



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

Yankalilla

REGIONAL NEWS

15TH JANUARY TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

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Cr Karin's Chronicles

Dog Park Update

Vale Bill Verwey

Ladies Probus

Men's Shed

Lions Club

and more!



Normanville's NYE Pageant



Welcomes 2025



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Normanville New Year's Eve Pageant 2024

Wow, what an awesome night. We were so happy with how the event ran. From the awesome floats to the incredible entertainers, food suppliers, DJ's, and of course the epic fireworks. The weather was kind and the crowds were huge. Channel 7 news attended, and the record number of attendees shows just how loved the event is.

A massive shoutout to everyone who entered floats. Some really creative and amazing floats. Zombieville took out the best float award. Awesome work everyone.

The Normanville New Year's Eve Pageant is a Rotary club of Yankalilla event. The team at Rotary are incredible. Tracey and the crew, you're the best.

The big-ticket items are sponsored by Community Bank Fleurieu &

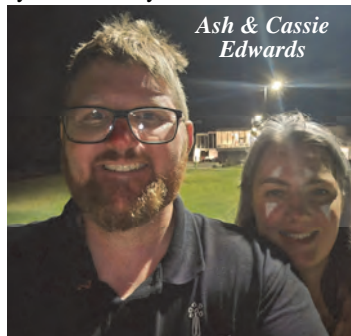
Forktree Brewing, along with a big list of local businesses. Cassie Edwards at Elders Normanville, Good Grounds Landscaping, TMW Earthmoving & Hire, Fleurieu Lifestyle Properties, ResiDental Solutions, South Coast Electrical, Mitre10 Normanville, A Little Spice & All Things Nice, Lions Club of Yankalilla, Fleurieu FM, Aqua Blue, Normanville Newsagency, CFS, SES, SAAS, and the Normanville Surf Life Saving Club.

The District Council of Yankalilla are huge supporters, and without

The foreshore was packed



Zombieville



Ash & Cassie Edwards

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Cover photo: Time for some summer fun at the beach.
Photo by Gillian Rayment.

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them the event wouldn't be possible. They take care of many aspects, including the traffic management, a portion of the toilets and bins, along with a bunch of stuff such as the lighting, permits, bunting and so forth. Extra shoutout to James and the crew, you're awesome.

The event is run by volunteers. Cassie Edwards is our almighty leader. She worked tirelessly for months. It's hard to comprehend the amount of organising that takes place behind the scenes. Cass took it in her stride and the event is largely thanks to the work Cassie puts in.

Tracey Gates heads up the Yankalilla Rotary Club, and she put in countless hours just as Cass does. Tracey takes care of the finances, creates handmade signage, coordinates insurance and lots more. Tracey's partner James is also a superstar in the background, assisting whenever asked.

Paula Edwards and Chris Hunt organise all the food vans. This is another epic task. From finding them, to insurance, power requirements, food permits, site maps and everything else. They did an amazing job.

Andrew Cole worked leading up to the event with all the power requirements, lighting, and site plans. Josh Hann stepped in on the night and between them, they did an epic job. Geoff Ninnes was a late addition to the team and stepped up on the day. Awesome

work mate. Wayne Gibbs has been part of the crew for a few years now, and he does a lot of the hands-on tasks such as picking up bins, manning the gate, donation buckets and more. A thankless task, but crucial for the event. A big shout out to Peter Hawker for lending us his bins & generator.

Lisa Pearson from Council always goes above and beyond to assist. Her assistance extends outside her role and she's the first to put her hand up to help. A truly community minded person.

That just leaves me, Ash Edwards. Some may say I'm involved, but I like to think I'm just in it for the food and drinks!

Lastly, thank you to the community for attending, for your patience, understanding and assistance with using our town for the event. We pretty much take over the whole township for a few hours, and for that we're very appreciative.

We're already working on next year's event. We've taken note of some improvements to implement and will get the ball rolling ASAP.

We're looking for major sponsors, so please reach out now so we can work together and make the biggest and best pageant for 2025.

From everyone here at the pageant committee, thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the next event. Cheers to a happy New Year!

Cover: Fireworks, Parade start, Zombieville, Yankalilla Dog Park.



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



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1/4P 9.5x13.4 or 19.4x6.5 or 6.3x20.3	\$233	\$410
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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,
2025 is here - Happy New Year everyone - and we brought the year in with our famous Normanville Pageant in spectacular fashion. Huge numbers of people lined the route and ended up at the foreshore. Others were spread from Lady Bay to Carrickalinga vying for vantage spots to see the fireworks. Well done to the organisers and all the helpers, including many Council staff who pitched in, with smiles on faces and much eagerness, to make it a great night. Of course there were some minor technical issues but nothing too serious and notes were taken for next time.

Still in a holiday mindset? You are not the only one. The rest of January is looking good and there is the Australia Day long weekend, markets and other happenings around the area. The Lions are holding the Normy Fun Run on the beach too.

In this edition, we discuss the idea of changing the name of the 'District Council of Yankalilla'

to 'Fleurieu Coast Council.' Why? Because it is a discussion we are required to have every 7 years or so.

Also up for discussion is the make-up of the DCY. Do we get rid of wards and/or change the number of Elected Members? A reduction in EMs could save money. Abolishing wards could help with filling vacancies with candidates.

Note: There are some long 'links' in this edition but there is no need to type them into a browser. Go to the online version of YRN and all the links are live and you just click on them. Easy peasy!

Until next issue...

Cheers,
Paul Jelfs
Editor

Next Issue: March 2025
Deadline: 15th February 2025

EMPLOYMENT

Wanted person with experience in QuickBooks to collate tax records into computer program monthly. Also prepare quarterly GST statements. Normanville based. **Ph 0428 984 057**

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2025- A great year ahead for Probus members

We finished 2024 with a birthday party and a parade. What a way to celebrate! Club Fleurieu did a great job setting up for our 35th birthday celebrations in November. Well fed and entertained, everyone enjoyed the special lunch, right down to a wonderful cake prepared by Club Fleurieu. Our president Sue Field did the cutting honours.

An enthusiastic group of members organised a float in the Normanville New Year's pageant, and I am sure photos will follow in due course- if not sooner! That depends on the

deadline for YRN's February edition.

We already have a terrific list of speakers organised for this year, so why not join us at a meeting soon? You will be very welcome at any of our monthly meetings held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the RSL Hall in Normanville.

Lorraine Felix –
Publicity Officer
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Club Fleurieu – A Club for Everyone!

All of us at Club Fleurieu would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy New Year. See you at the Club in 2025!



There were busy times at the Club in the lead up to Christmas. Our weekly activity groups had their end of year celebrations in the form of lunches, afternoon teas and evening get-togethers. We were delighted to host both the Men's and Women's Probus Christmas Lunches, and the final Movie Night and Bingo evening for the year. A "Thank You" Happy Hour was held to acknowledge our wonderful volunteers. And the final event on this year's calendar was our ever-popular Club Christmas Lunch, which was enjoyed by us all.



Our Line Dancers having a picnic Christmas Lunch in our new gazebo (right top); Our Christmas Lunch was enjoyed by everyone! (right)



A Big Thank You to our Members... Your response to our 5CY Community Pantry December collection was amazing! Our food basket is filled throughout the year, but at Christmas it was overflowing. It was also heart-warming to see the number of gifts left under the tree for local children. Many thanks for your generosity.

...and another important Thank You goes to our Op Shop volunteers, who always have an extra busy time during the holidays. Thank you so much to this hard-working team!

Weekly Activities at the Club

Our weekly activities are resuming after the holiday break. Check out the schedule for all the dates.

If you are interested in trying any of these activities, just drop in to see us in action! If you are new to our area, it's a great way to meet some like-minded people, and you will be made very welcome.

Alternatively, feel free to contact the Club by phone or email.

Our weekly activities will resume on the following dates:

Activity	Start Date
Mahjong	6/1/25
Rock & Roll	13/1/25
Quilting	14/1/25
Line Dancing	7/1/25
Zumba	8/1/25
Bingo	6/2/25
Craft	10/1/25
Cards	3/1/25
Croquet	19/1/25

The first Movie Night for 2025 will be held on Thursday 6 February. Evening Bingo resumes on Tuesday 11 March, eyes down at 7.00pm.

MAYOR'S CHARITY DINNER

Saturday 18 January 6.00pm

This special dinner will be our first function for 2025.

After the success of our Mayor's Charity Lunch last January, the Club looks forward to hosting and sponsoring the dinner. Our Guest Chef will be **Mayor Darryl Houston!** Dinner will consist of a two course meal with a Moroccan theme, for **\$40 per person**. There will be raffles and a silent auction, and all proceeds will benefit 5CY. We hope to see you at the Club for this very special evening.



BUMPER BINGO

Sunday 19 January Doors open 12 noon - Eyes down 1.30pm

Don't miss this fun afternoon! Please see separate item for all the information.

****Both the above functions take place shortly after this edition of YRN comes out. If you are interested in either event, please contact the Club to ensure there are still places available.**

AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCH

Sunday 26 January 12.30pm

Celebrate Australia Day at the Club! Enjoy a barbecue lunch, salads & some classic Aussie desserts. Relax over a drink or two from Bjorn's Bar, and join in some light-hearted fun with games and an Australiana raffle. Don't forget to dress up in your finest Aussie attire!

