. At that time the Authority put **special conditions, or 'covenants'** upon us. See the box titled "*What is a loan covenant?*" for a good definition. I've also provided a snapshot from the April Special Council meeting of the Special Conditions placed on our Council.

### What is a loan covenant?

When a lender (the Finance Authority) extends a loan to a Council, there may be stipulations—or covenants—within the agreement that dictate what a borrower can do during the life of the loan. If a borrower fails to abide by a loan covenant, it's considered a covenant breach. As a result, the lender may terminate the agreement, impose penalties, or accelerate the loan's repayment schedule.

52. LGFA Special Conditions: CAD 95 FOR \$6,500,000 (settlement on 15 June 2023).

The following special conditions were placed on Council:

2.1 Prior to the end of the financial year ending 30 June 2026, the Corporation must have achieved:

2.1.1 an Operating Surplus Ratio >0%; **This means NO operating deficit!!**

2.1.2 Net Financial Liabilities Ratio less than 100%; and

2.1.3 Asset Renewal Ratios which align with forecasts set out in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Special Conditions on DC Yankalilla related to a 2023 \$6.5M Loan Renewal

By the end of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, according to the special conditions/covenants placed on our loan renewal, we are supposed to achieve an operating budget surplus. **Instead, in the 2025-2026 draft budget, we are looking at a \$1.37M deficit on that date!**

**Continued on next page...**

# Councillor Karin's Community Chronicles - continued

I've also provided a quote directly from the Authority in their article on the financial viability of a Council, the concept of responsible vs irresponsible debt and the possible consequences.

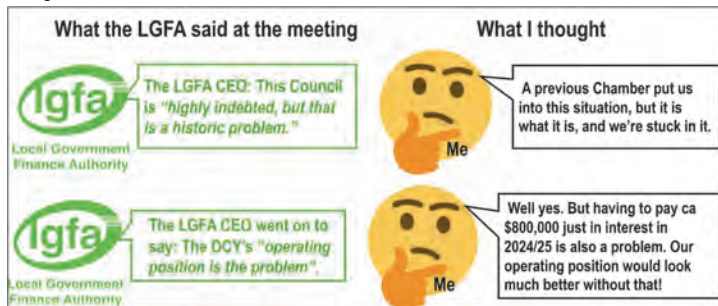
An operating deficit arises when operating income is less than operating expenses for a period (usually a year). Just like any household or other organisation, a council's long-term financial sustainability is dependent upon ensuring that, on average over time, its expenses are less than associated income. In essence, this means that current day citizens fully meet the cost of services provided for them by their council in most circumstances.

If a council was operating with a significant deficit over several years and its strategic management and long-term financial plans did not provide clear proposals for this to be turned around then it would be inevitable that the council would face major financial shocks in the future. The council effectively would be in the same position as an individual or family living beyond their means. Sooner or later they would be caught by the consequences. For a council, the problem would likely come to a head when existing major assets failed. The council would then need to choose between large rate rises or not replacing assets thereby effectively lowering its standards of service to its community.

Quoted: The financial viability of a Council, from the Local Government Finance Authority <https://lgfa.com.au/debt#financial-viability-of-a-council>

Note that we have had operating deficits in eight of the past ten years, counting the one in the forecast 2025-2026 budget year. It is no wonder that our lending authority has concerns about our Council's financial viability.

Let me also quote the Finance Authority CEO, when he visited the special March Audit & Risk committee that I attended, which considered the draft budget.



Our "operating position is the problem". In other words, our Council's ability to cover its everyday operational costs using its operating income (which largely comes from rates) is the problem. Having debt so large that we have to use our overdraft to cover the principal and interest costs, and to be able to simply operate, is not a long-term sustainable position. It's like a household juggling multiple credit cards to keep the creditors at bay. I do not know where this leaves us on 30 June 2026 if we do not meet this 'covenant'. I have gotten to know a few Elected Members in other Councils. None of them had ever heard of 'Covenants' being placed on their loans. Nor could I find mention of it on any other Council's website.

**Finally, the actual draft budget.** Let's take a quick interpretative view of the draft budget. Look here for the table titled "Karin's simple and I think accurate version of the draft 2025-2026 Budget". The draft budget asks you to accept a rate revenue increase of 6.4% that is 4% over the predicted CPI. I encourage you to look at the actual draft version when it comes out officially for consultation. There will be much more information in that.

You'll see notes in my table here about 'yellow', 'blue' and 'green' tables. Those are the colours of the tables in the Annual Business Plan that will give some detail about these spendings.

Note that Materials, Contracts and Other Expenses are significant, at about \$7.15M. This big bucket includes our Waste Collection charges, which are over \$1M. But it also includes a vaguely titled category, called "General Maintenance & Materials", which runs at about \$1M. I have no idea what is in that category and am still seeking a full breakdown.

One rare win for ratepayers that I had during the draft budget-setting process was a motion I put up in the Ordinary April Meeting: "That Council note the inclusion of a 2.0% efficiency dividend in the draft 2025-2026 budget allocation for "Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses", with any resulting savings over the financial year to be directed toward debt reduction." This won't save the farm, so to speak, but it will contribute about \$143,000 in

savings to ratepayers. It carried, although not unanimously. In the very last budget setting workshop, I also argued for a 0.5% efficiency dividend cut on Employee Costs, but I had no support from enough of the Elected Members for this idea.

**What you can do.** According to the April meeting papers, Community Engagement will commence 24 April 2025 and conclude Thursday 22 May 2025.

Here are the Council's proposed face-to-face sessions.

Milestones	Timeframe
Decision to proceed to community engagement	Special Council Meeting – 17 April 2025
Community engagement dates	Thursday, 24 April - Thursday, 22 May 2025
Staying the Course – Drop-in Style Community Conversations at Yankalilla	Tuesday, 29 April 2025 Yankalilla Library   3:00pm - 6:00pm
Staying the Course – Drop-in Style Community Conversations at Second Valley	Wednesday, 14 May 2025 Second Valley Hall   3:00 - 6:00pm
Public Community Meeting	Tuesday, 20 May 2025 Chambers, District Council of Yankalilla

You do not have to do online surveys and forms, if you find them awkward, and especially on a small mobile device. What is important is to get your comments onto paper or email and get them into Council, or fill out paper copies at the consultation sessions.

**Find Me.** As always, please contact me with any questions about the draft budget. I'll be even more available than usual over this next month of consultation:

- I'll be at most of the drop-in sessions shown in the green table.

In addition:

- Monday mornings 10-11am. Community Catch-up at the Yankalilla Netball Clubrooms
- Saturday 17 May: At the Yankalilla Market
- Throughout the consultation period: Random popup stands of my own around the townships
- Find lots of information on my fb page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565885202907>
- And I'm often available and happy to meet anyone any time that we can coordinate to do so.
- [Karin.hatch@yankalilla.sa.gov.au](mailto:Karin.hatch@yankalilla.sa.gov.au) and mobile 0477 000 137

**One final note.** At the Special Meeting, Chamber also voted against taking the proposed Farmers' Discretionary Drought Relief 5% Rates Rebate to residents in the draft budget so that they could see the financial impact and be consulted for feedback on the possibility of this compassionate gesture to our district farmers. Please note: The question was not about actually committing Council to raising funding in rates and then offering our owner-occupier farmers a small rates rebate, it was just about asking you the ratepayer to make the decision. Ultimately, the choice was made for you, with just three Elected Members supportive of allowing residents to decide for themselves. I was one who voted to let the people have their say on this initiative. I am personally sorry for this result. When the minutes are released, I'll do a full summary of the vote.

I was pleased to see that neighbouring Victor Harbor Council is doing something for their farmers. Quoting their Mayor: "We understand that power bills for water pumping, the cost of feed and water, and freight expenses can become significant burdens during dry period. This grant of up to \$2,500 is designed to help alleviate some of that financial pressure for eligible agribusinesses within our City."

Primary production properties are only 5% of all rateable properties in Victor Harbor. The number is 16% for DCY. Victor Harbor also offers a full 10% discount in their 'rates on the dollar', as opposed to our highly restrictive 9% discount offered to only a very few primary production properties. It is not clear to me why this Council and past Chambers seem to have treated its agricultural sector so poorly. I think the current Chamber has made a small start in trying to address this by carrying my March motion (although not unanimously) for inclusion of a rates review in the draft 2025-2026 Budget.

