

Southern Limestone Coast Council Community Newsletter



Edition | August 2026



Playground Upgrades for Tarpeena

Southern Limestone Coast Council is inviting community members to share their thoughts on proposed upgrades to the playground facilities at the Tarpeena Recreation Reserve. The proposed design for the playground includes two play structures, swings, and ground-level elements as well as all-ages exercise equipment. Read more about the proposal and how to get involved on **Page 4**.



Page 3
Community Grant Scheme



Page 5
Out & About with Council



Page 6
Have Your Say

Your Council

Council Decisions

Local Heritage Survey Stage 3: Following community consultation in June and July 2026, Council were presented with all community submissions received and the response of the Heritage Advisor to each submission. Modifications were made to the original heritage recommendations based on these.

Council approved the commencement of Stage 4 of the Local Heritage Survey project, which is a Code Amendment process to incorporate the amended recommendations into the Planning and Design Code.

Further community consultation will occur as the Local Heritage Survey proceeds through the code amendment process.



Australia Day Celebrations 2027: Council received and noted a report from the Awards Advisory Group regarding the planning of the 2027 Citizen of the Year Awards.

Council endorsed the group's recommendation to host the awards ceremony recognising the winners and nominees of the 2027 Citizen of the Year Awards at the Mil-Lel Memorial Hall. Nominations for the Awards are open all year through <https://citizenoftheyear.com.au/>.

Upcoming Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday **21 September 2026**, commencing 5:30pm in the Council Chamber, 324 Commercial St. West, Mount Gambier.

MAYOR



Kylie Boston

0407 231 547

kylie.boston@slcc.sa.gov.au

COUNCILLORS

Central Ward



Brad Mann

0459 965 282

brad.mann@slcc.sa.gov.au



Megan Dukalskis

0418 251 988

megan.dukalskis@slcc.sa.gov.au



Katherine Greene

0423 933 228

katherine.greene@slcc.sa.gov.au



Bruce Bain

0418 858 208

bruce.bain@slcc.sa.gov.au



Gavin Clarke

0410 627 769

gavin.clarke@slcc.sa.gov.au



Peter Duncan

0439 538 545

peter.duncan@slcc.sa.gov.au



Barry Kuhl

0428 389 202

barry.kuhl@slcc.sa.gov.au

Port MacDonnell Ward



Rodney Virgo

0401 469 228

rodney.virgo@slcc.sa.gov.au



Tarpeena Ward

Karen Turnbull

0418 852 242

karen.turnbull@slcc.sa.gov.au

Reminders & Information

Positive Ageing Luncheons

From 29 September to 2 October 2026, Council will host a series of luncheons at locations across the district to celebrate SA's Week of Ageing Well:

- **Tuesday 29 September:** Victoria Hotel, Port MacDonnell
- **Wednesday 30 September:** The Bellum Hotel, Mount Schank
- **Thursday 1 October:** The Rocks Tavern, Carpenter Rocks
- **Friday 2 October:** The Pines Hotel, Tarpeena.

Residents of the district ages 55+ are invited to come along, dressed in the iconic styles of their birth decade! Enjoy lunch, live entertainment and the chance to catch up with friends or meet new people in the community. All events commence at 11:30am.

This is a free event with lunch provided. RSVPs are essential by **Monday 21 September 2026** to Council's Community Development Team by calling 08 8738 3000 or emailing pmcc@slcc.sa.gov.au.

Club Governance Workshop

The Southern Limestone Coast Council is partnering with the Connected and Active Communities Program to host a free Club Governance Workshop this October for clubs and community groups within the district.

To ensure the day is relevant, Council is seeking input from clubs and groups on the topics they're most interested in hearing about. Complete the short survey at: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/efMLjuRZsz>

Save the Date:

- Sunday 18 October 2026
- Mount Gambier Regional Airport
- 9:00am - 1:00pm
- Lunch provided
- Guest speakers TBA



Bushfire Prevention

Each year during the months of October and November, depending on seasonal conditions, properties are assessed for compliance against the Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations.

As the weather changes, it can be helpful to get a start on property maintenance to reduce the workload as Fire Danger Season approaches.

The Country Fire Service will release the official Fire Danger Season dates for the Lower South East region in the coming months.

Check Your Enrolment - Local Government Elections

Shape your world and make sure you're enrolled to vote in the upcoming 2027 local government elections!