Bookings Essential. \$35 members, \$40 non-members.



Diary Dates for February

Thursday 6 February 7.00pm

SFFS Movie Night "Wicked Little Letters"

Tuesday 11 February 12 noon

Club Barbecue

Wednesday 26 February 12 noon

Club Lunch

Friday 28 February from 5.00pm

Happy Hour & Dinner

Please check our website & newsletters for details of February events. Bookings essential.

140-142 Main South Road Yankalilla SA
Phone 08 8558 2053 Mobile 0477 111 315
Email yankover50s@gmail.com
Website www.clubfleurieu.com
and find us on Facebook



BUMPER BINGO
at Club Fleurieu
SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2025
Doors open 12 noon - Eyes down 1.30pm
ALL WELCOME!
Bumper Jackpot – Larger Prizes – Raffles
Bonus Games – Door Prize
Bar Open – BYO Nibbles
Book soon - Limited Seating - \$5 entry
To book a table of 8 or 10 call 0447 633 034
Tickets from Club Fleurieu Op Shop or Surf Lifesaving Club. Funds raised will benefit 5CY.
Club Fleurieu - 140 Main South Road Yankalilla

Shall we change the name of the Yankalilla Council Area?

Every eight years, Councils are required to ask their residents if they would like changes to their representation – including what they think their council area should be named.

Over the years, this has resulted in a variety of suggestions. You can see some from 2014 on the Council's website: Yankalilla Bay, Western Fleurieu Peninsula or South West Fleurieu, Light Coast, Wild Fleurieu, Yankalilla Districts, Land's End, Fleurieu Coast, and YankaLingaladyVille. The current proposal is Fleurieu Coast Council. Why mess with it? A recent report by Norman Waterhouse suggests that the Council will be entering a new era with a popularly elected Mayor at the 2026 elections. It might be a good moment to pick a name that includes the broader district with its 20+ localities. The council area does cover 80km of

coastline which is most of the Fleurieu Peninsula. Also, the Council already owns and maintains the 'Fleurieu Coast' brand, website, and marks.

Why leave it be? There is a small cost to changing the name – about \$10 000, mostly for signage on the Council's main building. Most of the rest of the signage can be absorbed in ongoing maintenance as things need re-painting in the normal schedule. The other main reason would be if the people of the district just didn't want to change the name. So far, it seems like Council members might be seriously considering the change, but as Cr Hatch said when asking for feedback, "I do not know the pulse of the community on this topic".

You can have your say by filling in a survey and joining the discussion

at yoursayyankalilla.com.au, post a written submission to PO Box 9, Yankalilla SA 5203, email participate@yankalilla.sa.gov.au, or go to the live online info sessions:

► Tuesday, 28th January 2025 from 5:30 till 7pm

► Wednesday, 29th January 2025 from 3pm till 4:30

Or, you could speak to someone in person at the Community Engagement Pop-up on Australia Day on the Normanville Village Green (Sunday 26th January 2025). Consultation ends **Friday 31st January 2025**. After that, Council will review the results, make a decision, and send it to the Electoral Commissioner of SA who will check that it meets the requirements before it can be implemented.

Fiona Vogel - Copywriter
www.fionavogel.com.au

Discussions - Letters - Opinions

Email: editor@yrn.com.au
Or Post to: Box 2110, Normanville SA 5204

Fixing Stupid

Many of us know that "there is no fixing stupid"; and it is disappointing that it has to be pointed out, again and again.

Dutton and Co are advocating for nuclear power plants and managing the radioactive waste for 10,000 years. We learned 50 years ago that it was not a good option for Australia where sun, wind, geothermal and fossil fuels are in abundance. Stupid to have nuclear. And then a previous council indebts this community excessively with stupid decisions on the foreshore and caravan park. Overcapitalised! Stupid.

And the proposed sale of the Yankalilla Aged Care Home in these times is another decision bordering on stupid or possibly greed.

And as for the pontoon, the lack of commitment to young people and others that swim out to the pontoon is decision reeking of stupidity. Council installed it and has a budget for maintaining it.

The responsibilities of DCY are to its residents, not to commercial entities, not to tourists, not to those passing through but to those who live here. And the two basic principles for DCY to base their decisions on including expenditure are "most good for the most number" and "leave no one behind". Easy! Not stupid; ethical!

Dalton Dupuy

Credit where Credit is due

The work and effort that Shane Magor is committing to the development of the Fleurieu Gin

facility on Forktree Road is truly inspirational. What was a simple farm paddock is now a stunning facility that adds to the tourism draw to our area. I wanted to congratulate Shane and his team for having the vision, determination and will power to bring this project to life.

I hope we can all support Fleurieu Gin, and spread the word about this fabulous new attraction to the region.

Cheers!

Jason O'Halloran

A BIG THANKYOU

Hi, My name is Sherry O'Leary and I live in the Beachside Estate, Normanville. I am the gray haired monster who rides my red gofer to Normanville to shop etc.

The footpath is treacherous with its bumps, holes, uneven grades and tree roots at the front of the horse paddocks making my journey dangerous. I have come off once and nearly toppled twice.

Here is where the big Thankyou comes in. I am forced to ride on the shoulder for most of the trip. I'm so fretful for ALL the drivers, busses and trucks who slow down and move to allow me more room to safely ride. One bloke stopped when he saw me shielding my eyes, alert for potholes. He got out of his car and gave me a hat. WOW Another driver stopped when it was pouring with rain and offered me an umbrella.

These acts of kindness and all the smiles and waves really make me very happy.

I implore the Yankalilla Council to pave that footpath to make it safer

for old biddies like me, young parents with prams, cyclists and walkers. I know of one woman who has a gofer but is terrified to ride to Normanville.

I gather that paving the path has been discussed by residents for over a decade.

I also gather that there is to be a housing development planned for the old horse paddocks and a suitable path will need to be built sooner or later.

Please Council pave that path. This would be a Council spend for residential ratepayers as I feel projects aimed at tourists seem to get the attention.

Thankyou everyone again.

Warm regards,

Sherry O'Leary

Seasonal Rubbish Woes

It's beginning to look a lot like....yep, it's that wonderful time of the year with the towns full of tourists, friends and visitors and the bins are full also. Blue bins that is, because yellow recycle bins and green bins don't notice the crowds of extra people. They don't get used as much as the blue bins. Over the holiday season we are inundated with hordes of adults, children and of course, babies who have disposable nappies that create rubbish, so where does it all go? Today I spoke with a man who is staying in a holiday home around the corner from me as his blue bin, out the front of the house, Sunday morning 5th January, lid up with birds spreading the contents around. The bin was emptied Tuesday 31st December at noon. Five days later it is full. Five adults, three children,

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one in nappies staying at the house. The man was flabbergasted when I explained the bin was not due to be emptied until Tuesday 14th. Now two things can happen, one, the owner pays for another blue bin, that's not going to happen as this is the third time in 18 months I have needed to speak with the occupant. Two, Yankalilla council need to accept that blue bins need to be emptied weekly over the holiday season and the yellow and green bins not. Should you agree, contact your elected member and tell them so. Change only happens with numbers.

Gavin Denton

How many Elected Members does Yankalilla need?

This question is coming up now for two reasons. Firstly, the Council is required to ask the people every eight years whether they want changes in the way they are democratically represented. This might include changing the name of the Council area, adding or removing a seat at the table for elected members, or changing the wards (number, names, boundaries etc).

Secondly, the State Government enacted a new law in 2021 that mayors in South Australia will be popularly elected by the whole district as of the next election cycle (2026 for Yankalilla). Previously, local citizens had elected members to represent each ward and one of their number would be appointed as 'first among equals' – in the same way as the Prime Minister is chosen from among those already elected to the House of Reps.

How can I find out more?

Voters of the district are entitled to a report that clearly explains the options under consideration by the Council and outlines advantages and disadvantages. Such a report was written by Norman Waterhouse and Dale Machazzi and it is available at the DCY website here:

https://ehq-production-australia.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/5d109c93d390a3726795c16c3ae959c040bf9eed/original/1734560909/f7e4e7aa19f41e8e22820bb2298508ec_2024.12_DCY_Representation_Review_2024-25_Report_by_Norman_Waterhouse.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIA4KKNQAKIFWFOUYFI%2F20241228%2Fap-southeast-2%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20241228T030255Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=c5aa6e7509c6a0cc423ce1abe1f2f907923e839b06dfaecc23bfd90eb21dc39b

or summarised as slides here:

https://www.yoursayyankalilla.com.au/representation-review-2025?tool=survey_tool

Though written by lawyers, the report is not a hard read and contains a fuller discussion of the options and reasoning, plus some interesting background. For example:

- The current population of the Yankalilla District Council Area (6,498),
- The projected population by 2041 (9,904),
- The estimated population in holiday season (18,000), as well as
- Likely future developments and zoning changes at Normanville including Horizon, and
- Demographic trends (mostly older people moving into the region).

Bear in mind, that although four options are presented in this article and in the report, it is not too late to suggest something else that might be innovative or really sensible, but people haven't yet imagined. For example, the district could be divided into more wards, different wards, you can have some Councillors for wards and some for the whole area as District Councillors. **Consultation is open until Friday 31st January 2025.**

In summary:

Option 1: Keep the ward boundaries and number of Councillors as they are (that is 5 Councillors for Light Ward, 4 for Field Ward) but *add* a Mayor, resulting in **ten Elected Members**.