## Karin's simple and I think accurate version of the Draft 2025-2026 Budget

Income	Amount	Comments
Rates	\$ 15,843,091	6.4% increase over 2024-25
Other various incomes (grants, user charges, reimbursements etc)	\$ 3,473,602	Caravan Parks, Grants, etc
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 19,316,693</b>	Lower than last year; Grants & Caravan Park income down
<b>Expenses, showing Depreciation</b>		
Employee costs	\$ 8,390,533	53% of the Rates Revenue
Materials, Contracts & Other	\$ 7,145,340	49% of the Rates Revenue
Depreciation etc (not 'real' cash)	\$ 4,440,398	the 'using' up of our assets over the year
Finance Costs	\$ 705,696	Just paying the interest on our loans
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 20,681,967</b>	
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-\$ 1,365,274</b>	<b>EEK! Big Deficit</b>

Now, let's pull out depreciation from expenses. It is not real \$\$\$, it's a way of putting in the gradual decline in value of an asset, with one's best estimate of wear and tear, and the life of that asset.

Expenses (real dollars to be spent)	Amount	Comments
Employee costs	\$ 8,390,533	
Materials, Contracts & Other	\$ 7,145,340	Yellow: Operating Projects (only about \$280k)
Capital spending on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	\$ 2,497,900	Blue: Replacement/Renewal Capital Projects
Capital Spending on New & Upgraded Assets	\$ 335,000	Green: New/Upgraded Capital Projects
Finance Costs	\$ 705,696	Just paying the interest on our loans
Bonus income from selling old replaced stuff	-\$ 147,000	
<b>Actual Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 18,927,469</b>	
	<b>\$ 389,224</b>	This is the Total Income (\$19,316,693) - the actual expenses (\$18,927,469)

**\$389,244: What we have left to actually pay off the principal on our fixed loans. But our annual payment on the principal of our fixed loans for 2025-2026 is about \$720,225. So we are using our 'overdraft' to cover about \$330,000 of the principal on our fixed rate loan repayments. That is at a current interest rate of 5.75%. This is better than last year, though, when we were using our overdraft to cover ALL of the repayments of our principal on our fixed loans.**

## Dig into soil health and smarter grazing

Free workshop



Explore the links between strategic grazing and soil health with **Dick Richardson of Nature's Equity, Amanda Schapel of PIRSA and soil scientist Ed Scott.**

During this FREE and interactive workshop, participants will be walked through the fundamentals of soil health and natural grazing management practices that are economical and practical.

This project is funded by the South Australian Government's Landscape Priorities Fund (LPF). The LPF redistributes landscape levies collected by Green Adelaide in the metropolitan area to regional landscape boards. The event is also supported by the SA Soils Collaboration Centre and the Soils Knowledge Network.

### Event details

When: Wed 7th May  
Where: Delamere  
Time: 9am - 1:30pm

Bookings essential  
[bit.ly/42giMZc](https://bit.ly/42giMZc)



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## Hippo-Sized Marsupial Seen at Yankalilla Visitor Centre!

On April 6, a lively crowd gathered at the Fleurieu Coast Visitor Centre to unveil a life-sized replica of a *Diprotodon*, nicknamed 'Toto' by local school kids. Visitors munched on celebratory 'Diprotodon' biscuits and explored an informative display inside the Yankalilla Historical Museum.

The massive marsupial lumbered across the ancient grasslands of the Fleurieu roughly 50 to 100,000 years ago. It was one of many extinct megafauna whose fossilised remains have been found locally.

*Diprotodon optatum*, the largest marsupial ever, roamed the Fleurieu region approximately 50,000–100,000 years ago during the Ice Age, one of many extinct megafauna whose fossils dot South Australia. The Yankalilla display showcases fossilised bones and replicas, including a thighbone found in the 1890s on the Robertson's property at Hay Flat near Normanville.

The exhibit, assisted by Flinders University's Palaeontology Department, features a mural by local artist Gay Robertson and a foundation provided by the Yankalilla District Council. Retired geologist Rob Kirk consulted, and Dr. Aaron Camens, Senior Palaeontology Lecturer, joined Museum President Rob Ryan to unveil it.

Step back in time at the Yankalilla Historical Museum to meet 'Toto' and uncover the Fleurieu's paleontological past.

*Original reporting and pictures by Emanda Fretwell and Lorraine Day.*



*Unveiling 'Toto', the name given by local school students*



*Diprotodon 'Toto' in front of Fleurieu Coast Information Centre and Yankalilla Museum*



*Megafauna display in museum and mural painted by Gay Robertson*



*Diprotodon biscuits*



*Rob Ryan, Gay Robertson and Dr Aaron Camens, Flinders University paleontologist*

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**Pretty Hassled by Tassels**

**Glover's Anglerfish** is almost identical to the much more common Tasselled Anglerfish, the key difference being the shape of the lure on the end of the rod.

A tendency for Glover's to have more prominent dark bars - usually three - on the body is too inconsistent to be useful for field ID, because Tasselled Anglerfish can sometimes have equally dark bars. Until I found the Tasselled in the photo (Jan 2025) I'd never seen one with such obvious dark bars, so I gleefully leapt into the Glover's camp. Gleefully because my find would've been the first inaturalist Australia record for Glover's. (The ten or so confirmed records in the Atlas of Living Australia are mostly museum specimens eg from trawl bycatch, without accompanying underwater photos.) My joy turned to disappointment within hours, when the photos I'd put on the naturalist Australia site returned "Sorry Dave, not Glover's, just another Tasselled". What a hassle!



**Pretty Shocking**

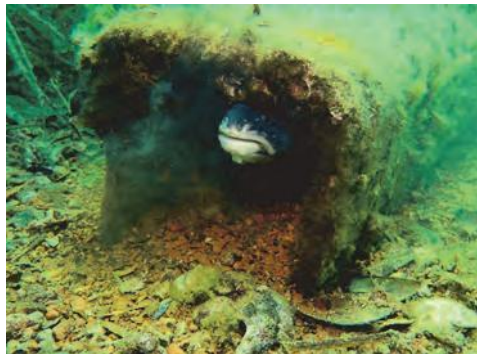
**The Coffin Ray**, *Hypnos monopterygium*, another monotypic southern endemic, can deliver a powerful shock. It's common in Yankalilla Bay. As recently as January, I got a nasty zap to my left knee...

I THINK the surface marking towards the rear near side of this ray is where my knee made contact!



**Pretty Bonkers**

These **Rock Ling**, aka **Tiger Ling**, *Genypterus tigerinus*, actually call to each other from inshore ledges in the mating season. By making a sound like a rather flat 'BONK' repeatedly with mouth and throat! I've heard it and watched them do it!



**Pretty Clean**

How's your ocean literacy? When is a fish not a fish? When its a shrimp which exists only to clean fish, is my slightly off topic example! (There's obviously starfish and cuttlefish, but you know those).

Here in SA you'll struggle to find *A.aesopius*, but they're common, including in Yankalilla Bay. Problem is finding them in the daytime, because they are barely 2cm long and mostly transparent. At night they look bright red and white with bits of blue and purple...wow! And at night, when conditions are right, they do a special slow, looping dance to advertise their services to passing fish. Or passing divers! A rare privilege, for me a real life *Attenborough* moment!

This photo shows one resting by day on a jetty pile sponge. Sometimes we must compromise, sorry for that. But you can still see enough to imagine what the nocturnal dance extravaganza might look like. Trust me, it is VERY special!



**Pretty Common**

The **Yellowhead Hulafish** (*Trachinops noarlungae*).

These are very common in Yankalilla Bay. With the type specimen being from Noarlunga, that's no surprise. What surprises me is that more attention isn't given to this fish. At places like The Point at Second Valley, it's a challenge to take a photo that doesn't have some in the background. Often they form large schools, wonderfully backlit by sun and sky.

Individuals are small, but have an abundance of beauty in both form and colour, and the long, flowing tail fins, of the males especially, adds an ethereal grace.

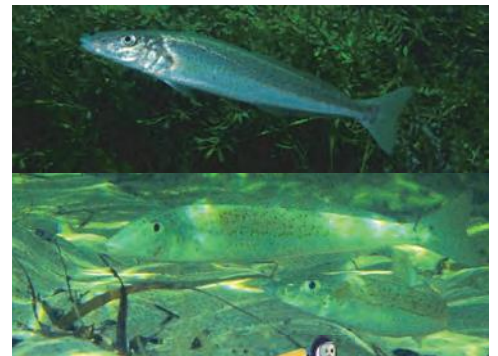
Hulafish? Goodo!

And get this. They're VERY closely related to the iconic Southern Blue Devil (covered in an past YRN edition).



**Pretty Tasty**

**King George Whiting**, *Sillaginodes punctatus*.



I'll say no more!  [The End]



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In this series of Yankalilla Regional News we will visit different sites on the Fleurieu and look at the geology-a virtual field trip! You may want to visit these sites for yourself.

## Carrickalinga Field Trip.

On this field trip you will look at 500-million-year-old submarine fans deposited in deep water off the east coast of Australia. Allow 1 to 1.5 hours.

