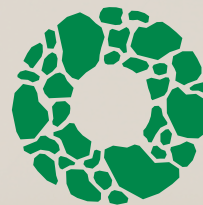


Southern Limestone Coast Council Community Newsletter



Edition | July 2026



Yarns over the Yardrails 2026

Yarns over the Yardrails returned to the Mount Gambier & District Saleyards on Wednesday 22 July 2026, bringing together community members across farming, primary production, agriculture and related industries. Approximately 50 people attended the event hosted by Council and sponsored by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) Family and Business Support Program. Read more on **Page 5**.



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SALA at Port MacDonnell

Your Council

Mayor's Message

1st July 2026 marks the 30th anniversary of the amalgamation between the District Council of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Port MacDonnell, a significant milestone in the history of our Council and our community.

Over the past three decades, Council has evolved from the foundations established through amalgamation into a strong, progressive and community-focused organisation.

Elected Members and I are incredibly proud of what Council has achieved over the past 30 years. Together with our staff, community groups, volunteers, and residents, we have delivered projects and services that have strengthened our region, improved local infrastructure, supported economic growth and enhanced the quality of life for our community.

Council continues to embrace new opportunities while remaining focused on the needs and aspirations of our residents.

As we reflect on this anniversary, it is important to acknowledge the contributions of Elected Members who have served before us and helped shape Council as we know it today. Their dedication, vision and hard work have laid the foundations for future generations.

While we celebrate our achievements, we also look forward with confidence and optimism. The past 30 years have demonstrated what can be accomplished when communities work together, and I have no doubt that our organisation will continue to grow and thrive in the years ahead under the new name Southern Limestone Coast Council.

I thank everyone who has contributed to Council's journey and look forward to continuing to build a vibrant, connected and prosperous future for our region.

Upcoming Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday **17 August 2026**, commencing 5:30pm in the Council Chamber, 324 Commercial St. West, Mount Gambier.

MAYOR



Kylie Boston

0407 231 547

kylie.boston@dcgrant.sa.gov.au

COUNCILLORS

Central Ward



Brad Mann

0459 965 282

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Megan Dukalskis

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megan.dukalskis@dcgrant.sa.gov.au



Katherine Greene

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Bruce Bain

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Gavin Clarke

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Peter Duncan

0439 538 545

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Barry Kuhl

0428 389 202

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Port MacDonnell Ward



Rodney Virgo

0401 469 228

rodney.virgo@dcgrant.sa.gov.au



Tarpeena Ward

Karen Turnbull

0418 852 242

karen.turnbull@dcgrant.sa.gov.au

Reminders & Information



Art-Ability Winner Unveiled

New signage has been installed at the entrance to Council's Principal Office. The sign features People's Choice Award winning artwork "Curles of Colour" by Ella Castleman from the 2025–2026 Art-Ability Exhibition, celebrating the diverse talents of people living with disability.

The project was undertaken following approval from the artist and purchaser of the original artwork and enhances the presentation of the Council entrance while showcasing regional artistic talent and community inclusion.

Art-Ability will return in 2027 with more information to be released on the International Day of Disability 3 December 2026.

2026/2027 FOGO Collections

From **1 July 2026**, all properties signed up to the Food Organics & Garden Organics (FOGO) kerbside service must display the 2026-2027 bin tag on their green FOGO bin.

The tag fee for 2026-2027 is \$90. Tags can be purchased from either Council's Principal Office in Mount Gambier or the Community Complex in Port MacDonnell.

If you received a FOGO bin as part of the service trial and **do not wish** to continue with the ongoing FOGO kerbside collections, please contact Council to have your green bin removed.

Speed Limit Requests

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 20 July 2026, Council was presented with two requests to amend speed limits on roads in the district due to concerns about driver confusion and public safety.

As speed limits are established by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT), Council resolved to refer the requests to DIT with the following recommendations:

- Introduction of a 60km/h speed limit on residential roads adjoining Sherwin Road, namely Mil-Lei Drive, Highfield Avenue, Acorn Drive and Rexwells Court,
- Introduction of a 60km/h speed limit for the entire length of Crafter Road.

Council also resolved that future requests for speed limit amendments be brought before Council in six-month increments to streamline the process.

More information about these resolutions can be found on Council's website at:

www.slcc.sa.gov.au/council/meetings/ordinary.

Dog Registrations Due



Annual dog registrations are now due for pet owners across the district. Each owner of a registered dog should now have received renewal information via their nominated contact method.