You must be enrolled to be eligible to vote. Enrolling is quick, easy, and can be done online or by paper form. If you're already enrolled to vote in SA state elections, you'll automatically be enrolled to vote in council elections. A ballot pack will be sent to your registered mailing address as we approach the election next year.

If you don't reside in the Southern Limestone Coast Council, you may still be eligible to enrol if you own a property, run a business, or represent an organisation in the council area.

Check your enrolment and update your details by heading to <https://www.councilelections.sa.gov.au/enrol>.

The Council voters roll closes 5pm **Monday 4 January 2027**.



Support on Offer Through Council's Community Grants Scheme

11 August 2026

Media Release

Round 1 of Southern Limestone Coast Council's 2026–2027 Community Grants Scheme is now open, with applications invited from community groups, sporting clubs and not-for-profit organisations across the district.

Council contributions of up to \$5,000 are available for projects and events that enhance community wellbeing and encourage participation in social and leisure activities.

Mayor Kylie Boston said the annual grant program supports the long-term sustainability of community-led organisations by providing the opportunity to try new ideas, expand services and programs, and invest in local amenities.

“From planning a community event or purchasing new equipment to infrastructure upgrades and general maintenance, the Community Grants Scheme can help deliver important projects that benefit our community,” Mayor Boston said.

Three separate funding opportunities are available as part of the scheme:

- Community participation grants of up to \$500,
- Council co-funding of 75% of project costs up to a maximum contribution of \$3,000, or
- Council co-funding of 50% of project costs up to a maximum contribution of \$5,000.

Eligible applicants must be based within the Southern Limestone Coast Council area or be affiliated with or provide services to residents of the district.

Organisations must be incorporated not-for-profits, although unincorporated groups may apply under an auspice agreement, noting that Council cannot act as the auspicer.

Chief Executive Officer Gary Button urged interested organisations to apply soon as applications will be assessed on a rolling basis.

“Support is also available from Council staff for anyone wanting to discuss their eligibility and project suitability prior to lodging an application,” Mr Button said.

Further information and online application forms can be found at <https://yoursay.slcc.sa.gov.au/2026-2027-community-grants-scheme-1>.

Hard copy application packs and a Fact Sheet for the grant scheme are also available at Council's Principal Office at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier.

Applications close at 5:00pm on **Friday 11 September 2026**.



Pictured: The Mount Gambier & District Pony Club upgraded to new steel yards (above) and the Glenburnie Memorial Hall was repainted (below) with contributions from the 2025 Community Grants Scheme.



Community Feedback Sought on Tarpeena Playground Upgrades

19 August 2026

Media Release

Southern Limestone Coast Council is inviting community members to share their thoughts on proposed upgrades to the playground facilities at the Tarpeena Recreation Reserve.

The playground upgrades are the latest investment in Tarpeena's open spaces, following on from the installation of 1.2km of new lighting alongside the shared path earlier this year.

Southern Limestone Coast Council Mayor Kylie Boston said the project aims to deliver something special for the families and young people of Tarpeena as well as the wider community.

"Quality playgrounds and open spaces make our townships more attractive places to live and visit," Mayor Boston said.

"This investment will deliver modern, fit-for-purpose amenities for Tarpeena, creating more opportunities for people to connect and spend time outdoors."

The proposed design for the playground includes two play structures, swings, and ground-level elements as well as all-ages exercise equipment. The plans also feature accessible pathways and recreational amenities to ensure the space is welcoming and inclusive for the whole community.

Chief Executive Officer Gary Button said the playground upgrades were informed by Council's Inner Townships Masterplan and Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2026-2030, both of which set out Council's commitment to modern and inclusive open spaces.

"This project puts Council's long-term planning into action by responding to identified community needs and embedding accessibility from the outset."

"Council is focused on delivering a well-planned and durable facility that provides lasting value for the community," Mr Button said.

Consultation closes 5pm **Tuesday 8 September 2026.**



Consultation Information on Page 6

Out & About With Council

Vietnam Veterans Day

Mayor Kylie Boston placed a wreath at the Vansittart Park war memorial in honour of Vietnam Veterans Day on 18 August 2026. The date marks the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966.



Academic Excellence

Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Turnbull attended the Mount Gambier High School scholarship ceremony, where Kelsie Anderson was awarded Council's Academic Scholarship for 2026.