Option 2: Keep the ward boundaries as they are and cut two Councillors to have 4 for Light Ward, and 3 for Field, plus a Mayor, totalling **eight Elected Members**.

Option 3: Redraw the ward boundaries slightly so that Light actually includes the edges of Yankalilla, Normanville, and Carrickalinga and Field covers everything else. There would be 5 Councillors for Light and 3 for Field, plus a Mayor, totalling **nine Elected Members**.

Option 4: Abolish Wards so that each elected member would represent the whole district rather than their ward specifically. The number of elected members could be reduced or increased as part of this manoeuvre.

What difference would any of this make?

Adding or subtracting an Elected Member would make a financial difference. According to the report the allowance for each Councillor is \$11,973 per year. There might also be some administrative costs, additional allowances, and CPI increases.

How many Elected Members does it take to represent a district properly? The Waterhouse report says there is no formula, and Councils should look around at what other similar Councils are doing and be guided by their own experience.

Councillor Karin Hatch presents a graph on her Facebook page that shows that each of our 9 Elected Members currently have 521 people to look after. Comparatively, Victor Harbor's 9 Councillors look after 1556 people each, and KI has 9 looking after 382 each. The Yankalilla Council area is pretty small at 750 km², compared with other places e.g. the Coorong has a population similar to ours but 8800 km² to cover with 7 Councillors (534 electors each). Perhaps you have a view on whether we are over or under governed?

Abolishing Wards is a separate question. They exist because it was felt that Light Ward residents might like to elect Councillors with skills relevant to the townships and Field Ward might prefer farmers to represent them. In practice, elected members take a range of views into account and are not restricted in how they go about representing their wards – they don't even have to live in the ward they stand for.

It is usually difficult to find enough people to run in local government elections so having Wards can result in too many candidates in one Ward and too few in another. Having to directly elect a mayor exacerbates this because you can't stand for both Mayor and Ward Councillor so good candidates may be lost because they stood for a position and lost – they can't be scooped up to serve in a different Ward or position e.g. if Joe Everyday runs for Mayor and loses, he can't just transfer those votes and be elected as a Ward or District Councillor, even if that means the seat remains vacant and we have to run a Supplementary Election later to fill it.

As to why the State Government changed the rules to allow electors to choose their mayor directly, the answer may be simple: voter turnout. A report on the Department for Infrastructure and Transport website says participation in local government elections has been steadily dropping and now hovers around 30% across the state. Electing Mayors was felt to be a way to gee up enthusiasm and interest in the race without having to use compulsory voting.

If you would like to be one of the few civic fish swimming against this tide, you can have your say on how the Council and its wards will be composed in these ways:

Email: participate@yankalilla.sa.gov.au

Write: PO Box 9, Yankalilla SA 5203

Live online Info Sessions:

Tuesday, 28th January 2025 from 5:30 till 7pm

Wednesday, 29th January 2025 from 3pm till 4:30

In person: at the Community Engagement Pop-up on Australia Day on the Normanville Village Green (Sunday 26th January 2025).

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

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At the Soldiers Memorial Hall

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Southern Fleurieu Film Society

The star ratings for the final movie of 2024, **Asteroid City**, were unusually divided. Usually, our final film is selected to have broad appeal. However, a Wes Anderson movie is always likely to surprise. Nevertheless, 2.6 was quite a big surprise although there were also a few 5-star ratings. One issue is that we need to upgrade the speakers as audio quality has impacted the last two screenings.

However, we will hit the ground running in February with the flag bearer for the 2025 program being the delightful **Wicked Little Letters**. What is there not to like about a mystery set in a 1920s English coastal town with the wonderful Olivia Coleman?

Screening details are:

Yankalilla at Club Fleurieu on Thursday February 6th

Victor Harbor, Victa Cinema, on Tuesday February 4th

Goolwa in Centenary Hall on Wednesday February 5th.

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

As in 2024, Club Fleurieu will offer a pre-screening meal themed

according to the movie background. No bookings are required. Just arrive at 5:30pm

Thank you to Club Fleurieu. It is a comfortable, friendly venue with Bjorn's Bar and icecreams available. Thank you to SFFS Yankalilla membership. Hoping to see you back again in 2025. 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

Yankalilla contact is Caroline on 0431 438 993



'Fairview' Bald Hills began with a gum slab hut

Thomas and Rebecca Mayfield, from Dogdyke, Lincolnshire, England, arrived in South Australia on 25 September 1839 on the barque *Prince Regent*, with nine children aged between 20 and four years. One of the children, Betsy (born 1821) who was a dressmaker, died at the end of 1839.

Initially, the Mayfields lived at Payneham until 1841. After their eldest daughter, Mary Ann, had married William Gardner, the rest of the family moved to Currency Creek where they remained until 1848 when Thomas bought land in the Port Elliot area.

When he bought section 347 at Bald Hills in 1851, it would become the Mayfield family's home for three generations. Thomas Mayfield had bought the land from JB Hodgson for £250.

Over the next few years Thomas bought another nine sections so that by 1855 he had 10 sections at Bald Hills, totalling about 793 acres. He grew mainly wheat, which would have been shipped from Normanville. He is also believed to have imported 100 merino sheep from the Rivoli Bay district.

In 1863 Thomas Mayfield transferred about 300 acres of land (including sections 341, 342, 343 and 344) to his son James (c.1833-1899) who was probably already farming this land. James had married Jane Bowden Dennis on 2 August 1855, and they later lived on section 344 in a house already on the property before the house 'Botanic' was built, thought to have been about 1878. James and Jane had 14 children including one set of twins. Their first two sons died early but the remaining 12 children survived to adulthood despite the diphtheria epidemic in 1863. James was a keen horticulturist and established beautiful gardens at 'Botanic' and often won prizes at the Yankalilla Show, where he was sometimes also a judge.

Rebecca Mayfield died in 1856 after a short illness and was buried in Harcourt cemetery, her grave being one of the earliest burials recorded in the district. Thomas subsequently remarried and he and his new wife left the area in 1859, moving to Stepney for about three years before moving to Port Elliot, where Thomas died



FEBRUARY

Wicked Little Letters

Victor Harbor, Tuesday 4th

Goolwa, Wednesday 5th

Yankalilla, Thursday 6th

UK 2023

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on 24 January 1878. He is buried in Goolwa cemetery. Thomas and Rebecca's youngest son Robert Tooley Mayfield (1836-1886) married Elizabeth Ann Bliss (c.1835-1883) on 13 November 1860, and they continued to live on his parents' section 347 which already had a solid gum slab hut with a galvanised roof, believed to be the first structure on the property. The initials 'BM' were carved on one of the doors.

It is thought that about 1880 Robert had a new stone house, of seven rooms and surrounding verandahs, built by stonemason Richard Stone who in about 1866 had built Rockwella Chapel on section 366 at Dairy Flat (known as Torrens Vale since the late 1860s). The new stone home of Robert and Elizabeth Mayfield was named 'Fairview'. In the 1985 Heritage Survey the property was known as 'Kalymna' and recommended for State Heritage listing. Robert Tooley Mayfield bought section 339 Inman Valley in 1886 (where 'Strathmore' was built about 10 years later). However, Robert chose to remain living on his parent's section 347 nearby at Bald Hills, which his father Thomas had bought in 1851.

Both Robert and his wife died relatively young – Elizabeth at 48 in 1883 and Robert aged 50 in 1886 – leaving a family of nine children, the youngest only six. Their eldest daughter Emily (aged 24) raised the younger children and their eldest son, Thomas William (aged 23) ran the farm. Both Robert and Elizabeth are buried in the Harcourt Wesleyan cemetery.

In 1895, the executors of Robert's will transferred section 339 to his son Thomas William Mayfield, the year he married Emily Brook and moved to that section where they lived in a cottage on the section previously occupied by William Tucker, and south-west of where 'Strathmore' was later built between 1896 and 1906. By this time, Thomas William and Emily had six children.

In 1941 'Kalymna' (Fairview) was sold to Edward Wheewall

Holden, chairman of General Motors Holden's Ltd, and a Member of the Legislative Council of South Australia. Holden made some additions to 'Fairview' including the stone and brick buildings to house a 110-volt lighting-plant, and single men's quarters, installed the present septic system, and added another bathroom and sleepout. Following Holden's sudden death in 1947, the property was transferred to Elinor Doris Bush on 20 February 1948.

The Mount Gambier stone sheds and stables were believed to have been added by Mrs Bush, as the Bush family were well-known horse-lovers and show riders.

Sections 348, part-section 347, and part-section 358 were transferred on 1 December 1976 to Francis Robert Warwick and Mary Musgrove Warwick, who retained the Holden and Bush name of 'Kalymna' for the property.

Since 2020, the current owners have reverted to the original name 'Fairview' for the 8.34 ha property in Nosworthy Road, Inman Valley. The original cottage built in 1850, and workmen's/shearer's quarters, are still intact and used as a studio.

– Lorraine Day

Opposite page: Gum slab hut at 'Fairview', Bald Hills, 1980.

Left: 'Fairview', Bald Hills, c.1980, during a YDHS tour

Below: 'Fairview' c.2020.



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 at 7pm on Monday 10 February 2025 at Yankalilla Library.**

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December Christmas meeting

Merry Christmas to Everybody!