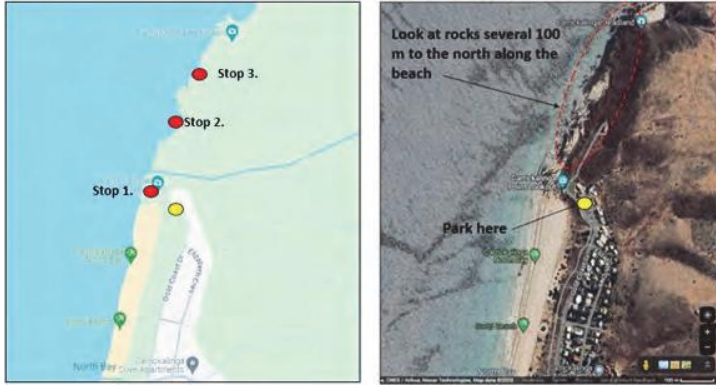


Figure 1-location map for this trip-a, and where to park at Carrickalinga Beach-b.  
Google, author..

As you drive down the hill from the Forktree Brewery (having come via the Myponga Dam) into Carrickalinga you pass a little quarry on your left. This was where archaeocyathid fossils were first found in 1897 which proved that these rocks were Cambrian in age. Drive to the end of the road at Carrickalinga Beach (go north)-Figure 1 -b, right-yellow dot. Look at the rocks along the coast to the north for 200-300m, being careful of conditions as some tracks are narrow and precipitous.

<b>CAMBRIAN (540 – 485 Ma)</b>		
	<b>Backstairs Passage Formation</b>	Sandstone and siltstone, phyllitic, quartz veins, deformed by shear zone
Cec	<b>Carrickalinga Head Formation</b>	Greywacke, blue grey, alternating layers, phyllitic
<b>Normanville Group</b>		
Cnh	<b>Heatherdale Shale</b>	Grey to pink carbonaceous shale with black phosphatic nodules
Cnf	<b>Fork Tree Limestone</b>	Blue grey limestone, archeocyathas fossils, some marble veins
Cns	<b>Sellick Hill Formation</b>	Alternating bands, lenticular limestone, blue grey
Cnw	<b>Wangkonda Formation</b>	Blue argillaceous limestone, mottled, brown pink in upper parts
Cnt	<b>Mt Terrible Formation</b>	Sandstone & siltstone, phyllitic in lower parts
<b>ADELAIDEAN (1300 – 540 Ma)</b>		
Nsb	<b>Brachina Formation</b>	Alternating sandstone and siltstone, poorly sorted
(from Field Geology Club of SA field trip-Oct 2022)		

Figure 2-Cambrian stratigraphic column.  
Dixon, K, Field Geology Club of SA.

These rocks are bedded, fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, and shales of the Carrickalinga Head Formation-Figure 2. These sediments were laid down by turbid flows as a large submarine fan in deep water offshore the east coast of Australia. Figure 3 shows an experiment in a tank showing what these flows look like. These flows may start by an earthquake, or a slump up the slope, and sands and muds get picked up by large underwater currents creating “roiling clouds” of sediment supported up in the water column, which can travel very fast, and a long way, before dumping their muds and sands as turbidites. (The process is “turbid flow”, and the deposit is a “turbidite”).



Figure 3- turbid current flow underwater in a tank.  
Wikimedia Commons.

Figure 4 shows the setting of the basal submarine fan within a standard unconformity-bounded geological cycle (known as a “sequence”). Shales are laid down on top of the fan as the sand source (which is from the south) stops, and then shallow water delta units prograde out into the sea (from the west). This deltaic unit is seen at Cape Jervis and is known as the Backstairs Passage Formation.

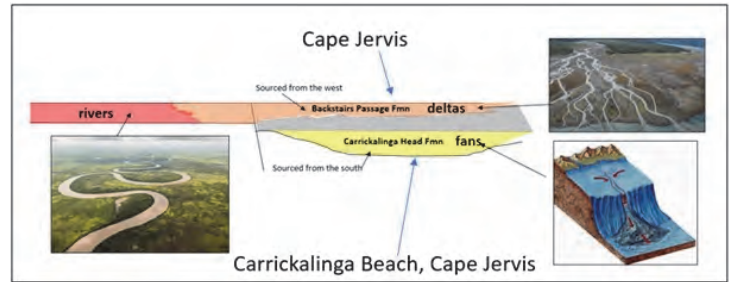


Figure 4-geological model for the Carrickalinga Head Formation (fans) to the Backstairs Passage Formation (deltas).  
Author, Johns, R.

Once down on the beach, start looking at bedding patterns in the sediments, look also for channels and beds that may thicken, or thin, upwards-Figure 1-Stop 1. Always start with the “big picture”. Stand on a high point and look at colour, texture, thick or thin bedding, beds thinning or thickening up, channels etc. Geology is very “observational”.



Figure 5-Cambrian Carrickalinga Head Formation submarine fan sands, with channels.  
Author.

In Figure 1, near the start of the trip-Stop 1- you can see lens-shaped bodies of fine sand which are channels that tell you which direction is dip and strike (“strike” if you see the channel shape).

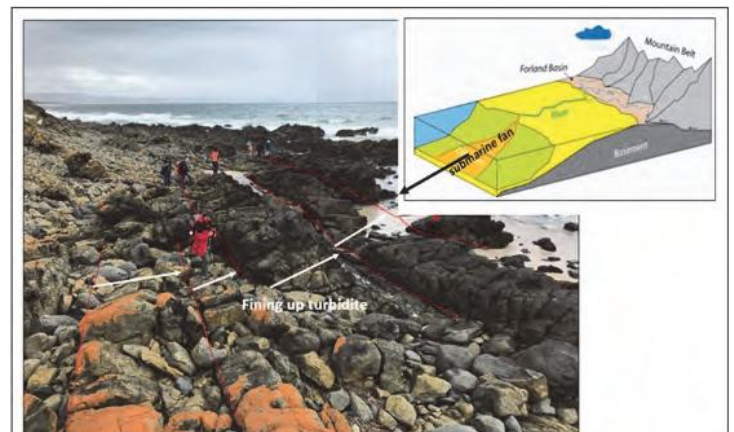


Figure 6-Cambrian Carrickalinga Head Formation multiple submarine fan flows-a, with fan model inset-b.  
Wikimedia Commons, author.



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In Figure 6 you can see fining-up cycles where the sand gradually changes upwards to muds. In this area the resistant strata are the sands and where rock is missing the softer muds. Also in the figure is an inset of the setting for these fans. Usually in deep water near, or past the base of slope, down from the shelf edge.

Figure 7 shows “injection” features where a sand is dropped on top of another water-logged sand and the water is squeezed out through the overlying new sand, making interesting trails through the sand. You can see individual bedding surfaces from separate turbid flow events underwater-Stop 2. When geologists use the term “amalgamated”, as in this figure, it means that any fine, muddy, waning energy material has been removed so only the heavier, higher energy, sand beds are deposited on top of each other.

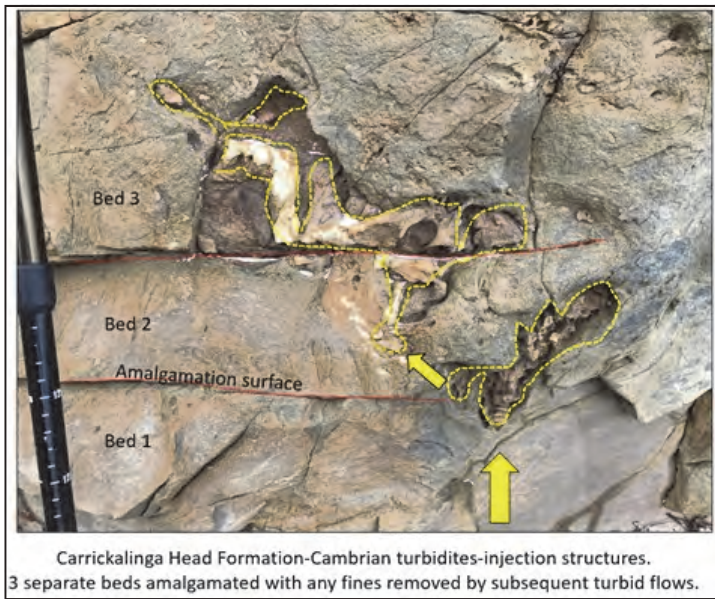


Figure 7-Cambrian Carrickalinga Head Formation submarine fan water injection structures.  
Author.

Figure 8-a shows debrite deposits on a modern beach-mud covered shoes for scale. These are deposited by debris flow (hence the deposit’s name of “debrite”) and are usually shaly, with blocks of sand and other shales incorporated in them, or, in this case, quite a lot of blocks of turbidites are in the flow-Figure 8-b-Stop 3. These travel along the sea floor as a muddy “mess”, entraining sands, and blocks of other sediments. They are not supported up in the high energy water column, as in turbid flow. Debris flows move along the sea floor and can stand quite high, compared to their width and usually “freezes” suddenly, rather than going long distances and thinning out. Figure 8-b shows blocks of debris within the fossil debrite.