SALA Festival Launch

Mayor Kylie Boston and artist Tony Flint opened the *Real and Imagined* exhibition at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex on Sunday 9 August 2026, celebrating the South Australian Living Artists Festival.



Have Your Say



In 2023, Council resolved to explore no-cost options for installing Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations at strategically located sites across the district.

A shortlist of potential locations has now been presented to Council as possible locations for future EV infrastructure and endorsed for consultation to understand the community's preferences. A tender process has also begun for the installation of EV charging stations.

Identified locations

Council is looking for feedback on six locations that have been identified as meeting the criteria for an appropriate and strategically located EV charging station:

- Port MacDonnell
 - a. Charles Street, adjacent to the water tower
 - b. Skate Park carpark
 - c. Sea Parade carpark near the playground and dock
- Mount Gambier and District Saleyards
- Mount Gambier Regional Airport
- Tarpeena Recreation Reserve near the public toilet block.

Additional locations

If there is an additional or alternative location that you feel Council should consider, that information will help to ensure that future EV charging infrastructure supports the needs of the community.

Share your thoughts, vote for your favourite location, or suggest an alternative by 5pm **Friday 28 August 2026**.

Tarpeena Playground Upgrade

In 2024, Council undertook an assessment of existing playgrounds across the district to develop a strategic roadmap to effectively plan and manage the district's play assets. Tarpeena Playground was identified as a priority project and a design for upgrades to the facilities was endorsed for public consultation at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 17 August 2026.

The updates are now available for community members to review, with Council seeking feedback on:

- What is **successful** about the design?
- Is it **welcoming, accessible** and **inclusive**?
- What could be **added or altered** to improve how the community uses the playground?

Share your thoughts by 5pm **Tuesday 8 September 2026**.



Your Say SLCC

Your Say is Council's dedicated consultation platform, where community members can submit their feedback on open projects.

Feedback is also accepted by:

- Emailing info@slcc.sa.gov.au
- Collecting and completing a hardcopy form from:
 - Southern Limestone Coast Council Principal Office, 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier
 - Port MacDonnell Community Complex, 5-7 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell
- Sending a letter to PO Box 724, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Browse open projects, funding opportunities, service updates, expressions of interest and more at
<https://yoursay.slcc.sa.gov.au>.



Community Grants & Funding

Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program

Apply now →



Eligible organisations can now apply for funding through the 2026-27 Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program, offered through the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

The objective of the program is to provide access to funding for the development of sustainable, functional, inclusive and fit-for-purpose active recreation and sport facilities that meet the current and future needs of the South Australian community.

Funding from \$5,000 to \$750,000 is available for eligible organisations, including not-for-profit sporting clubs and facilities and school boards.

A new two-stage application process has been designed to reduce the administrative burden on applicants for the 2026-2027 program:

- **Stage 1 - Registration of Interest (ROI)**

Applicants submit a short application providing high-level information about their project, including project need, expected outcomes, indicative costs and readiness for delivery.

- **Stage 2 - Full Application (invitation only)**

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a detailed application with supporting documents such as estimates, quotes, plans and funding evidence.

ROIs close 12:00pm **Friday 4 September 2026**. To read the program guidelines and apply online, visit: <https://www.orsr.sa.gov.au/grants/infrastructure-projects>

If you would like to discuss your project or have specific questions regarding eligibility, please contact the ORSR Funding Services team directly on 1300 714 990 or ORSR.Grants@sa.gov.au.

Alinta Energy Community Grants Program

The Alinta Energy Community Grants Program aims to support small to medium not-for-profit organisations delivering initiatives that support people and communities experiencing disadvantage or projects that contribute to environmental sustainability.

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available for projects that either assist members of the community in need, or restore natural ecosystems, reduce the consumption of natural resources and/or reduce waste.

Read more about eligibility requirements and past successful recipients here:

<https://www.alintaenergy.com.au/about-us/community/community-development-fund/community-grants>

Applications close **Wednesday 30 September 2026**.

Regional Capability Community Fund

Round 5 of the CFS Regional Capability Fund is now open for applications from individual farmers, farming businesses and rural landholders.

Three funding streams are available:

- **Farm Fire Unit:** \$5,000 reimbursements for new Farm Fire Units.
- **Safety Equipment:** \$1,000 reimbursements for equipment such as first aid burn kits, fire-rated protective clothing, heat shields and woollen fire blankets.
- **Other Equipment:** \$1,000 reimbursements for hoses, water pumps, water tanks with fill points, and UHF/CB radios.