As a tradition, our December dinner meeting is always the Yankalilla & District Lions Club Christmas dinner and this year it was no different and we held it in our usual meeting venue, the Yankalilla Golf Club.

Celebrating the end of the year it was a great night with over 50 of our members and their guests. As well as celebrating Christmas it is also about reflecting on the achievements of the last 12 months.

A big thank you to the members who organised the night and to Chris Lewis who fed us all with the assistance of his Christmas Elves. Also, to Vicki Morecroft and helpers for putting on the raffle and setting up the decorations.

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.



World Diabetes Day

Diabetes is a global epidemic that touches every corner of the globe and ours is no exception. As part of Diabetes Awareness Month in November, the Lions Club organised to carry out free, quick and easy diabetes testing. We thank **Terry White Chemmart Normanville** for their support with the screening.

87 people were tested, 20 tested high and 4 were referred for further testing. Emma French from Terry White's carried out the testing with the help from Lions members Ruth Boxer, Vicki Morecroft and Michael Fogden. A very pleasing number tested in the four hours we were there. Thanks to everyone involved.

Reducing the prevalence of diabetes and improving the quality of life for those diagnosed is one of Lions Clubs International's focus service areas and running a screening like this is just a small way that our club can make a difference.



Lions Kids Christmas Party

There is always a great turnout at the Lions Kids Christmas party on Christmas eve and this was also helped along with the good weather.

The usual children's amusements were there with the Lions BBQ.

Courtesy of the Yankalilla CFS Santas turned up to dish out the lollie bags!

A big thank you to the major sponsor Mitre 10 and the other local business who help make this show happen every year and also to the volunteers on the night.

Lions receives donation on the night in return for the sausage sizzles and this money goes towards Lions Children Cancer Research.



Yankalilla Lions Club sponsors Hearing Dog

At the end of January 2024 our then President Vicki Morecroft presented a cheque for \$3,000 to David Horne, the CEO of Australian Lions Hearing Dogs for the sponsorship of a puppy who will grow up and be trained to provide hearing, medical alert or support to their new owner, free of charge. This donation was possible as a result of the Australia Day raffle that the club ran in 2024.

Our Club is very proud to sponsor our first puppy - her name is Lilla and we are sure she is going to be a star pupil at training. We look forward to sharing her progress as she grows up and hopefully becomes an assistance dog for someone in the near future.



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Update on Ownership of the ACH Residential Care Home in Yankalilla – Developed on what was once Community Land

Monday December 2, 2024

ACH Yankalilla Centre Residential Care Home was developed on land that the Council transferred to ACH following a thorough public consultation process more than 20 years ago. At that time, the Community Land classification was extinguished to allow for this development which has benefited our region greatly. In accordance with the agreements made at that time, ACH successfully developed a purpose-built aged care facility and a community health facility, which is currently occupied by the Southern Fleurieu Family Practice. Additionally, four retirement village units were developed on the site, which are governed by the *Retirement Villages Act*.

Upon reviewing the agreement between ACH and the Council, it is clear that the Council's involvement in the development concluded once the construction of the facilities was completed. This also appeared to be part of the information shared with the community during the public consultation process at the time.

A further examination of the relevant Certificates of Title confirms that the Council has no enduring legal interest in the land. Therefore, any changes in management or ownership are a matter for the current and future owners.

The District Council of Yankalilla was recently advised of a change of ownership which triggered our team to review the matter. Council wishes to reassure our residents that the land use cannot be easily altered

(and the new owner has made no suggestion of any change). Should the current or future owner wish to change the use of the site away from its current purpose as an aged care facility, medical practice, and/or retirement village, they would be required to submit a development application under the *Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act 2016* for assessment. The District Council of Yankalilla can also confirm that the new owners, Edenfield Family Care, are a respected and established provider of aged care services, with existing facilities at Parafield Gardens and Port Augusta in South Australia. Their correspondence with the Council indicates a clear intention to continue operations at the Yankalilla site relatively unchanged with the exception of the naming. This will ensure that quality aged care services will remain available to the community.

2025 Fun Run

It's that time of year again!

The 2025 Lions Fun Run will take place on the March long weekend on Sunday 9th March on the Normanville beach.

Time to put it into your diaries now!

This is very much a family fun event and there are runs and walks to suit everybody. We also get a fair few competitive event runners taking part as well.

Entry is by a gold coin which goes towards Lions projects in the area.

Registrations will be at the grassed area near the path to the beach.

Please try to complete registration within 15 minutes prior to the start time.

Please see the information advert on left page.



Interested in joining Lions?

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 free to follow us on Facebook;

<https://www.facebook.com/yankalillaanddistrictionsclub> or look us up at <https://www.yankalillalions.com/>

Lions Club of Yankalilla and Districts

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Bonus History Talks at Yankalilla Library

YDHS have two talks by very interesting speakers scheduled for Jan and Feb at Yankalilla Library

Firstly, on **Friday 24 January 10am – 12 noon** we have South Australian Historian Tom Gara, a specialist in Aboriginal History presenting: *Aboriginal People on Southern Fleurieu Peninsula after European Settlement*. Tom has published many papers on post-contact Kurna history and co-edited the book: *Colonialism and its aftermath-a history of Aboriginal South Australia*. He has worked with Aboriginal people on a range of historical and heritage research projects and has worked for more than a decade with the SA Crown Solicitor's Office undertaking historical research in relation to native title claims throughout the state.

The second talk on **Saturday 8 February 10.30-12.30** will be presented by metal detectorist Taylor Lupp who has been exploring historic Rapid Bay. The

talk: *Echoes of Exploration: Colonel Light's Campsite Rediscovered at Rapid Bay* showcases what has been uncovered during the search of the site from 2019 – 2024. Rapid Bay was named by South Australia Colonial Surveyor General Colonel William Light who landed there 8 Sept 1836. Rapid Bay was a basecamp for Colonel Light for months with some of his survey crew stationed there from November to January. Hear the research and see what has been discovered.

Everyone is welcome to attend these informative talks at Yankalilla Community Library 181 Main South Rd Yankalilla. These are Free events, but you will need to book your place, please contact the Yankalilla Library

ph 85582043 or email library@yankalilla.sa.gov.au or events.humanitix.com/host/yankalillalibrary



Forktree Nature Play

Sculptor Geoff Bromilow has recently installed a large part of a new Nature Play installation at *Forktree Brewing* in Carrickalinga. Geoff has worked hard on the spectacular sculpture, and is thrilled at all the positive feedback so far.

Geoff is well known for his (roughly) 20 Nature Play installations for Marion Council area. This is his first big, outdoor sculptural project in the Yankalilla area.

Geoff is also a timber contractor, and mills fallen logs for clients. His ethos is one of reclamation and reuse. This resourceful man can be found Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Geka Gallery and Workshop, 10am till 4pm. (Or call Geoff on M: 0411 117 113 at other times.) He stocks a range of native and exotic timbers, sustainably sourced. One can also view his magnificent sculptures made from timbers such as River redgum and Huon pine.

At the time of writing (December 2024) there was no date for the completion of the work. Included here are images taken in early December 2024.

Black cockatoos (left) and the dragon creature (below) with Geoff's workshop (inset).

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Classes and exhibitions at GEKA Studio

December 2024
Dr Kathryn Pentecost has begun to hold workshops and classes at Geka Studio, corner of Arthur and Main Streets in Yankalilla. In October 2024, Kathryn started a new life drawing group which has attracted some of the most accomplished artists in the area. The group meets every second Tuesday morning, 10am till 12 noon, and undertakes both life and portraiture work. (She hires models from the local area, and is still looking for more people to sit for portraiture.) In addition, Kathryn will conduct the first of a series of writing workshops in January 2025, before taking a break all February to undertake some of her own writing in Melbourne. Kathryn is well known as a poet, biographer and essayist. She is most recently

published in a new anthology by Sydney publisher **Sislands Press** entitled *Oystercatcher One*. In April, during *Festival Fleurieu 2025*, the gallery will host an exhibition of three innovative artists: Lucie Davison, Rob Gray, and Suzanne Bowers. Kathryn will officially launch the exhibition on Friday 18 April (Good Friday) at 5pm. All enquiries about classes and exhibitions can be directed to Kathryn on:

bohemianpalaceofart@gmail.com

Her website is: <https://www.bohemianpalaceofart.wordpress.com>

Kathryn also posts regularly on community social media.

Photo: Lucie Davison, Rob Gray, Suzanne Bowers who will exhibit at Geka Studio during Festival Fleurieu 2025




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Normanville Artist Wins Hans Heysen Landscape Prize

Gail Hocking is a career artist who moved into the Normanville area near the Links three years ago during Covid seeking the kind of peace needed to think and create her art. It was a tricky time for meeting people, but she found she got a lot of work done – so much so, that she needed to hire an extra shed at Yankalilla for her large sculptural pieces. She also ended up winning several exhibitions, prizes, and residencies overseas in Zagreb and Slavonski, Croatia; Sao Luis and Lisbon, Portugal; Hafnarfjörður, Iceland; Auckland, New Zealand; and Kangaroo Island as well as many other locations across Australia. Gail's most recent win, the Hans Heysen Landscape Prize is a contemporary art prize intended to commemorate the life, work, and concerns of Sir Hans Heysen who is considered by some to be an early environmental activist as he lobbied to protect trees and purchased land in Hahndorf to preserve it.