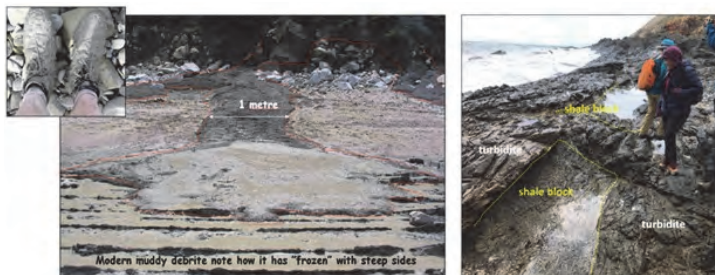


Figure 8 - modern debrite on a beach-a, and Carrickalinga Head Formation debrite in outcrop-b.  
Author.



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# Myponga Reservoir parkrun

15/04/2025

On Saturday 12th April, the Myponga Reservoir parkrun celebrated its 3rd birthday. Whilst not a huge crowd, the participants enjoyed a convivial atmosphere with quite a few parkrun tourists in attendance.

The parkrun happens at 8am every Saturday at the Myponga Reservoir Kayak Carpark at the end of Eatts Street, Myponga. parkruns are free, weekly, community events that happen in many towns/cities all around the world on Saturday mornings in local parks and open spaces. parkrun is a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience where there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. There is no pressure to be a runner!

The Course at Myponga Reservoir can be described as a trail style run with the track being made of gravel. Throughout the 3 previous winters the parkrun adventure was brought to a higher level with some of the track resembling a mud pit! Hopefully we get some rain soon and this winter is the same! Nevertheless, the route has proven to be loved by many locals and visitors alike with its challenging hills and amazing views. It is a fantastic way to start your weekend!

How do I take part? Registration is completely free and only needs to be done online once, whether you intend to walk, jog, run, or volunteer or do a combination of all these things! Simply complete the registration form at [parkrun.com.au](http://parkrun.com.au), and head down to your local event, be it Myponga Reservoir or elsewhere in South Australia, Australia or the

World. You can find your nearest parkrun using the event map. We'd love to see you soon!

There are so many reasons to take part! When you take part, you can learn new skills and enhance your health and happiness in the great outdoors whilst making new friends, feeling part of your local community and improving your fitness. If you are interested in finding out more, follow us at Myponga Reservoir parkrun on Facebook or check out the parkrun Australia webpage at <https://www.parkrun.com.au/> or email us at [mypongareservoir@parkrun.com](mailto:mypongareservoir@parkrun.com).

Exercise is an important part of staying healthy. Getting into an exercise routine and particularly staying in that routine can be very difficult. Having regular contact with other people is also an important part of our lives if we want to stay mentally healthy. An excellent opportunity exists to do both things by attending our parkrun on a Saturday morning.



*Chris Symes briefing the participants before the 3rd Birthday Event.*



*Getting ready for Event #142.*



*Volunteers at the 3rd Birthday Event #142.*



*A group of visitors at a recent event.*



*An interested observer at Event #142*



*Sue and Lee Merchant, Tail walking at the 3rd Birthday Event #142*

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Have you stashed away any old Yankalilla Newsletters from the 1970s? Maybe some older relatives have? It would be great if we could get hold of them to complete the historical records. Please let us know via the contact details on page 4.

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

This find-a-word puzzle is all about having some fun indoors. The words can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards. One of the words has already been found for you. Once you've found them all you'll be left with 18 letters relating to the topic.

backgammon  
 checkers  
 gameboy  
 solitaire  
 puzzles  
 draw

scrabble  
 cards  
 chess  
 lego  
 drawing  
 cook

music  
 ludo  
 xbox  
 painting  
 write  
 jigsaw

monopoly  
 bridge  
 domino  
 hearts  
 read



## Come and check out the Fleurieu Environment Centre!

**A**t the Fleurieu Environment Centre (FLEC) we're a dedicated community of volunteers and staff committed to empowering people to live sustainably and help enhance our natural environment.

FLEC delivers workshops, educational events and serves as a hub for environment and sustainable living practices with an eco store, eco library, and free resources.

If you want to get involved with any aspect of what we do, feel free to pop into FLEC, located at Shop 3/50 Main Street, Normanville to have a chat to one of our volunteers or staff members. Our opening hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am-3pm and Saturday 10am-1pm. You can also stay connected with us by joining our free mailing list on our website: [www.flec.com.au](http://www.flec.com.au) or drop in to register.

### Fleurieu Environment Centre and local Landcare group events in May

**Monday 5**, 9.30am to 3pm - **Fleurieu Coast Community Nursery Working Bee** at 1 Kemmiss Hill Rd, Yankalilla

**Wednesday 7**, 9 to 11am - **Community Gardening Session** at Youth Park, 180 Main South Rd, Yankalilla

**Thursday 8**, 1.30 to 2.30pm - **Eco Book and Podcast Club** at Fleurieu Environment Centre, 50 Main Rd, Normanville

**Friday 9**, 10.30am to 12pm - **Make and Mend Circles with drop spindle spinning** at Fleurieu Environment Centre, 50 Main Rd, Normanville

**Saturday 10**, 9.20am - **Veggie Swap** at Fleurieu Environment Centre, 50 Main Rd, Normanville **CANCELLED**

**Saturday 10**, 9am - **Friends of Banksia Park Working Bee** at Banksia Park, Normanville

**Monday 12** - **Bird watching field trip**. Please RSVP to Wendy ([wwhite140@gmail.com](mailto:wwhite140@gmail.com)) for address and further details

**Friday 16**, 9am - **Friends of Bungala River Working Bee** at the BBQs in Bungala Park

**Sunday 18**, 10am to 12pm - **Community Gardening Session** at Youth Park, 180 Main South Rd, Yankalilla

**Monday 19**, 9.30am to 3pm - **Fleurieu Coast Community Nursery Working Bee** at 1 Kemmiss Hill Rd, Yankalilla

**For more information** on any events, please email: [info@flec.com.au](mailto:info@flec.com.au) or call (08) 8558 3644

We also proudly support six Landcare groups: Friends of Banksia Park, Friends of Bungala River, Friends of Nixon Skinner, Friends of Wirrina Cove, Cape Jervis Coastal Community Group, and Second Valley Environment Group. These groups work tirelessly to enhance biodiversity and revegetate our local landscapes.

### Other Amazing Fleurieu events in May

**Sunday 11**, 9.30am - **Sustainable House Day** Willunga ([www.willungaenviro.org.au](http://www.willungaenviro.org.au))

**Saturday 31**, 6pm - **Recycled Runway** McLaren Vale ([www.mclarenvalebusiness.com.au/events](http://www.mclarenvalebusiness.com.au/events))

### International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) May 4th-10th Better Soil, Better Life, Better Future

**How to Make Great Compost at Home**  
Making compost is easy! All you need is a mix of "greens" and "browns," a bit of moisture, and some air.

**1 Part Greens** = fruit & veggie scraps, coffee grounds, grass clippings (adds nitrogen)

**2/3 Part Browns** = dry leaves, paper, cardboard, straw (adds carbon)

**1. Choose a spot** – Use a compost bin, pile, or tumbler in a shady, well-drained area.

**2. Layer it up** – Alternate greens and browns to keep a good balance.

**3. Keep it moist** – Like a wrung-out sponge. Not too wet, not too dry.

**4. Turn it** – Mix your compost every week or so to let air in and speed things up.

**5. Wait & use** – In a few months, you'll have rich, dark compost ready for your garden beds and pots!

Healthy compost doesn't smell bad – it smells earthy and fresh. Give it some love, and your garden will thank you!

Find out more about compost and ICAW at our website: [flec.com.au/blog/compostweek](http://flec.com.au/blog/compostweek)

### Food Democracy Workshops 16th, 23rd, and 30th June, 5.30-7.30pm, Yankalilla Library

**T**he Yankalilla Community Garden and the Fleurieu Environment Centre have been given a fantastic opportunity to be part of a series of Food Democracy Workshops run by The Food Embassy ([www.thefoodembassy.org](http://www.thefoodembassy.org)) in June at the Yankalilla Library.

For more information, or to sign up for the workshops head to our website [www.flec.com.au/events](http://www.flec.com.au/events)

**We are also looking for a few passionate local gardeners to be part of a discussion panel** on the 16th of June. This discussion will focus on local people's connection to food at an individual level and does not require any formal expertise, just a passion for growing food and keenness to talk about it to a group. If you are interested in being part of the panel or have any questions about the events, please email us at [info@flec.com.au](mailto:info@flec.com.au)

This project aims to increase community confidence and capacity to address climate challenges while providing education on sustainable food practices and food system literacy. Following the course, one alumni-led initiative will be selected for further mentoring and support. Each project will receive 120 hours of tailored guidance from The Food Embassy.