Apply online by visiting: <https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/business-farms/farm-fire-units/grants/>

Applications close **Friday 18 September 2026**.

Community Events

Free event

Vermiculture systems for soil health

Join us for the launch of the Vermiculture System to Improve Soil Health and Nutrient Cycling project, a two-year trial investigating the benefits of vermi-cast and vermi-liquid products produced through an on-farm vermiculture system.

3 September 2026 11 am

Topics include:

- Why worm farming and worm castings are being researched.
- How vermiculture systems work.
- Feedstocks and preparation.
- How worm brew is produced.
- Beneficial microbes found in worm cast concentrate.
- Benefits of worm castings and worm brew for pasture.
- Understanding biological inputs.
- Trial layout and treatments.
- Soil testing and monitoring.
- Applying worm brew to pasture.

Register here



The Vermiculture System to improve Soil Health and Nutrient Cycling in the Limestone Coast project is supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program and delivered for the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel, by Liam Neil Kemp.



Our Hall. Our Community. Our Future.

AGM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Everyone is welcome!

Have your say, hear what's been happening at the Hall, and help shape the future of this important community asset.

TUESDAY
1 SEPTEMBER

7.00PM

Y AHL MEMORIAL HALL

RSVPs and apologies
to Kerry

0409 223 013

Our Hall has been bringing the community together since 1919.
Let's keep it thriving for generations to come.



CONNECTING INDUSTRY IICA TECHNOLOGY EXPO MOUNT GAMBIER 2026

Earn CPD Points

Don't miss the chance to explore the latest in automation, instrumentation, and process control through interactive displays and live demonstrations. Connect with colleagues and build new relationships at our industry's largest networking event.

Wednesday, 2 September
The Barn, 747 Glenelg River Road Mount Gambier, SA 5291
12pm to 6:30pm

Sponsored by:



General Exhibitors:



www.iica.org.au



Visit iica.org.au/events to pre-register and avoid the queues. Discover the latest innovations in automation, instrumentation, and process control, connect with industry professionals, and engage with peers to stay informed. Together, let's be part of the conversation shaping the future of our industry.

Free online presentation



Be Connected
Every Australian online.

Helpful apps for your smart device

Want to learn about helpful apps for your smart device? Join a free live streamed presentation for older Australians, hosted by the eSafety Commissioner.



Apps, or applications, are the programs you use on your smart device to get things done. With millions of apps available to choose from they can seem confusing at first, but we'll give you some tips to get the greatest benefit from your apps so you can use them with confidence.

Join our presentation to learn: When: Tuesday 15 September 2026

- what an app is
- where to find and download an app
- which apps might be helpful and interesting to you
- tips about managing your apps.

Time: 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Where: Community Complex
Phone 8738 3000



eSafety Commissioner

This program has been developed by eSafety as part of the Be Connected initiative.

Community Events



For kids aged 8+ who are new to tennis
Junior "Come & Try Days"

Wednesdays 9, 16 & 23 September | 4.30pm

A fun introduction to tennis for kids
who want to try something new.

No experience necessary • Racquets supplied • All welcome



Want to register or learn more?
Contact Will Boston at 0455 099 721

Location: Mt Schank Tennis Courts, nestled at the base of Mt Schank

Come join a club that values fun, friendship, and fair play.
We'd love to welcome you to the court!



CHAIR BASED YOGA & TAI CHI



Improve Strength • Balance • Flexibility • Wellbeing

LOOKING FOR A GENTLE WAY TO STAY ACTIVE?

Join our **Chair Based Yoga & Tai Chi**
sessions designed to improve:



BALANCE &
STABILITY



FLEXIBILITY &
MOBILITY



STRENGTH &
POSTURE



RELAXATION &
WELLBEING

PERFECT FOR:

- ✓ Seniors
- ✓ Anyone with limited mobility
- ✓ Beginners
- ✓ People returning to exercise

Everyone Welcome! ♥



LOCATION
City Hall
Reception Area



TIME
2:30pm – 3:30pm



WHAT TO BRING
Comfortable
clothing



Water
bottle



Positive
attitude



SESSION DATES

- ✓ 31st July
- ✓ 7th August
- ✓ 14th August
- ✓ 21st August
- ✓ 28th August
- ✓ 4th September
- ✓ 18th September
- ✓ 25th September
- ✓ 9th October
- ✓ 23rd October
- ✓ 30th October
- ✓ 13th November
- ✓ 20th November
- ✓ 27th November

Move at your pace.
FEEL STRONGER EVERY DAY.