DACO has been experiencing service disruptions which may make online renewal difficult for some customers. Renewals and payment can also be made by calling Council on (08) 8721 0444.

Registrations are due by **31 August 2026**.

Reminders & Information

New at the Hangar Gallery



Local aviation history is on show at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport's Hangar Gallery in a new exhibition from the Mount Gambier Aviation Museum.

The exhibition features a radial engine from an Avro Anson and a Fairey Fireflash missile used for testing at Womera, supported by an interactive video display of the aircraft used at the base during WWII, intricate models, and photographs from across the decades of aviation in the region.

The free exhibit will run until the end of August, leading up to the official opening of the Aviation Museum in mid-September.

Changes to Council's Website & Social Media

As part of the name change and brand identity update, Council has made changes to the URLs of its website and online profiles. You can now find Council at:



www.slcc.sa.gov.au/



facebook.com/SthnLCC



[instagram.com/sthnlimestonecoastcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/sthnlimestonecoastcouncil)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/southern-limestone-coast-council/>

2027 Local Government Elections

The Electoral Commission of South Australia has released an updated timetable for the 2027 Local Government periodic elections. The changes follow the passing of the Local Government (Elections) (Periodic Elections) Amendment Act 2026 earlier this month.

The key dates include:

- **Close of voting roll:** Monday 4 January 2027
- **Nominations open:** Tuesday 26 January 2027
- **Nominations close:** Tuesday 9 February 2027
- **Close of voting (Polling Day):** 5pm on Wednesday 7 April 2027
- **Scrutiny and count:** 9am on Saturday 10 April 2027

In the lead up to the election period, residents are encouraged to check their eligibility and enrol to vote to ensure they can have their say.

Council will continue to share updates as more information is released. For the most up-to-date and legitimate information, please visit the following sites:

Electoral Commission SA:

- <https://www.ecsa.sa.gov.au/elections/current-elections>

Council Elections SA:

- <https://www.councilelections.sa.gov.au/>

AusAlert National Test Survey

SAFECOM are seeking feedback on the recent national test of the AusAlert system on 27 July 2026.

People are encouraged to complete the survey regardless of whether they received the AusAlert message. Reports from people who did not receive the message are just as valuable and will help to understand how different devices, mobile networks, locations, and settings responded during the test.

To complete the confidential survey, please visit <https://shorturl.at/b5W3E>.

Reminders & Information

Avian Influenza Information

Several cases of H5 bird flu have been detected across South Australia, including cases in the Limestone Coast.

State and Federal Government agencies are coordinating the Avian Influenza response, with an Incident Management Team operating 7-days per week, bringing together specialists from across government and industry who are trained in emergency response and biosecurity.

Individuals have an important role to play as early detection is critical. Community members are encouraged to remain vigilant, especially coastal communities where migratory birds are present and anyone with backyard poultry. Additional caution should also be taken by pet owners such as minimising roaming to reduce the risk of interaction with wild birds, and keeping dogs on-lead when walking in wildlife areas.

If you see sick or dead birds or other wildlife, remember to avoid contact, record what you see, and report it the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Information and resources as well as rolling updates are available at <https://www.birdflu.sa.gov.au/>.

H5 bird flu Know what to do

-  **AVOID** contact with sick or dead birds and wildlife. Keep pets away.
-  **RECORD** what you see. Take photos or video if you can.
-  **REPORT** to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

 Government of South Australia



2026 Census

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is undertaking the next national Census on Tuesday 11 August 2026.

From late July 2026, households will receive instructions via post on how to complete the Census. Most households will get a letter with instructions to complete the Census online, though paper forms are also available upon request. The Census can be completed as soon as you get your instructions, if you know where you'll be on Census night.

The Census is compulsory for all Australian households. Participation ensures the Census delivers a complete picture of Australia, helping governments and communities plan for the future. The Census helps inform decisions about transport, schools, health care, infrastructure and business.

To access supports or read more about what to expect from the Census, please visit <https://info.census.abs.gov.au/>.

Public Library Feedback

The South Australian Public Library Network (SAPLN) is undertaking a survey to understand how SA's public libraries can continue to meet the needs of local communities.

The Port MacDonnell library within the Community Complex is proudly part of the SAPLN's One Card system, which provides access to millions of library items and resources shared across the state.