Gail's video work "Through A Looking Glass Darkly" was inspired by the melting Franz Josef glacier of her birthplace in country New Zealand. She describes her sadness at the loss of these frozen archives as the captured air pockets from our deep past are released into the regular atmosphere from the melting ice – like tears.

Gail's process involves a lot of research – for example, she travelled to Iceland to find out how locals there were feeling about their own glacial melt, and experienced the dramatic eruption of the Fagradalsafjall volcano. It created a lava tunnel almost under the town she was staying in. Shaking every half hour was preceded by something called a P-wave (like an

underground train) that was familiar from her childhood in New Zealand. She then connected with a seismologist in Melbourne to better understand how quakes can be predicted and how the melting glaciers might contribute to an increase in volcanic activity.

Gail's other works have focused on climate stress of different kinds in different places, which she researches and connects with her personal experiences to produce conceptual pieces that you can really stare at and consider. They can be used to release your mind to form its own connections out into the environment. At the moment you can see "Through A Looking Glass Darkly" on display at the Hahndorf Academy until Jan 27, 2025 and at her website: <https://www.gailhocking.com>.

One of the great things about Normanville for Gail, is that it is a place where you can be entirely alone on a beach to think. It is also a place, despite the bald hills, that is somewhat sheltered from climate stress in a protected gulf with a temperate climate – beautiful and quiet.



Fiona Vogel - Copywriter
www.fionavogel.com.au

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Summer Exhibition 2025

In the previous YRN we gave a little information about 2 of our artists, Victoria Rolinski and Candy Zaho. We are pleased to introduce our remaining 4 exhibitors.

Peter Fitzgerald

Peter considers himself to be primarily a landscape artist, though not in a traditional sense. He responds to aspects of his world that appeal in some way, and that look as if, through a work of

drawing, painting, reworking, repainting, they might evolve into a work of art.



Andrew Munn

Andrew started painting when he was a child and has been a passion ever since. He has been a resident and artist in Normanville for more than 35 years, and started off with his Gallery and cafe "Seagull Droppings", serving the area with his art and furniture for years - he

now uses his house to show and share his passion and art.



Anne Cross

"Over the many years I have lived on the Fleurieu, when I paint or sketch, I love to capture the ocean and flora of the area. I work mainly in oils and acrylics and have a leaning towards a more contemporary style of art than

traditional. The many vibrant and different hues of the ocean, scrub lands and everything in between inspires me every day and I am so grateful for where I live."



Carla Blair

Carla's lovely paintings of the personalities and scenery of the district are well known. She exhibits her work every year at the Yankalilla Show and for the last few years has been a part of our summer exhibition.



Discussions - Letters - Opinions - Poetry

Marking Time

It is a strange time of year
Christmas over and the new year near.
The bingeing of Christmas over
Giving time for the stomach to recover.

Christmas declarations still on display
Spread on the couch so many lay
A brief heatwave come, now paused
Though many a bushfire it caused.

As we ponder what with the new year will come
We all hope it will bring some fun.
And productivity for all
For goods and services we all do call.

A big part of life is the wonder
About the future, things we cannot always number
Watching youth explore their world
As challenges toward them are hurled.

And those who are older do reflect
About all those things they did not expect.
So much information for all to see
But so much about which we disagree.

So, at this time we all can pause
And wave goodbye to Santa Claus.
Knowing both good and bad will emerge
But toward the future we all must surge.

Brian Matthews 27-12-24
<https://briansdiary.blog/>

An Owl I Saw

Putting a sprinkler on in the dusk
Bathing in the drops a little owl I saw
A few days later then there were four.

The four hard to see high in the tree
Hunkered down for their rest
The night putting their hunting skills to test.

The little joys in nature do abound
The kangaroo and joey across the street
Finding a patch of green grass to eat.

And bird life such a constant in my world
The rainbow lorikeets swooping down
The raucous corellas bringing a frown.



It is very easy to switch off to this
When too much time spent in your mind
But open your eyes and such pleasure you will find.

Brian Matthews 26-12-24
<https://briansdiary.blog/>

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On Friday the 15th of November, Yankalilla Area School buzzed with excitement as the Years 7-9 students hosted their annual \$20 Boss Market Day. Held from 12 to 2pm, this entrepreneurial event showcased the creativity and business acumen of the students, who turned their \$20 seed money into an impressive array of products and experiences. Stalls featured handmade items like cupcakes, candles, bracelets, and even pet food. For those seeking entertainment, there were sideshow games, along with opportunities to "pie" and douse ice buckets over willing participants.

The event drew a large crowd of supportive community members who were thrilled to see the students' hard work come to life. Teachers



Card Boss



Connor Jones and Neil Craig were standout sports on the day, eagerly volunteering to be pied and drenched, adding to the lively atmosphere and helping raise additional funds. The students' dedication to planning, creating, and marketing their goods and services paid off many groups turned a profit. Market Day was not only a fun-filled experience but also a testament to the students' teamwork and entrepreneurial spirit.

A portion of the proceeds from the event will be donated to a local charity, reflecting the school's commitment to community engagement and social responsibility. This beloved annual event continues to grow in popularity, inspiring students to develop valuable life skills while giving back to the community. Congratulations to all the students, staff, and supporters who made this year's \$20 Boss Market Day a resounding success!



Nail Decorating Bosses



BBQ Bosses



Cream Pie Bosses

Men's Shed



Happy New Year!

To all the YRN readers, from the Yankalilla Men's Shed.

That is all.

Almost.

It's the start of another year and it would be remiss of me not to mention the fantastic work of the many volunteers who man tables, barbecue hot plates, stalls or work behind the scenes to make the Yankalilla Men's Shed one of the few fully, independently managed and funded Sheds in the Australian Men's Shed Association network.

Did you know it takes about 18 people to organise and run just one of the monthly Men's Shed barbecues at Bunnings. To those members who help do this every month, rain hail or shine, (you know who you are) you have the deep and sincere gratitude of all the Shed members.

While the Bunnings barbecues are the shed's main source of income, we also sell a variety of handmade wooden items such as toys, chopping boards, engraved signs and dog and cat planter boxes. Not only do our members devote their time to making these items but the various Shed market stalls throughout the year are also set up and manned by Shed members.

So, a huge thank you to all the volunteers whose efforts help make the Yankalilla Men's Shed such a successful and important institution within our region.



Shed members hard at work at the Bunnings barbecue



The Shed's stall at the famous Yankalilla Strawberry Fete



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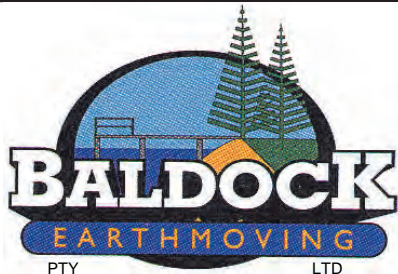
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Yankalilla Uniting Church, 121 Main South Road - Each Sunday at 9.15am

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(Willis Drive, Normanville)
 Peter Bohnsack 0400 525 690.
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Yankalilla Anglican Church

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130 Main South Road, Yankalilla (Church open daily 10-5pm).

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Yankalilla Community Church

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Yankalilla Lutheran Fellowship

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 Mike Cotton: 0416 069 337
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Please note: The views, information and/or opinions expressed in this piece are solely mine and do not reflect those of the DCY staff or other elected members. To the best of my knowledge, all data used are correct.

Do I get paid as a councillor (kind of), and what do I do with the money?

Well, the Local Government Association (LGA) doesn't call it 'pay'. As a Councillor, I get an annual allowance. There is a whole Section 5 in the Local Government Act (LGA) Called "Allowances and Benefits" that govern this matter. The allowance is set by the Remuneration Tribunal of South Australia every four years before council elections. It is then increased annually by the CPI. The Tribunal states: "The amount you get is based on factors such as the size and revenue of your council and the ratio of council members to ratepayers." For me, here is a key sentence from the Tribunal: "This allowance is to help you perform your duties." What are those listed duties? Section 59 of the LGA defines the duties of a Council Member. I think it is worth reproducing here for all of us to read (Mayors have a whole different list of duties). These are all important points. But I'll come back to the yellow highlighted duties later, and how I am using my allowance to fulfil them.

59—Roles of members of councils

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 - (i) to act with integrity; and
 - (ii) to ensure positive and constructive working relationships within the council; and
 - (iii) to recognise and support the role of the principal member under the Act; and
 - (iv) to develop skills relevant to the role of a member of the council and the functions of the council as a body; and
 - (v) to participate in the deliberations and activities of the council; and
 - (vi) to keep the council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective; and
 - (vii) to keep the council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery, under review; and
 - (viii) to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the principles set out in section 8 are observed; and
 - (ix) to participate in the oversight of the chief executive officer's performance under the council's contract with the chief executive officer; and
 - (x) to serve the overall public interest, and
 - (b) as a person elected to the council—to represent the interests of residents and ratepayers of the council, to provide community leadership and guidance, and to facilitate communication between the community and the council.

The Remuneration Tribunal created six Council Groups, with Elected Member (EM) allowances ranging from \$28,238/year for Group 1A to \$7860/year for Group 5. Note that the Mayor receives 4x the EM amount, while a Deputy Mayor receives 1.25x the EM amount. Yankalilla sits in Group 4, while big populous Councils like Onkaparinga are in Group 1A.