*The Fleurieu Environment Centre acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters of the area that we live and work, the Kaurna Meyurna, Ngarrindjeri and Ramindjeri people of the Fleurieu Peninsula. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all First Nations people.*

*We would like to thank our funding sponsors and partners who enable us to deliver our programs. The Fleurieu Environment Centre is part of the Greater Adelaide Environment Network, seeded by Green Adelaide with support from Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu.*

### Make and Mend Circles

Join us for fabric repairs, drop spindle spinning, crochet, knitting and more

Friday 9th May  
10.30am to 12pm  
Free morning tea provided



### Eco Book + Podcast Club Thursday 8th May

*What is a Songline?*

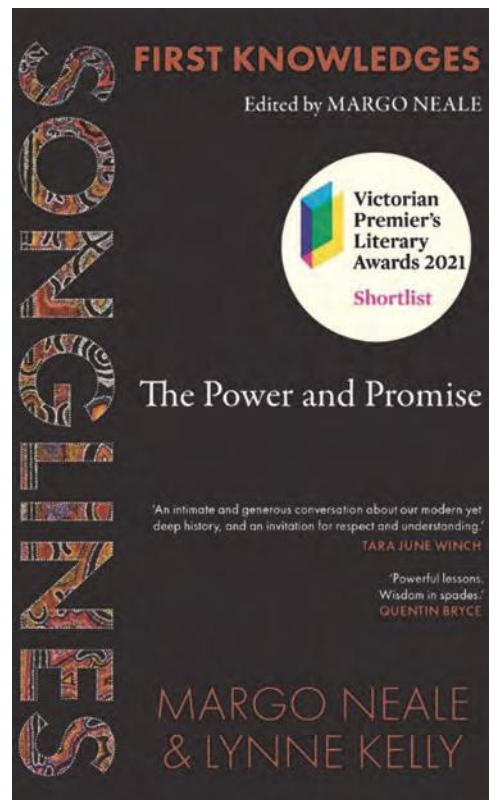
*What is a Memory Palace?*

*How does knowledge pass down through the generations?*

*How did Aboriginal people survive and thrive for 65,000 years in a land of flooding rains and droughts?*

*Come and talk about the awesome cultural heritage of this land and be inspired.*

**Come to our Eco Book / Podcast club on Thursday 8th May at 1.30pm**



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**YANKALILLA DISTRICTS DOG PARK** Latest news on page 29 in the YDRA update  
  
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## Tommy's Book Reviews

Welcome to *Tommy's Book Reviews*. Yeah, I know, a corny title, but I am open to suggestions for a new name. Please send any ideas you may have to [tpg@thomasgreenbank.com](mailto:tpg@thomasgreenbank.com).

I'm going to kick off with a novel that was gifted to me several weeks ago and that has sat on the shelf waiting patiently for me to give it my attention. (Can a book exhibit patience?)

*Jasper Jones*, by *Craig Silvey*, has won several prestigious awards; including the Australian Book Industry Awards Book of the Year in 2010, the Western Australian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction (joint winner) in 2009, and the Indie Book of the Year Award in 2009. It was also shortlisted for the 2010 Miles Franklin Literary Award and the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award (2011). Impressive figures in anyone's language.

I'm not one to be swayed by literary awards, however. In fact, I've often found award-winning books to be long on pretentious "purple prose" and short on entertainment value. Not this book, though.

I just finished reading *Jasper Jones* a couple of days ago. I noticed in the blurb that it was promoted as "Australia's answer to 'To Kill a Mockingbird'." I can't agree with that. This book is

so much better. Maybe it's just the dated style but I found *Mockingbird* rather slow and dull. Perhaps it's better once you get right into it; I don't know as it was a DNF (did not finish) for me.

*Jasper Jones*, on the other hand, held my attention from the start and I read it in record time. It seems to have been written for the Young Adult market (most key characters are teenagers) but Silvey has successfully crafted a brilliant book that will appeal to readers of any age.

If I had to be critical I'd point out that the thought processes of the 13-year-old protagonist were far too deep and mature for one his age. It may be several decades in the past but I still remember how I thought and felt at that age.

Don't let that stop you, though. *Jasper Jones* is a damn fine read. I now need to seek out more of Silvey's work.



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### About Thomas Greenbank

Thomas Greenbank is an Australian author; creator of the gritty Kincaid Saga series set in rural and regional Western Australia. These days, he lives in Sellicks Beach with his wife—chief collaborator and harshest critic— Linda. When he's not writing you'll probably find them fishing or walking on a nearby beach.

You can view details of his work here:  
<https://www.amazon.com/~e/B08NTYX32B>

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## Fr Brenton Retires from Christ Church

Fr Brenton Dick has been a priest in the Western Fleurieu Anglican churches since his licensing in St Margaret's, McLaren Vale in 2018. For some of those years, he and his wife, Lyn, lived next to Christ Church in the rectory and we appreciated having our priest living so close, especially when he turned up at the fetes as a giant strawberry! More recently he has taken on the onerous task of being the acting priest in charge of the five churches in the Western Fleurieu parish (Christ Church, St Anne's, Aldinga, St Nicholas, Seaford, St Stephens, Willunga and St Margarets, McLaren Vale) and until recently St James, Delamere. His early schooling was in the Keith Area School and he worshipped in a small parish in the Tatiara. Before he was called to the ministry he worked as a spare parts manager in a Holden and machinery dealership. Lyn was a cleaner and cook at the local



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hospital. The parish as a whole bade them farewell at our joint service at St Margarets at the end of March, but Brenton's last Sunday in our church was April 27 (the Sunday after Easter). We welcomed all current and former members of Christ Church who have known Brenton to the Eucharist service at 11am.

**Walking with Jesus on March 1, 2025 was on the topic of Truth and was led by Wendy Lindsay.**

Our Bible study text was John 18, 28-38, where Jesus was tried by Pilate after being handed over to him by the Jews. Jesus explained to Pilate that his kingdom was a spiritual one and was not of this world. He said that this was the reason he came into the world – "to testify to the truth". Pilate's cynical answer to this was "What is truth?" after which he tried one last time to have Jesus released but the crowd chose Barrabas instead. We remembered the experience of Jesus in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil to bow down to him in exchange for "all the kingdoms of the world". Jesus

resisted with the words of scripture "worship only the Lord and serve Him alone". In another place he said, "The kingdom of God is within you". **This was the truth that he wanted to reveal.** We contrasted this with two world leaders who are presently trying to extend their worldly kingdoms by invading other countries with little understanding of true greatness from within.

We discussed Pilate's question about the nature of truth. Sometimes it is indeed very difficult to discover the truth about our world. Think of a jury which is trying to determine the truth of accusations against the defendant. They may only have secondhand information which has been distorted in its transmission. Or scientific truth, where concepts of the nature of our world may be dependent on limited information based on the technologies available at the time. Think of light which has been described as both a wave form and as particles. Which is it? In this case we cannot presently know the complete truth, but over time more investigations can refine our understanding.

We often hear people justify their beliefs based on what they call "my truth". This is fair enough since we all have different experiences. So how do we discover the TRUTH that Jesus was talking about? It is what we read in holy scripture with the help of the Holy Spirit, who was sent to "lead us into all truth".

### SERVICES IN MAY 2025 SUNDAYS

**11am**, Holy Communion. **May 4th, 11th, 25th** in the church. On the second Sunday (May 11th) there will be coffee/tea and biscuits in the hall before the service at 10.30am for a quick catch up with your friends.

**10am, May 18th**, "Walking with Jesus" gathering in the church hall. Coffee/tea and cake to begin with. The topic for discussion is "The Life" and will be led by Hamish Stokes.

### FRIDAYS

9.15am, Christian meditation in the church.

Enquiries, Liz Gordon-Mills, 0411189023.