Share your feedback through the SAPLN survey to help improve library services for our community:
<https://libraries.sa.gov.au/feedback>

Yarns over the Yardrails 2026

Yarns over the Yardrails returned to the Mount Gambier & District Saleyards on Wednesday 22 July 2026, bringing together community members across farming, primary production, agriculture and related industries.

Hosted by Council and sponsored by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) Family and Business Support Program, the event aimed to share practical insights on a range of topics from carbon farming to personal wellbeing while building stronger local connections through the Saleyards.

“Yarns over the Yardrails is not only about sharing useful information; it’s also about creating connections and making sure people know support is available when it is needed,” Mayor Kylie Boston said, opening the event.

“Sometimes simply having a yarn
and hearing from others who
understand the challenges can make
all the difference.”

The day’s conversations included a presentation from Todd Woodard of Peel Pastoral who explained his experience with carbon credits, providing an overview of the ecological and financial benefits of carbon-smart farming applied locally.

Donna Jaeschke from De Garis lawyers demystified succession planning and how to get started with trust structures to ensure farming families can retire securely, and Tracey Wanganeen highlighted the different health and wellbeing services available locally through the Medicare Mental Health Centre.

After lunch, keynote speaker Marc Ryan brought the day to a head with a comedy set, touching on his own lived experience of mental health challenges, the common struggles faced by regional communities, and how to stay hopeful in uncertain times - with a few big laughs along the way.

Council CEO Gary Button closed the event by saying “Yarns over the Yardrails has been an event very close to our hearts and we are delighted to build on the success of last year’s event by bringing the community together once again.”

Council thanks PIRSA for their sponsorship of the event and extends gratitude to the stakeholders and attendees who made the day a success.

Links to further resources from PIRSA and services for farmers can be found on Council’s website:

www.slcc.sa.gov.au/services/saleyards/support-for-farmers



Pictured: Mayor Kylie Boston, Saleyards Strategy Committee Presiding Member Councillor Barry Kuhl and CEO Gary Button with guest speakers.



Pictured (clockwise): Todd Woodard, Marc Ryan, Tracey Wanganeen and Donna Jaeschke presenting.

New Citizens Welcomed

Seven district residents became Australian citizens at the June 2026 Citizenship Ceremony, hailing from New Zealand, Brazil, Thailand and the Philippines. Supported by their families, friends and community members in the audience, they made their citizenship pledge with Mayor Kylie Boston who presided over the ceremony.

Tony Pasin MP delivered the Minister's Message from the Hon. Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration and Citizenship, which welcomes all new citizens to Australia.

Southern Limestone Coast Council warmly congratulates our new citizens on this important occasion and is honoured that they have chosen our district as the place they call home. Their experiences, skills and perspectives will be a welcome addition to our vibrant community.



SALA Festival at Port MacDonnell

27 July 2026

Media Release

Southern Limestone Coast Council will host an exhibition by acclaimed artist Tony Flint as part of the upcoming South Australian Living Artists (SALA) Festival.

From Monday 3 August 2026, Tony Flint's *Real and Imagined* will be on display at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex, bringing together paintings from across his career that explore the Australian landscape alongside contemporary issues.

Drawing on his long connection to regional Victoria and South Australia as well as his experience in opal mining, the works in *Real and Imagined* combine countryside scenes with depictions of industry and its impacts.

Tony Flint describes the works in the collection as both real and surreal, with elements from one existing landscape superimposed on another to create new meaning.

"The paintings are invitations to think about how human activity collides with the natural world," Mr Flint said.

Southern Limestone Coast Council Mayor Kylie Boston said Council was pleased to contribute an exhibition to the SALA Festival, highlighting Council's strong commitment to supporting arts and culture across the district.

"Between the gallery space at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex and the Mount Gambier Regional Airport's Hangar Gallery, Council is proud to provide exhibition opportunities for both local talent and nationally renowned artists such as Mr Flint," Mayor Boston said.

Mayor Boston and Tony Flint will officially open the exhibition on Sunday 9 August 2026 at 2:00pm.

Community members are invited to attend to hear from the artist, view the works, and enjoy light refreshments. RSVPs are encouraged by calling (08) 8738 3000.

Real and Imagined will remain on display until 29 September 2026.



Pictured: Paintings by Tony Flint. Acrylic on ply board. *Landscape. Eight Mile Creek* (top) and *Altar for the Blind* (bottom).