Let's test the logic of the Remuneration Tribunal groupings. The plots in Figure 1 look at: 1) Number of voters; 2) Rates revenue; and 3) the

Ratio of ratepayers to Elected Members for the Councils in Groups 2 through 5. All of these are plotted against the size of each Council as measured in square kilometres. Interesting plots. In each one, DCY is the green dot with a red circle. We are quite 'chummy' with the Adelaide Plains and the Renmark Paranga Councils in our plot positions. All 3 of us are in Group 4 and quite small in Council area compared to the rest of Group 4 and all of Group 5. We share similar voter numbers and rates revenue, too. There are Council areas smaller than ours in the more expensive Orange Group 3 and Blue Group 2, but those groups have higher voter numbers and much higher rates revenue to deal with. Have a look at how big the Coorong Council is, at around 8800 square kilometres! A lot of ground to cover for their 7 EMs and a Mayor. Also, Port Augusta in Group 2 always seems out of place. For its size, rates revenue and number of voters, it seems like it should be in Group 3.

Overall, and to my pleasant surprise, I think the Remuneration Tribunal appears to have the groupings mostly right. Low population, low rate-revenue earning Councils are generally in the lowest Allowance Group 5 for Elected Members. I would think that an argument could be made to move our little group of three, Yankalilla, Renmark-Paranga and Adelaide Plains into the lower paid Group 5. We are quite small Council areas, have a low ratio of voters to Elected Members, and small budgets. I do personally feel that all of the Allowance amounts across Groups 2 through 5 are too high.

Unfortunately, the workings of the Remuneration Tribunal are not open to the public to be able to precisely work out their reasoning, but overall it is hard to argue with the results too much.

The next graph (Figure 2) shows all the Councils in Groups 2 through 5 and what their ratepayers pay for their Mayors' and Elected Members' allowances, all by way of the taxes on ratepayer properties. The data in this graph are for 2024/25 and are calculated assuming that a Mayor, a Deputy Mayor and the Elected Members will serve the entire year and there are no vacancies. Remember, a Mayor receives 4x the allowance of an EM at all of these Group levels. You can see Yankalilla with our 9 Elected Members and a Mayor, at a total allowance cost of about \$147,000 for 2024/25. After the Representation Review and consultation is finalised, the Chamber will consider all relevant information, and from 2026 Yankalilla residents will find themselves in one of three scenarios: paying the same, paying more or paying less on Elected Member allowances. Time for a plug for the Representation Review Consultation! Be sure to be part of the conversation on this important decision!

<https://www.yoursayyankalilla.com.au/representation-review-2025>

Figure 2. Councils in Groups 2-5: what they pay their Mayors and Elected Members. The red arrows show the possible options for Yankalilla Council in 2026, depending on the results of the Representation Review currently underway.

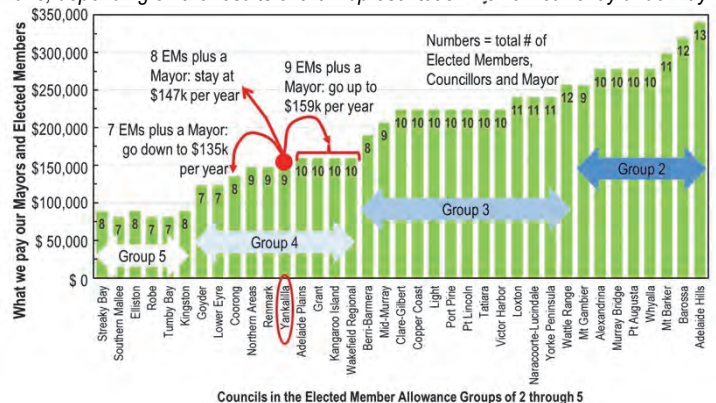
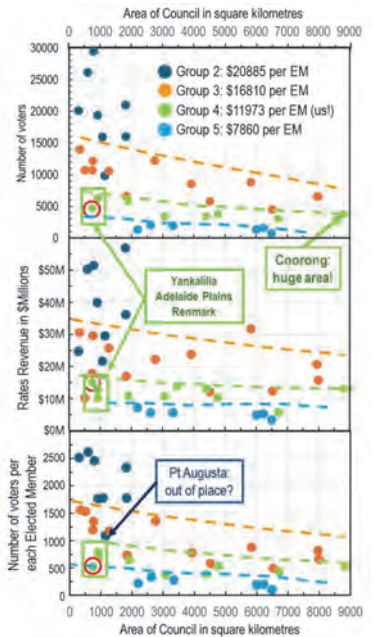


Figure 1. Councils in Elected Member Allowance Groups 2 - 5. Geographic area of each Council on the horizontal axis plotted against: Number of voters, Rates revenue in \$Millions, and number of voters per each Elected Member.



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Allowances and Benefits. I'd like to come back to the Remuneration Tribunal and the Local Government Act on the topic of allowances and benefits. Our current annual allowance in DCY is \$11,973. Also under the Act, there is an entire section on *Reimbursement of Expenses*. There are mandatory reimbursements payable to Elected Members (if they choose to claim expenses) for costs incurred during official functions and duties. An important example of this is child/dependant care expenses incurred during official activities. Travel for activities such as prescribed meetings is another mandatory reimbursement. There are also non-mandatory expenses that a Council may choose to allow reimbursement for. These non-mandatory expenses are outlined in each Council's Allowances and Benefits Policy. For 2023/24, in total Yankalilla Elected Members accrued about \$6,300 in expenses: phone, training, accommodation, fuel and mileage. Important point: this reimbursement is over and above the allowance that we are granted. I personally find the non-mandatory reimbursement scheme a complex arrangement. It costs money for Council staff to process these expense claims. If many of the Elected Members around SA claim expenses, wouldn't it be sensible to simply raise the allowance, eliminate non-mandatory expenses claims, and cut down on the reimbursement paperwork? Perhaps there are Elected Members in the other 67 Councils in SA who understand this more thoroughly. If so, I'd love to hear their thoughts. The Local Govt Act is confusing to the layperson on this topic.

Some other expenses that our Council incurred for its Elected Members in that 2023/24 period, also reported publicly as required:

- Catering for Elected Member events such as Council meetings, EM forums and training \$3,423
- Mandatory (that is, legislated) training provided to all Elected Members \$8,257

I'm happy to report that in keeping with my election commitment to examine as many non-essential expenditures by Council as can be found, EMs have cut down on catering costs. From October this year, Elected Members now pay for their own meal catering after Council meetings. For December 2024 we also organised to pay for our own lunch catering at the (really lovely) celebratory lunch in honour of our Council volunteers. I am confident we may find other opportunities to do more of this.

Finally, back to how I spend my allowance. (Remember that I am not speaking for any other Elected Member.) When I started back in September, I tried to decline acceptance of the allowance, but

was told this was not permitted. So how have I used mine in the past few months to help me conduct my duties?

As a mid-term Councillor who was voted into office in a District with some residents clearly disgruntled about the Council debt incurred by previous Chambers, our resulting tight budgetary constraints and significant rate revenue increases, I immediately realised I needed to quickly improve my skills in understanding how a Council budget works. The topic of debt and budgets was one of my two campaign platforms. Some of you may have read some of my documents on rates, budgets and debt. Have a look at item (iv) in a Councillor's duties list: *To develop skills relevant to the role of a Council member...* "I was concerned my background was lacking, so I spent some of my allowance to hire external consultants to teach me how to read and analyse budget papers.

Also have a look at Item (b) in the duty list: *"to represent the interests of ratepayers...and facilitate (and improve, in my opinion) communication between community and Council"*. This area of communication with and representation of our District's residents was an equally important campaign topic for me. To help me to establish communication lines with ratepayers, I have spent allowance money on:

- Monday morning Community catchups: venue hire, supplying coffee, tea and bikkies, and printed information articles to distribute to interested folk. It has been a great way to speak directly with folks I would never have had the opportunity to meet otherwise.
- A hired stall each month at the Yankalilla Craft and Produce Market to meet with residents, as above.
- A projector to assist in presenting documents and figures at evening Q&A sessions.

I also do my best to purchase any gear locally (e.g. stationery from the Normanville Newsagency, equipment from Mitre 10).



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Finally, I also adopted a practice of donating some of my allowance to a different non-profit organisation in our District each quarter.

Take-away message

- Elected Members do cost ratepayers in Allowances, benefits, mandated and Council approved expenses and training.
- Given the range of reimbursements Council members are permitted under the legislation, it seems to me the allowance to Council members in our District and others in the Group 4 may be too high given the size, population and workload within the Council.
- As an Elected Member I have obligations to the ratepayers and to the community in the form of the duties that are specified in detail in the Local Government Act.
- It seems quite appropriate to use the allowance to facilitate the duties that I have as an Elected Member.

Final note: While researching for this article, check out what I discovered! Under Section 76(12) of the Act, *"an Elected Member may decline to accept payment of an allowance or sitting fee."* I easily found eight Councils that have adopted this into their Elected Member Allowances and Benefits policy. Maybe it is no surprise that they are all small regional/rural Councils, much like ours. Our Yankalilla Council Allowances and



Benefits policy does not specify that an Elected Member can decline this payment, and that policy is not up for review until November 2026 (after the next Council elections). I would strongly prefer to have that flexibility as part of our policy. I could then decline that part of the allowance that I estimate I won't need through the year to accomplish my EM duties, and return it to Council. Stay tuned to my fb posts to see if I have any success with this idea.