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# Local Weather Summary March 2025

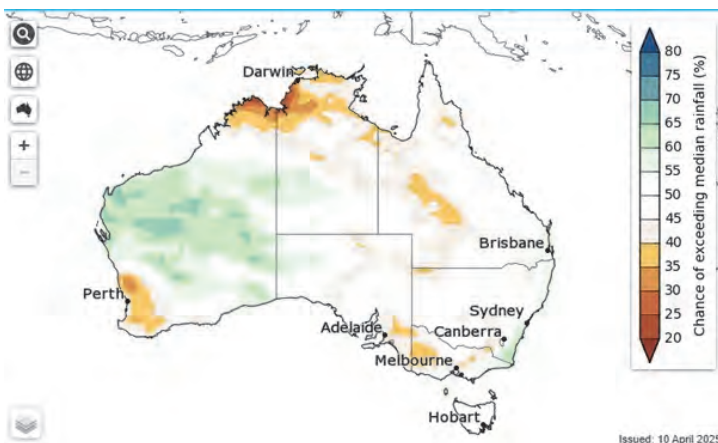
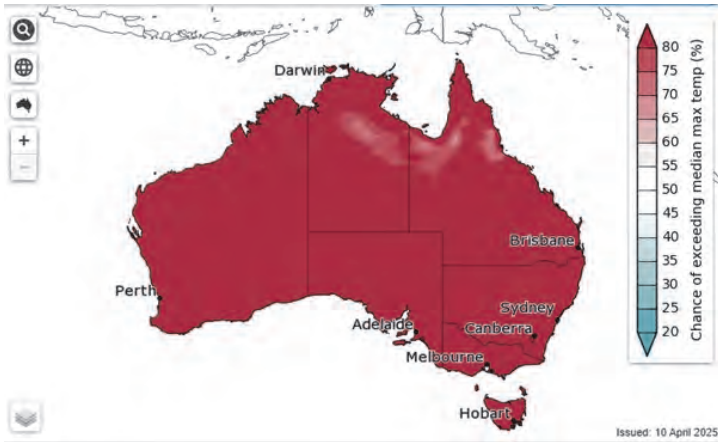
## Temperature for Parawa AWS (Degrees Celsius)

	March	Average all years
Avg Monthly Maximum	24.6	23.7
Average Monthly Minimum	14.5	13.1
Highest Daily Maximum	33.0	
Lowest Daily Minimum	11.5	

Rainfall	March	Average
Inman Valley	11.0mm	26.3mm
Parawa	2.0mm	31.0mm
Myponga	6.6mm	25.8mm
Normanville	3.2mm	20.2mm
Yankalilla	5.0mm	22.8mm

The long dry spell over the southern Fleurieu continues with rainfalls being well below average. Temperatures were near long-term average during March. It should be worth noting that Parawa AWS had several days of outage during March which has affected the minimum temperature record.

Below is the BOM maximum temperature outlook for May to July and the probability of above average rainfall for the same period



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# Toxic Algal Bloom kills sea life along the cockle coast

Since mid-March, an algal bloom has caused havoc along the beaches of the Fleurieu, killing massive numbers of sea creatures, and causing health concerns for locals and tourists.

*Karenia mikimotoi* can become dangerous when out of balance as it produces a thick toxin that affects the gills and gastrointestinal tracts of fish. In high enough numbers, as in this case, it can also reduce the amount of oxygen available in the water, causing marine life to suffocate.

## Areas Affected

The bloom was first noticed at Goolwa, where millions of dead or dying cockles were discovered to be scattered along the shore. Reports have since come in from Victor Harbor, Port Elliott, Chiton Rocks, Encounter Bay, Bashams Beach, Cape Jervis, and as far afield as Penneshaw on KI, Edithburgh on Yorke Peninsula, and some signs at Kingston in the South East. Beach closures have occurred at Parsons and Waitpinga.

The cause is likely to be a 'marine heatwave' with ocean temperatures 2.5°C warmer than usual and very calm seas. Unfortunately, there is nothing much human intervention can do to fix the problem as the algal bloom can only be dispersed by wind, tides, or a decent cold front. We may need to wait on the strong westerlies that usually arrive at the end of April.

Apart from the cockles, beachgoers have noticed tommy ruff, starfish, crabs, sea cucumbers, skate, leatherjackets, puffer fish, cuttlefish, and worms. Even a few seals and penguins have washed up on the beach. Divers have described soft corals dying on Edithburgh's jetty pylons, sluggish octopuses, and unusually docile fish struggling to breathe.

The last time such an algal bloom struck was in Coffin Bay in 2014, though it was not as severe as this one. Other coastal areas in Japan and New Zealand have experienced trouble with this same phytoplankton at other times.

Even on land, eight dead kangaroos along a path from the beach at Tunkalilla have been linked to the event. The department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) has had to euthanise 50 more that were in various stages of paralysis.

## Impact

While the algae poses no long-term health risks to humans, surfers have reported flu-like symptoms of sore throat, coughing, sneezing, itchy burning eyes and skin, and generally feeling unwell. Algal particles get into the air through the action of waves crashing and generating a mist, which has been reported to extend these effects to residents up to 1 km inland, possibly aggravating existing asthma. Some people have reported feeling better when wearing face masks.

## About the Algae

PIRSA scientists have discovered the microscopic culprit to be *Karenia mikimotoi*, a microbial algae or phytoplankton. This species is naturally occurring across the world's oceans and produces a vast proportion of the oxygen we breathe.

Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes held a meeting with representatives from affected coastal councils across SA and from the State Government. PIRSA, the Department of Environment and Water, SA Health, and Kinthe Environment Protection Authority, as well as RecFish, and Adelaide and Flinders Universities, are all



**YANKALILLA VET**

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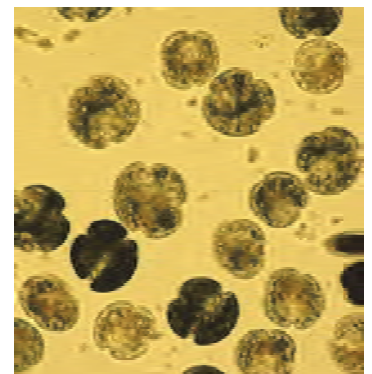
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## Yankalilla District Residents Assoc

Our 2025 AGM was held on 27th March. Sincere thanks to the Normanville Hotel for providing the venue yet again. The meal and drink service were wonderfully done to fit around the formalities of the night, and the meeting space is well equipped and set out. We hope you will have us back!

All committee positions were declared vacant. Our long serving President Caroline Weatherstone and our minute secretary Lauren Davis chose not to re-nominate. We thank them for their invaluable contribution to the Association since its formation in 2019.

A new committee was elected with Amanda Crossley as President. Thank you to all who nominated. A new email address will soon appear on our website:

[contactusyankalilladra@gmail.com](mailto:contactusyankalilladra@gmail.com)

Please use it to contact us with issues important to you.

## YDRA | YANKALILLA DISTRICT residents association

### Yankalilla Dog Park proposal: Sub-Committee Report

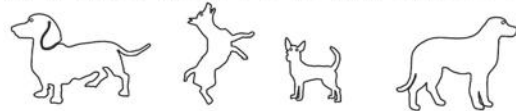
A report on the activities since the 2024 AGM, was delivered at the meeting and is available to view on the YDRA website.

Since that report was prepared, committee members have met with Mr Mark Gibson, Director of Assets & Environment and Mr Nick Noack, Operations Business Manager. At that meeting, the first draft plan of the park layout was tabled and discussed. Council staff will now consult with other Councils as to how their dog parks are constructed and managed.

The committee has been tasked with delivering a more detailed plan of the park and its infrastructure, together with estimated costings for the park initial construction. **PLEASE NOTE:** these costings are to allow DCY to estimate the possible increase in asset insurance when the dog park becomes a council asset. The responsibility for funding the construction of the park remains with the fundraising committee.

Several dog parks are supported by Friends Groups, who assist with maintenance through working bees, and that is the model we will use. The maintenance needs are not huge, and we are aiming for a structure that will not be maintenance intensive. The demands on Council ground staff should be no more than they are now. We hope to meet with Mark and Nick again in early May.

## YANKALILLA DISTRICTS DOG PARK



P.O Box 24, Normanville South Australia...5204  
SUB COMMITTEE OF YDRA

involved in monitoring the situation.

### Response and Advice

- Avoid discoloured water (reddish-brown, murky green, or milky white) or thick, milkshake-like sea foam.

- Wash off any contact with affected water using fresh water.

- Do not eat dead fish or cockles; live-caught fish are safe after washing.

- Report fish kills to FISHWATCH (1800 065 522) or local National Parks and Wildlife offices.

With only slightly cooler weather and light rain over Easter, it was unclear whether the bloom deterred too many tourists, with the region's vital holiday trade appearing as busy as usual.

Fiona Vogel - Copywriter  
[www.fionavogel.com.au](http://www.fionavogel.com.au)

## Myponga Reservoir drops to 53% Capacity in April

A quick glance at the water level as you drive across the bridge at Myponga has shown sludgy edges give way to dry, cracked mud. The reservoir is now at 53% capacity, where it would normally be 67% at this time of year. Other reservoirs of the Adelaide hills are down to 38%, impacted by the lowest inflow in 40 years.

Meanwhile, floods in Queensland, and even the north of SA, will not help fill up water storage here. According to Environment Minister Susan Close, the northern and southern basins are not usefully connected. Some factors are in our favour still:

- The Murray River itself is not experiencing drought, though it

runs through drought affected areas. As a result, SA can draw down its full water allocation.

- The Lonsdale desalination plant can produce 300 million litres of drinking water daily (100 gegalitres in a year).

- South Australians have become far more efficient with our water usage – so much so that the Minister Close says water restrictions seen in the past would not have meaningful impact now. Though times are tough, particularly for those not connected to mains, there are still some reserves left in South Australia's water system as a whole.