Out & About With Council

Academic Excellence

Mayor Kylie Boston awarded the Academic Scholarship to Year 12 student Evan Clark of St Martins Lutheran College.



Deputy Mayor Councillor Karen Turnbull attended the 2026 Scholarships, Awards and Grants Celebration at Adelaide University's Mount Gambier Campus, where Wendy Sealey was officially awarded Council's Prize for Excellence.



Saleyards Transformation Project

The start of the Saleyards Transformation Project was celebrated by Mayor Kylie Boston and Saleyards Strategy Committee Presiding Member Councillor Barry Kuhl with a ribbon cutting, attended by Councillors Dukalskis and Mann, Travis Fatchen MP, CEO Gary Button, Council staff and community members.



Tatiara's 150th Birthday



Tatiara District Council celebrated their 150th anniversary in June 2026. Mayor Kylie Boston attended the celebration, pictured here alongside Tatiara Mayor Liz Goossens and fellow Limestone Coast Mayors Lynette Martin (City of Mount Gambier), Patrick Ross (Naracoorte Lucindale Council), and Jeff Pope (Kingston District Council).

Community Grants & Funding

Bunnings Community Grants

The Bunnings Community Grants Program supports local grassroots projects that create immediate benefits for communities across Australia and New Zealand, including projects focused on regional areas. The grants complement the work already happening in stores and sit alongside the amazing local fundraising, BBQs and community engagement taking place in local stores.

Up to \$10,000 in cash, Bunnings products or a hybrid of the two is available for projects administered by registered not-for-profit organisations that demonstrate a clear benefit to their community.

Round 1 closes on **31 July 2026**, with a second round opening in January 2027. Applications may be submitted online here:

<https://www.bunnings.com.au/campaign/community-grants-program>

Celebrate Together Grants

Offered through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, the Celebrate Together Grant provides one-off funding annually to eligible multicultural organisations for festivals and events which celebrate multiculturalism and support an inclusive and cohesive society.

Up to \$5,000 is available to support events held between 1 January 2027 and 30 June 2027

To be eligible, festivals and events should seek to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- Celebrate and showcase the culture and customs of South Australia's diverse multicultural communities,
- Support new and emerging communities to increase their skills and experience,
- Foster partnerships between culturally diverse communities and other sectors.

Applications close on **31 August 2026**. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/multicultural-affairs/grants/celebrate-together-grants>

Council Grants Opening Soon

Round 1 of the 2026-2027 Southern Limestone Coast Council Community Grants Scheme is opening on **Monday 3 August 2026**.

Up to \$5,000 in co-funding is available through the Community Grants Scheme for eligible projects by sporting clubs and community groups operating within the Council area. Grants of \$500 are also available for projects supporting community participation.

More information will be released closer to the opening of the grant round, with updates posted on Council's website and social media accounts.

To check your eligibility or if your project fits the guidelines, contact Council on (08) 8721 0444 or info@slcc.sa.gov.au to speak to a staff member.



FoundHer Grants

The Office of Small and Family Business FoundHer grant program is now open, with funding available to support South Australian women-led businesses grow, scale and expand into new markets.

• Launch Grant (\$20,000)

Supports women founders to validate growth opportunities and strengthen their market presence

• FoundHer Elevate Grant (\$30,000)

Supports a high-growth women-led business to expand into national or international markets.

Applications close on **14 August 2026**. To read more and apply online, please visit:

<https://business.sa.gov.au/programs/women-in-business/founder>

Community Events

REAL AND IMAGINED Paintings by Tony Flint



3rd August – 29th September
Official opening Sunday 9th August
2:00pm - All Welcome

A South Australian Living Artists Festival Event



SALA



Emergency Services ROAR!@Wulanda 2026

A connecting expo for people living with disability

Free

**Register your
organisation ASAP:**

- Emergency Services
- Disability
- Councils
- Advocacy and Peer Groups
- Service Provider Organisations
- Host Workshop Round Tables
- Events including Our Voice SA Music Bingo
- Time slots for workshops/demonstrate/train
- Room to display limited vehicles
- Free 1/8 page Colour Advert in Emergency Services ROAR!@Wulanda Booklet
- Your Advert and link promoted on Facebook

**Register by June 30 2026 to be
part of our 2026 event for free by
Ringing Kate 0434 931 763**



Tuesday 11th August

10am - 3pm

Wulanda

7 Margaret Street
Mount Gambier



Facebook Page
For updates



MULTICULTURAL SHARED LUNCH

We all come from different places and have different experiences. This is an opportunity for anyone and everyone to gather together and get to know each other over food.

SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST, 2026

From 12:00pm to 3:00pm

**BRING A PLATE OF FOOD AND
TRY A BIT OF EVERYTHING.**

At: Mil Lel Hall, Sherwin Rd,
Mil Lel

**FREE ENTRY
ALL AGES WELCOME**

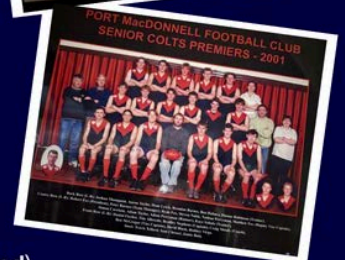
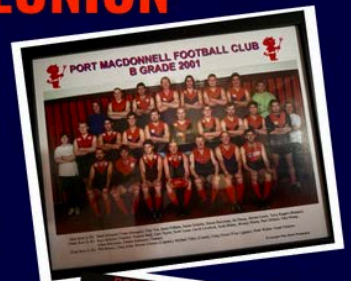


PAST PLAYERS DAY & 25 YEAR REUNION



Come and catch up with old team mates, have a laugh, and reminisce the good times had at the PMFC!

This year celebrating our past players of the club and 25 years since our 2001 Premierships in both Senior Colts and B Grade!



Pt Mac vs Nangwarry

15 August 2026

12pm (Light lunch provided)

RSVP (for catering purposes) to Georgia on 0439 423 594

Notices



2027 Australian of the Year Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2027 Australian of the Year Awards, which celebrate Australians who make an extraordinary contribution to their community and the nation.

Categories include Australian of the Year, Senior Australian of the Year, Young Australian of the Year and Australia's Local Hero.

Anyone can nominate an inspiring individual and it only takes a few minutes. Nominations close on 31 July 2026 and can be submitted here: <https://australianoftheyear.org.au/>



2026 Mount Gambier & Districts Business Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Mount Gambier & Districts Business Awards hosted by the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce. Help celebrate the outstanding businesses, organisations and individuals making a difference across our region.

Nominations can be made across ten different Industry & Sector Awards as well as the Best of Business Awards for Micro, Small, Medium and Large Business of the Year.

Self-applications are accepted and encouraged. Visit the Business Awards website for further information: <https://www.mountgambierchamber.com.au/2026-business-awards/>



State Government Personal Mobility Device and e-bike Review

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport is seeking feedback on the laws that apply to e-scooters, e-skateboards and other Personal Mobility Devices (PMDs), as well as power-assisted bicycles (e-bikes).

As the use of PMD and e-bike devices continues to grow, it is important that the rules governing their use remain fit for purpose, safe for all road users, and are easy to understand and enforce.

The Department is seeking community input to understand if current laws are working well and if changes are needed to improve safety, usability and clarity.

Review the discussion papers and complete the relevant surveys by visiting the State Government YourSAy page here: <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/pmd-ebike-rules-review>.

Notices



Raise Our Voice in Parliament - Youth Speech Opportunity

The 2026 Raise Our Voice in Parliament campaign is now underway, delivered with Y Australia, the Foundation for Young Australians, and the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House

Young people aged 25 and under are invited to write a 90-second speech answering: **"What is one big issue shaping your future, and what is a meaningful action you want Parliament to take on it?"**

Selected speeches will be read out in Parliament by federal members during Youth Voice in Parliament Week (October 2026), ensuring young people's ideas reach the ears of the nation's decision-makers. Whether you're passionate about climate justice, housing affordability, or mental health, this is your platform to turn your vision into political reality. Speech submissions close **7 August, 2026**.

To get involved, visit the Raise Our Voice Australia website to download the toolkit or submit your speech:
<https://raiseourvoiceaustralia.com/>



Early Stage Entrepreneurs Program

The South Australian Business Chamber is offering practical support to help entrepreneurs grow an existing start-up or bring a business idea to life through their Early-Stage Entrepreneurs Program.

Through face-to-face workshops and one-on-one mentoring from experienced business experts, participants gain valuable insights, practical tools and personalised guidance to help refine their ideas, strengthen business foundations and navigate the challenges of starting and growing a business.

Applications for the July intake are open. Please visit the SA Business Chamber website to learn more about the program:
<https://sabusinesschamber.com.au/services/business-programs/early-stage-entrepreneurs-program>