Please feel free to ring
0477 000 137

or email

Karin.hatch@yankalilla.sa.gov.au

or visit me on Monday mornings 10am at the Yankalilla Netball clubrooms, or the Yankalilla Markets, 3rd Saturday of each month. Any issue you are interested in is worth discussing.

FRSG: Seven Years of Commitment Based on Hope

To paraphrase the words of Robert Kennedy, (JFK's brother, not his nephew!), each time someone stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, they send forth a tiny ripple of hope, and those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

Since 2017 the work of FRSG has been based simply on building community support for those seeking asylum from violence, abuse and persecution. The Fleurieu community has raised 1000s of dollars for support of refugee families and organisations through direct donations, food, clothing, accommodation and education. Australians across the country join with you in this critical refugee support. FRSG is affiliated with Circle of Friends Australia and Rural Australians for Refugees. Together with many other groups and individuals we have played a role in maintaining hope for those who have been displaced or are living in extremely challenging circumstances.

Over the last couple of years we have focussed on supporting a group of Afghan women based in Melbourne called Women for Change. They provide support for the education of girls and young women who are forbidden by the Taliban from access to schooling in any form after the age of 11. The latest vice and virtue decree bans women's voices and bare faces in public. What other place on our planet forbids women from singing or imprisons and tortures girls as young as eight years? Australia, together with Canada, Germany and the Netherlands, is taking the Taliban regime to the International Court of Justice over its oppression of women.

Nursing students of Women for Change



Your donations, through Women for Change, have provided teacher salaries, books and, in extreme winters, food for starving families. Specifically, our support in 2024 has contributed to providing education to approximately 1,200 girls and children across various locations in Afghanistan and supporting 11 aspiring midwifery students by covering their tuition fees and daily expenses. The needs far exceed what FRSG can do but, with community support, we make a difference bringing hope and joy and some peace to the very vulnerable.

Girls Studying in Afghanistan



Moving forward, we are excited to announce two events in the coming year that will raise funds through the arts of music and dance. On May 31st we'll be holding a "Music for Change" event at the Showgrounds with local musicians. This will be followed by a Bush Dance event, also at the Showgrounds, on August 30th. Please consider supporting one or both events. Your involvement will ensure ongoing support for the work of Women for Change and continue to send ripples of hope through the Afghan community. What a wonderful gift!



Yankalilla Districts Dog Park

As we left 2024, we were waiting for the results of the public consultation conducted by DCY on the proposed dog park. With over 200 responses to review and consolidate into a report for Elected Members, it was a task that could not be completed in time for the December meeting. So, any recommendations won't get to a Council Meeting agenda until January or even February 2025.

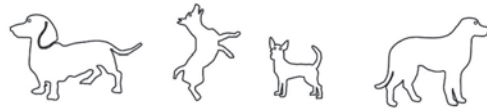
While the wait is frustrating, we console ourselves with the thought that such a huge response to the consultation is encouraging. We will continue to raise funds in the belief that this project will go ahead. As an early Christmas present, a donation of \$10,000 from the South Australian Country Women's Association arrived in our bank account! .

We couldn't miss the opportunity to have a float in the famous Normanville New Years Eve Pageant. And boy, did our fundraising committee members deliver! A fabulous doghouse containing the talented Amanda her mum Vivian, and Paul on guitar, belted out "How much is that doggie in the window" the entire pageant route. With "woof, woof" support from the crowd and other committee members walking with the float. All with velvety soft dog ears for the night!



The fundraising committee is grateful for the support of SACWA, YDRA and the many individuals and local businesses who have supported us so far with goods and donations. We will hopefully, have something more definite to tell you in the March edition of Yankalilla Regional News

YANKALILLA DISTRICTS DOG PARK



P.O Box 24, Normanville South Australia...5204

SUB COMMITTEE OF
YDRA

Amazing Grace at Christ Church

The topic of our *Walking with Jesus* gathering in November was **GRACE** and was led by Liz Gordon-Mills. This word is widely used in our society for a girl's name, a thanksgiving prayer before a meal, charm in a person's manner or appearance, a title for a person in authority (e.g. a bishop), the quality of being considerate, or a reprieve from a deserved punishment. It is

this last usage which most closely describes the use of the word in the Bible. It is easiest to explain this with the famous hymn, *Amazing Grace*, which is so widely used on solemn occasions such as Remembrance Day.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

[next page]

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The proposed Dog Park in the Yankalilla area will be funded by the community.

To help the committee raise funds, and be a hero to furry friends far and wide, you can donate using the *go-fund-me* link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/yankalilla-districts-dog-park>

YANKALILLA DISTRICTS DOG PARK



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New landscape board appointments better reflect the diverse communities they serve

17 December 2024

A diverse range of candidates including primary producers, conservationists and more women will play a key role in managing environmental issues in regional South Australia after being appointed to the state's landscape boards.

A total of 27 member positions have been filled for landscape boards covering Eyre Peninsula, Hills and Fleurieu, Kangaroo Island, Limestone Coast, Murraylands and Riverland, Northern and Yorke, and SA Arid Lands.

Landscape boards play a vital role working with their communities and stakeholders to provide strategic leadership and deliver regional priorities with a focus on land, water, animals, pests and biodiversity.

The appointment of 13 women and 14 men achieves greater gender

balance and better reflects the diversity of the communities they serve.

Five of SA's nine landscape boards will now have gender balance or female majority membership.

Current projects include reintroducing bettongs to Dhillba Guuranda-Innes National Park, restoring vital habitat for threatened woodland birds in the Mount Lofty Ranges, managing feral deer numbers in the South East and assisting land managers to optimise soil health for productivity and environmental outcomes.

A robust and competitive nomination process was undertaken before Minister for Climate, Environment and Water Susan Close appointed the board members based on their skills, knowledge and experience.

Green Adelaide and Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board appointments are managed through

a separate process.

Board members:

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board: Leanne Muffet, Jock Harvey, James Stacey*, Amelia Graham*, Sarah Day*

Kangaroo Island Landscape Board: Grant Flanagan, Jeanette Gellard, Drew Laslett, Heidi Groffen*

Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board: Kate McShane, Mark Dennis

Limestone Coast Landscape Board: Tracey Strugnell, Tom Linnell, Mark Bachmann, Dr Jonathan Sobels*

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board: Andrew Biele, Jason Size, Frances Simes, Tammy O'Malley, Brian Lund, Samantha Blight*

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board: Holly Cowan*, Leo Redden*, Leonie Kerley*

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board: Scott Michael, Jodie Harris, David Whitelaw*

*Denotes new member

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fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all and evermore" (2 Corinthians 13, v.14).

The bible story from which we teased out the evidence of the grace of Jesus was his encounter with the Syrian woman at the well (John 4, 1-42). We saw that Jesus went out if his way to meet this woman of ill repute, knowing of her desperate need for a new way of life. The "living water" or grace that she received changed her life, and that of many of the others in the town where she lived. If we can demonstrate God's grace to our neighbours, this will show them what Jesus is like and encourage them to find his grace themselves.

Koala Rescue

Kate 0410 678 954

The **STRAWBERRY FETE** on November 30 attracted a large crowd and raised a goodly sum for the work of the church. Many thanks to all the hard workers who made it possible.

SERVICES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2025 SUNDAYS

11am, Holy Communion. January 5th, 12th, 21st, February 2nd, 9th, 23rd in the church. Healing prayers on January 21st and February 23rd. 10am, "Walking with Jesus" gathering in the church hall, January 19th and February 16th. **Coffee/tea and cake to begin with.**

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Topics in 2025 with cover questions in the Bible.

FRIDAYS

9.15am, Christian meditation in the church. Bible study afterwards, all welcome.

Enquiries, Belinda Rosser, 0411591628 or Liz Gordon-Mills 0411189023.

The hymn was written by John Newton (1725-1807), pictured, an English slave trader who became an Anglican minister, a hymn writer, and later supported the end of slavery. He was transformed from an unbelieving seaman to a man of deep faith and his feeling of joy and release from his wretched state of guilt as a slave trader is obvious in this first verse of his hymn. This is the result of God's grace which is the favour and forgiveness of sin that He gives us although we don't deserve it. There are many wonderful verses about Grace in the Bible. Here are a few:
"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (1 Corinthians 12, v.9).
"By the grace of God, I am what I am" (1 Corinthians 15, v.10).
"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4, v.10).
"May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the

Care for our coastline and marine parks

3/1/25

Visitors to South Australia's national parks are encouraged to conserve our coastline to ensure they enhance their experience and safeguard the environment.

National Parks and Wildlife Service is raising awareness of the need to protect our precious beaches as locals and tourists prepare to hit the road for summer holidays.

South Australia's national parks are home to an abundance of native wildlife and vegetation, and include sites considered culturally significant to First Nations people.

Compliance will help better protect our state's unique biodiversity, and minimise the effect on threatened species of animals, including nesting shorebirds, and plants.

Visitors are encouraged to:

- Leave no trace in parks by bringing garbage bags and taking home litter as bins are not available.

- Keep dogs – except assistance dogs – out of most parks for their own safety but also to minimise the risk to native wildlife, vegetation and other visitors.

- Use gas and liquid fuel fires – apart from on total fire ban days – rather than solid-fuel fires, which are not permitted in most parks.