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## Federal Budget Allocates \$40 Million for Main South Road Upgrades Between Myponga and Yankalilla

The improvements planned for this stretch of road are designed to improve safety, a hot topic, given several recent accidents and near misses. Changes will include:

- Two new overtaking lanes to improve traffic flow,
- Curve easing and road widening to improve safety on bends, and
- Widening of narrow bridges and culverts to accommodate increased traffic and ensure structural integrity.

In total, the federal budget

allocates over \$600 million for South Australian road projects, including the Main South Road upgrade. Most of it (\$525 million) is directed toward the High Productivity Vehicle Network (HPVN). According to Transport Minister Catherine King, this “is actually about getting upgrades between the South Eastern Freeway and the Sturt Highway, which include things like the duplication of the Swanport Bridge and Murray Bridge Township Bypass in Monarto. That is really important to enable trucks to actually not be in Adelaide, keeping trucks off Cross Road”. Additional upgrades are planned for Main South Road from Normanville to Cape Jervis. The RAA has expressed its approval for these safety measures, but would like to see politicians address a \$2 billion road maintenance backlog. The organisation is calling for road safety ratings that might bring attention to the worst of our roads and make sure these are addressed first.

Fiona Vogel - Copywriter  
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## Yankalilla, Rapid Bay & Myponga Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc

### LESS THAN SIX MONTHS TO THE NEXT SHOW

While planning for the next Show on the Saturday of the October long weekend (**October 4**), the Show Grounds are rarely quiet for long. April saw many of the regular events such as Fitness, Yoga, Table Tennis, Karate, Art Group, Markets, Dance classes, Drumming Circle, Yankalilla Acoustic Music, Pony Club Activities, the Fleurieu Agfest, the Lions Car boot sale at Easter and more including the odd Festival Fleurieu event. The Show Grounds are a key part of the Yankalilla area’s community resources and it is pleasing to see the amount of activity there.

### GUM NUTS & CAPS IN A PLASTIC TUB

On Friday, April 4th at the third AgFest at the Show Grounds, the Yankalilla Show Society had an information stand with a guessing competition. This year the challenge was to guess how many gum nuts and caps were in a 5.1 litre transparent plastic tub. Assorted sizes and shapes of the gum nuts and caps, together with the tapered sides of the tub, made it a guessing task rather than estimation.

The lucky winner of a family pass to this year’s Yankalilla Show on Saturday, 4th October, 9am – 4pm was a student from Kangaroo Island. The Kangaroo Island

students have done well in previous years and students named Matilda seem to have particularly strong guessing skills. There were 350 items (nuts and caps) in the tub. Our winner was closest with a guess of 347. The lowest estimate was 36, the highest (an adult guess) was 1875. This year guessers were placed in a container rather than being visible to other guessers.

In 2025 most of the entries were too low by 26%. Congratulations to our Kangaroo Island winner who was out by less than 1%.

The Agfest is advertised as ‘a free, annual event in Yankalilla, SA, that celebrates agriculture, innovation, and the Fleurieu Peninsula’s agricultural industry. It showcases local produce, agtech, and careers in agriculture, with a focus on connecting farmers, businesses, and the community. The event is open to the public and features stalls, presentations, workshops, and more.’

Thank you to those who supported our involvement in the event.

It seems appropriate to finish this month’s article with some of the agricultural options in our district. In 2024 we had a fine showing of sheep and cattle and the young and the not so young were actively involved in strutting their stuff as the following photos show.

See right hand page.

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Thanks to Gail and John Mitchell for their 'manning' of our stall



## The Yankalilla Men's Shed

I would like to comment on the ending of our last article regarding advertising our 10th Anniversary Open Day. "Happy now George?" The answer is yes, very. Our Open Day was a great success with a mixture of locals and visitors to our district taking the opportunity to see what we do, how we can assist with projects, repairs, what we make & sell and of greatest importances how we help men of all ages have a better life. It was good to welcome so many women attending who wanted to chat about their partners attending, items that they had for repair & to buy wooden toys and gifts for grandchildren and loved ones (and some just to spoil themselves).

We had Rebekha Sharkie, Leon Bignell and Marissa Bell our local politicians and contenders also spend time with us. The former two have been long supporters of our shed and Marissa a first-time visitor.

We were honoured that Leon Bignell selected our shed to make a special wooden stand for Parliament House which would be used to hold the spare "Mace". We would also like to

acknowledge the Bendigo Community Bank and in particular Natalie who drove especially to us to deliver their popcorn maker and product so we could provide free popcorn for our guests as well as AMSA our parent organisation that also lent support.

To recap. Yes, George is happy, Bob's Article in the April addition worked. We had lots of visitors, sold many wooden toys, breadboards and other wooden items and probably gained some new members.

Sadly, Bob our long term contributor will no longer be doing our Men's Shed article as he has time issues. I would like to thank him for all his efforts over the past year.

Members of the public are welcome to drop in and see what we do when we are open (Tuesday & Friday mornings and Wednesday evenings). To the men out there: drop in and see if we can enrich you lives.

Pictured:  
Open Day visitors



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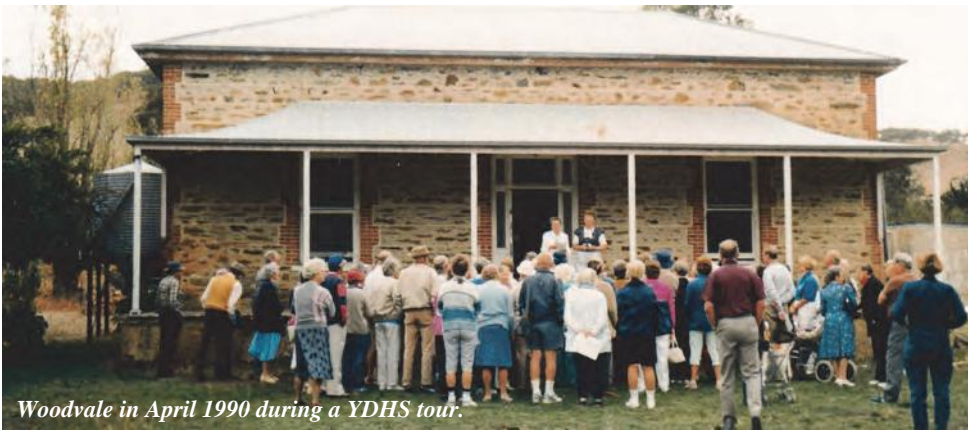
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# Woodvale ... supplier of fresh and dried fruits for the district, plus export



Woodvale in April 1990 during a YDHS tour.

Alexander Wood (c.1821-1906) arrived in Port Adelaide on 20 June 1849 on the ship *Posthumous* (Captain Robert Davidson) from London 13 March 1849 via Plymouth. Born in Jedburgh, Roxburghshire, Scotland, in 1852 Alexander was listed as formerly a mason in Adelaide but by 1868 was listed as a farmer at Yankalilla.

On 28 January 1853, he married Augusta Elise Weylandt (born 1836 in Hamburg, Germany) at St John's Church, Adelaide. Augusta had arrived in Adelaide on 12 January 1849 from Hamburg with her parents – Wilhelm August Weylandt Snr (c.1798 13/1/1868) and Sophia Friederike Elisabeth/Eliza Weylandt (c.1799-29/10/1885) – and six siblings, on the barque *Steinwaerder*, under command of Captain CS Kramer.

By 1856, Alexander and Augusta Wood were living at 'Woodvale', Bald Hills, near Yankalilla, where Alexander had purchased section 390, part-section 393, and part-section 395, totalling 177 acres. Later that year, he bought section 394 (40 acres with a house) from Frederick William Dodd, land which had been granted to his father Thomas Dodd on 17 July 1851. It is believed that this section 394 is where Alexander built the current stone homestead 'Woodvale' as by 1857 his property holdings listed two houses. Woodvale is situated near Eaglehawk Gully, the source of the River Bungala.

Alexander and Augusta had 10 children: Alexander William, born 24 September 1853, but died 7 February 1854; Katrena Elise, born 4 April 1856, remained a spinster, of Millswood, where she died on 10 November 1933. She is buried in Yankalilla Public Cemetery (plot X27);



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Emma Alexandria, born at Bald Hills on 19 January 1858, also remained a spinster, of Smith Street, Perth, WA, when she died on 5 October 1923;

Augusta Cecilia (born 16 August 1861) married her cousin William Gustav Weylandt (born c.1864) on 30 December 1891 at the residence of her brother-in-law, George Quick, West Marden, by the Rev. SF Prior;

Agnes Frances (born 23 November 1862) married George Quick of Marden. She died on 13 September 1951, at Kingswood, Mitcham, and is buried in Payneham Cemetery. According to Williams (1991, p. 249) she had resided in WA;

Alexander James Gustave (born 6 May 1866) died on 31 January 1879, aged 12, from a gunshot wound. He was buried by Septimane Herbert (Williams, 1991, p. 249), in Christ Church Anglican Cemetery;

Frederick William (born 14 June 1868 at Bald Hills) died on 2 May 1869, aged 10 months, of convulsions, and is buried in Yankalilla Public Cemetery;

Ame Arrura (born 20 October 1869) became Mrs Michelle (her husband was a police officer at Normanville);

Lile Alice Annie (born 16 May 1871);

Edith Maud or Edith Charlotte Matilda (born on 16 April 1872) married in Christ Church, Yankalilla, on 8 July 1896, Frederick William Clayton, of Esperance, WA, second son of JW Clayton.