SOUTHERN LIMESTONE COAST COUNCIL

Positive Ageing Luncheons

Council invites residents of the district ages 55+ to attend a Positive Ageing Luncheon in celebration of South Australia's Week of Ageing Well 2026.

Tuesday 29 September

Victoria Hotel, Port MacDonnell

Thursday 1 October

The Rocks Tavern, Carpenter Rocks

Wednesday 30 September

The Bellum Hotel, Mount Schank

Friday 2 October

The Pines Hotel, Tarpeena



SOUTHERN
LIMESTONE
COAST
COUNCIL

All events commence at 11:30am
Dress in the iconic styles of your birth decade!

Free event. Bookings essential to Council's
Community Development Team:
08 8738 3000 | pmcc@slcc.sa.gov.au

Notices



H5 bird flu
Report sick or dead birds and wildlife

1800 675 888

birdflu.sa.gov.au

Government of South Australia

Ongoing H5 Bird Flu Response

South Australia continues to respond to detections of H5 Bird Flu across the state. Early detection is critical and community members are encouraged to remain vigilant.

If you see sick or dead birds or other wildlife, do not touch them. Avoid contact. Record what you see. Report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

For more information on the statewide response and advice for pet and poultry owners, head to the Government of South Australia's Bird Flu hub at: <https://www.birdflu.sa.gov.au/>.



Youth Advisory Group
Ages 15 - 24

Help shape the future of sport and recreation for young people.

We need diverse voices, fresh ideas, and passionate youth to help drive positive change in sport, recreation and active communities.

Expression of interest →

Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

Expressions of Interest for ORSR Youth Advisory Group

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) is seeking diverse voices and fresh perspectives to join its Youth Advisory Group. The group provides advice and insights on issues in sport that affect young people and contribute to the development of youth-focused sport and recreation projects and strategies.

To be eligible, you must be:

- Between 15 and 24 years old, living in South Australia
- Have an interest in and understanding of issues affecting youth participation in sport and active recreation
- Have or be willing to obtain a Working with Children Check
- Be available to attend up to 4 meetings per year either online or in person.

To express your interest in joining the ORSR Youth Advisory Group, complete the EOI form: <https://bit.ly/4fSWlvS>

Applications close **31 August 2026**.



Honour Awards

TAFE SA Honour Awards

Nominations for the TAFE SA Honour Awards are now open, celebrating the success of TAFE graduates across career levels, industries and communities. There are eight categories accepting nominations, including the Regional Impact Award.

Anybody can submit a nomination for an outstanding TAFE graduate, and self-nominations are also encouraged.

Nominations are open until 21 September 2026 and can be submitted online here: <https://www.tafesa.edu.au/about-tafesa/honour-awards>

Notices

Do you know what it's like?

Have you experienced poverty or hardship in the last 5 years? Be part of our next research project.



Poverty & Inequality

Always,
Usually,
Sometimes.
#AUS_poverty



Not sure where to start? Join our Community of Practice

Are you looking to strengthen your workplace culture, recruitment practices or staff retention?

Join local employers & industry leaders in the Lower South East who are learning about how to improve disability access and inclusion.

Our Community of Practice is a supportive space to learn, share & grow alongside others on the same journey.

Outcomes:

- Stronger retention of staff
- More attractive job advertisements
- Access to free trainings and individualised support
- A network of people on the same journey as you.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact:

- rubyg@purpleorange.org.au
- 08 8373 8346



The Regional Employment Project is proud to be a fully funded program thanks to the Ian Potter Foundation and JFA Purple Orange.



HEALTH
HIVE
TOGETHER WE THRIVE



FREE ONLINE COURSE



Foundations in Public Health Research & Advocacy for Young People

Supporting safe, inclusive, and sustained youth engagement in public health research and advocacy for 14-24 year olds, featuring a free, open-access online course. Funded by an MRFF Grant (#2023165).

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

✉ health.hive@sydney.edu.au

📱 @YouthHealthHive



LIVE
NOW!

Forgetting Something?

There's still time to complete the Census



Census