- Drive on established roads or tracks and avoid unauthorised areas for the safety of all visitors, and to protect sensitive nature and the environment.

National Parks and Wildlife Service Regional Operations Director Stuart Paul said raising

awareness would encourage visitors to protect our unique and beautiful coastline.

"Most visitors to our national parks and beaches behave appropriately and want to ensure they adhere to regulations," Mr Paul said.

"This reminder balances visitor enjoyment with safety and the shared responsibility that ensures our unique and valuable environments are sustainably managed."

Visitors can use National Parks and Wildlife Service's **Find a Park** tool to look for dog-friendly parks and establish where campfires are permitted.

Campers need to bring their own firewood, which must be free from dirt and weeds to avoid bringing pest species into parks. Collection of firewood within parks is prohibited.

Penalties apply for offences in national parks under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

Mr Paul said summer also provided a timely reminder for fishers to be aware of rules for marine parks, particularly the location of sanctuary zones.

"Marine parks sanctuary zones are like national parks in the sea and have a high level of protection due to their conservation value," Mr Paul said.

"Fishing in a marine parks sanctuary zone is no different to hunting in a national park. It interrupts the natural balance of the ecosystem.

"It is an offence to take or harm any plant or animal within these sanctuary zones, which means fishing is strictly prohibited."

The maximum penalty for marine park sanctuary

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zone offences are a \$100,000 fine or two years' imprisonment.

There are numerous tools available to help fishers locate sanctuary zones, including www.marineparks.sa.gov.au and smartphone apps, including SA Fishing and Deckee.

For more information about South Australia's parks and reserves, and to book, visit: www.parks.sa.gov.au/

Regular inspections the key to dam safety and longevity

16 December 2024

Farm dams play a critical role in water supply in the Mount Lofty Ranges. However, they require ongoing maintenance to ensure they continue to function effectively and avoid potential damage to people, property, and the environment.

To assist local landholders in understanding how to properly inspect and maintain their dams, Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu is offering a series of free workshops in early 2025.

Pia Charlton, Senior Stewardship Officer at Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu explained what participants can expect from the workshops.

"Farm dams are vital assets for agriculture, the environment and water security. Regular inspections and maintenance are key to preventing costly or dangerous issues.

"During these interactive workshops, participants will take part in a farm dam inspection. We'll discuss common issues that

impact dam integrity and capacity, share basic maintenance tips, and answer any questions attendees may have."

Workshop topics will include:

- How to conduct a dam inspection and what to look for

- Common dam issues and practical steps to resolve them

- Tips for improving dam water quality

- Your responsibilities as a dam owner, including how to apply for permits for major works

- Understanding your dam's role in the local catchment and broader landscape.

"Anyone with a dam on their property who wants to learn more about how to maintain it is encouraged to attend," said Pia.

The workshops will take place in Finnis, Myponga, Onkaparinga, and Gawler catchments throughout February 2025. The project also includes the establishment of two demonstration sites to showcase the benefits of improved dam management and a range of printed and digital resources for landholders.

Learn more about inspecting and maintain your dam and register for one of the free interactive workshops at landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/damsafety

This project is being delivered by Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu, in partnership with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, with funding from the South Australian Government's Landscape Priorities Fund and the Department for Environment and Water.

Five Things To Know About Maintaining Your Dam

Regular inspections: Routine checks throughout the year can help identify small issues before they become costly repairs, ensuring your dam's longevity and preventing collapse.

Attend a workshop: Learn what to look for during an inspection, when to take action, and how to properly maintain your dam.

Contact us first: Before starting any major maintenance on your dam, speak to us. Some activities may require a permit.

Work with qualified contractors: Ensure your dam is maintained by experienced contractors to avoid safety and environmental risks, and ensure you have the correct permits.

Know Your responsibilities: As a dam owner, it's your responsibility to ensure safe operation and maintenance to prevent damage to your property, neighbouring properties and the environment.

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Vale Bill Verwey

Members of the community have reached out to offer condolences at the death on 11 December of former Councillor Bill Verwey.

Bill had lived in the district for 49 years. He and his wife Julie had a home in Carrickalinga since 1977, raised their family there and watched over grandchildren who also grew up in the district. They were involved with many sporting and community organisations over the years, and Bill ultimately chose to serve as an elected member on the Council. He was elected in the February 2020 Supplementary Election, and re-elected in 2022.

In the words of his Council colleague Wayne Gibbs, as a Councillor Bill will be remembered "for his extensive interests and knowledge base, his ability to communicate and listen to local residents, and his willingness to represent them fearlessly even if this did mean standing alone in his support for what he believed". In his four years on the Council, Bill served on multiple committees as an outstanding Councillor who always put the community first. Even after he had stepped down from Council in March of 2024 to focus on his health, Bill continued to be a dedicated advocate for his community and to help out where he could.



Bill Verwey
21 May 1950 - 11 December 2024

In the words of the community members who flooded Facebook with condolences, as a man he will be remembered for his fantastic sense of humour and good nature "Very funny man!! I always enjoyed his company!!", "he always made me laugh", "He was a man that really cared", "A good man with an even better heart".

In Bill's own words, "Our District is known for its natural beauty and its cultural heritage. Protecting the character of this District and our quality of life while developing new opportunities is very important to me ... The Yankalilla District is a great place to live." He will be sadly missed.

Fiona Vogel - Copywriter
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Remembering Ena Harvey (1934- 2024)

Ena Harvey, who passed away in September last year, was a vital and positive member of the Yankalilla community. She moved into the area in the 80s with her husband Charles, leaving a life as a schoolteacher in England for sunnier skies.

The only family Ena had in Australia was Charles' brother in Victor Harbor. However, as soon as the couple moved into the first house built at Beachside Village in September 2005, Ena adopted Normanville and Normanville adopted her right back. Neighbour Ross Trigg commented that Ena's bright, fun, and cheery personality led her to befriend many and weave community around her.

Winning a Citizen of the Year award was very fitting as Ena's community involvements were legion. She was deeply committed to her Church (St Peters), active in the Ladies Probus Club and Ag Show Society, she was part of a local writer's group and at various times ran art classes and helped out with reading at the school.

Ena was the founding president of



Ena Mary Harvey
19 May 1934 - 29 September 2024

the art group that later became Gallery 88, starting in the Tea Rooms at the Showgrounds, passing through the Uniting Church Hall, and finally settling in their present site in Yankalilla. She was affectionately known as the 'Lion Tamer' for her fun but educational Quiz nights at the Yankalilla Lion's Club and her painting for their final Christmas Dinner will now be known as the Ena Harvey Perpetual Trophy.

Fiona Vogel - Copywriter
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Inman Valley Book Launch – The Vets of the Valley: Vietnam

Graham Hutchinson and Dennis Pomery, along with Peter Millard, Roger Osborn and Chris Cannin are the 5 members of the Inman Valley community who served in the Vietnam War and are honoured on the Board in the Inman Valley Memorial Hall.

But these men are more than just a name on an Honour Board.

The stories of these men growing up in the Valley and their service in Vietnam is the subject of a new book being launched at the Inman

Valley Memorial Hall on February 9th. You are invited to come along and learn more about our Vietnam Veterans and their service.

Anne Wills, entertainer of the troops during the Vietnam War years, will be the guest speaker and afternoon tea of fresh scones will be available for a small fee. See details below or look us up on Eventbrite.

Registrations are requested for catering purposes.

THE VETS OF THE VALLEY: VIETNAM

BOOK LAUNCH

Join us in celebrating the release of **The Vets of the Valley: Vietnam!**

9 Feb 2025, 2PM-5PM (formalities start at 2:30PM) at the **Inman Valley Memorial Hall**

Afternoon Tea
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Guest Speaker
Anne 'Willsy' Wills

Please RSVP via Eventbrite for catering purposes

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Free greenhouse gas emission profiles for farmers

11 December 2024

Farmers in the Hills and Fleurieu region have a chance to learn more about how much greenhouse gas their farms produce, giving them more power to manage their carbon footprint and leverage opportunities in the market.

Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu is offering a free emissions profile, worth \$2000, to eligible farmers in the region and is now calling for applications.

John Butler, Climate-ready Agriculture Coordinator at

Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu explained how the program will benefit farmers.

"Now, more than ever, understanding and managing emissions is critical. As climate commitments from governments, corporations, and banks intensify, farmers will need to measure and manage their carbon footprint to meet regulatory and market expectations.

"This is a great program because it helps kick-start the process for farmers. The first step is measuring emissions, because you can't manage what you don't measure," he said.

The emissions audit will provide crucial data on the farm's greenhouse gas emissions from sources like livestock, fertilisers, and fuel usage.

"Farmers who join the program will get a detailed report about their emissions and will have a head start in managing them. The data will also be used to contribute to a regional profile, which will inform the development of strategies to manage greenhouse gas emissions across the whole region.

Willow Creek beef farmer Derek Walter participated in a pilot program to get an emissions profile

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of his 150-hectare farm and found it beneficial.

"We wanted to be involved because we don't know what our future customers will want from our production system. We believe that the more data we have, the better, so this program has been very useful," he said.

"With major food companies,

banks, and insurers committing to net-zero emissions by 2050, engaging in carbon accounting is becoming an unavoidable aspect of farm business management, so this is a great opportunity to get on the front foot," John added.

To learn more, check eligibility and complete an application form, visit

landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/emissionsprofile

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