The main house Alexander built at Woodvale comprised two large rooms and a hall in the front which led into a living room at the back, with small rooms on either side, one being used as the family's private dining room. Underneath the two front rooms was a large cellar which had drying racks along two sides for their fruit. At the rear of the main house was a large tin room which served as a kitchen and dining area for the workers. Further to the rear was a small stone building used as sleeping and living quarters by the servants.

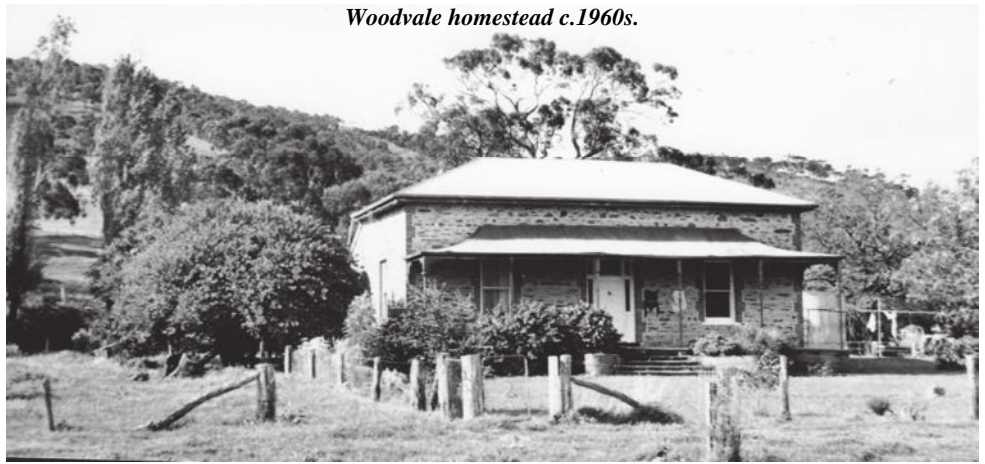
A dam was constructed to hold three million gallons of water. Alexander Wood planted many fruit trees as well as vines (for currants and sultanas and also wine grapes). His orchard comprised apples, pears, plums, apricots, walnuts, oranges and lemons. There was also a mulberry tree at the front of the house and a large kitchen garden containing many types of vegetables and herbs, which was later completely enclosed with netting, on which passion fruit was grown.

The garden around the house was planted with camelia bushes, believed to be the first in the district.

A prefabricated house was built just west of the main house for their workmen.

In March 1856, Alexander Wood was on the Yankalilla and Myponga Council and, at a meeting on 3 March 1856, he and John Dodd

Woodvale homestead c.1960s.



were elected auditors for the ensuing year.

Alexander obviously had the financial means to make investments as on 13 May 1859 he purchased Allotments 15 and 16 (part-Town Acre 962) which was on Mackinnon Parade, North Adelaide. The town allotments were shortly after, on 27 May 1859, transferred to a William Wood. William Wood, a stonemason in Yankalilla at the time, was possibly Alexander's brother.

Then, on 21 June 1864, Alexander Wood bought, for £132 5s, sections 149 and 156 Yankalilla (totalling 131 acres), adjoining his other sections – 390, 393, 394 and 395. The following year, on 14 February 1865 he bought section 151 of 104 acres (which adjoined section 149) for £104.

During the early days of the development of Woodvale, Cyril and Ern Keiszling worked on the property for a number of years.

On the death of Alexander Wood, at his residence Woodvale on 11 September 1906, his widow Augusta Elise Wood was sole executor of his will and beneficiary to his estate. She continued to run their orchard business and, according to the cargo book for Port Normanville, Mrs A Wood of Woodvale consigned a shipment of three tons of currants in one year, and two tons the following year (Williams, 1991, p. 146).

According to a report in the *Chronicle* (Saturday 23 February 1929, p. 18), when the River Bungala was in flood, oranges from Mr Wood's garden at Woodvale were swept away, and came bobbing down the stream. The children attending Christ Church Day School used to fish for the fruit with crooked sticks.

When Augusta Wood's sister-in-law Mrs Weylandt died, her two younger boys came to live at Woodvale. August Weylandt was educated and became head gardener and sold produce in Yankalilla. Jack Weylandt cared for

about 500 turkeys. (Williams, 1991, p. 249).

Augusta Wood died on 4 May 1929, aged 93, at Unley Park, and is buried in Yankalilla Public Cemetery. Following Augusta's death, Woodvale was subsequently sold, leased, and/or occupied by:

1931 – Gilbert 'Hartley' Weylandt, mortgaged to Katrena Elise Wood, Emma Alexandria Wood and Augusta Cecilia Weylandt (nee Wood). In 1932, Hartley was no longer an orchardist but had taken up as a fisherman, and was living in Northgate Street, Millswood.

1933 – Transferred to Sydney Lawrence 'Laurie' Cakebread (married Annie Rosa Weymouth in 1904).

1936 – Transferred to Leslie Charles Mills, farmer of Balaklava.

1941 – Clarence Thomas 'Tom' Silas Wickham and Elizabeth Wickham, dairyman, Wattle Flat.

1954 – Guy Godolphin Bonynthon.

1963 – Leith Murray Davies and Elizabeth May Davies.

1967 – Ardath Pastoral (Doug Crawford).

Followed by – Bob and Peter Watson (Watson Springs).

– Lorraine Day

The Yankalilla & District Historical Society Inc. meets on the second Monday of the months of September, October, November, February, March (usually on the Tuesday in March as Monday is Adelaide Cup Day) and April. **The next general meeting** will be after the winter break, at 7pm on **Monday 8 September 2025** at Yankalilla Library.

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### Autumn prescribed burn program underway

03/04/24

A total of 37 prescribed burns are proposed as part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) autumn 2025 fire management program.

Burns of varying sizes and complexities have been prepared this autumn. Eighteen burns are planned to protect communities in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges region, with the remaining 19 set to occur across a number of other regions.

The first burn occurred in Cobbler Creek Recreation Park at the start of April.

Prescribed burns are a vital fire management tool to reduce fuel loads across public and private land, and to help protect communities and industries by limiting the spread and intensity of bushfires.

NPWS Fire Management Director Fiona Gill said the program was starting later this year due to the ongoing dry conditions across the state, and the late start could mean that fewer burns can be undertaken before conditions become too cool and wet.

"Ongoing dry times can create challenging conditions for burning, and some plant and animal species are under stress from the prolonged period of low rainfall," she said.

"We will assess conditions at all proposed burn sites and may decide to conduct some burns later in the season, or even postpone them for a season, if the conditions are likely to impact the habitat's ability to recover or for the burn to be safely managed.

"As part of our fire management programs, we take every opportunity to complete as many burns as possible in suitable weather and fuel conditions.

"The number of prescribed burns that can be safely and effectively completed in any season is always subject to a window of specific weather conditions and NPWS will never burn unless we can achieve a safe outcome."

Ms Gill said the importance of the prescribed burns had been highlighted recently during the bushfire in Mount Remarkable National Park.

"NPWS conducted a number of prescribed burns within Mount Remarkable National Park between 2021 and 2023," Ms Gill said.

"This created areas where the fuel levels were reduced, which modified the fire behaviour and gave firefighters a safer area to work from. These burns were critical in providing fire crews the ability to prevent the entire park from burning like it did during a bushfire in 1988."

Prescribed burns can also play an important role in regenerating habitats for native plants and animals, and the requirements of these species are factored into the planning process.

A strategic, risk-based approach is used to carefully manage smoke around the state's wine grape areas, and smoke taint from NPWS prescribed burning has not been recorded since its fire management program started in 2004.

A total of 33 out of 45 planned burns (73 per cent) were completed across the state in the spring 2024 fire management program, compared with the long-term average of about 70 per cent each year over the past decade.

Prescribed burns are planned in partnership with other land management agencies (ForestrySA and SA Water), Country Fire Service, councils and private landholders.

Burns that are unable to be completed due to unsuitable weather are rolled over to the following spring or autumn as part of an ongoing, rolling 3-year mitigation program.

More information on the fire management program is available here:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/fire-management/upcoming-prescribed-burns>

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