



District Council of Mallala

DISTRICT COMMUNICATOR



March 2006

www.mallala.sa.gov.au

Chairman's Message

The Australia Day Celebration breakfast was held at the Dublin Oval, with the Dublin Cricket Club providing a great breakfast for 400 people. Council had much pleasure in announcing Mrs Julie Griffiths as the recipient of the '**Citizen of the Year**' award. Julie spends countless hours supervising dinners for the Mallala Football Club and orders all stock and supervises the football canteen. Both the Tennis and Netball clubs appreciate her on-going support as well. Her expertise in organising the Melbourne Cup luncheon and fundraisers for the Mallala Hospital, together with catering for the Primary School Graduation each year, is a credit to her skills.

The '**Community Event of the Year**' award was presented to the Two Wells, Lewiston and Districts Landcare Group for the World Environment Day Lewiston Wetlands Planting Project. This area has now had four (4) major plantings since 2002. This group, with the assistance of the entire Two Wells Primary School, its staff and families, together with students from Pulteney Grammar School, planted 2,000 native plants, local to the area, creating a walking trail through the wetlands which can be accessed by people riding horses or bikes, or on foot.

Mr Stephen Cummins from Two Wells became an **Australian Citizen** and all those at the breakfast were invited to join in reading the Affirmation, to continue their loyalty and commitment to Australia.

*Margaret Gameau
Chairman*



Adelaide Plains Cup Festival: March 3-5

The festival was once again a very successful three days. The official opening was conducted at Mallala on Friday by Chief Executive Officer of the South Australian Tourism Commission, Mr Bill Spurr, who launched the opening with 'A Plains Perspective' Portrait and Art Exhibition. A buffet lunch followed.

Avon and Districts was also on show on the first day, as were a number of activities in Balaklava. The day ended with 'Taste the Adelaide Plains' at Virginia - all of which were well received.

A very enjoyable day again on the Saturday with a golf day at Balaklava and 'Birds of the Plains' poetry competition at Owen. The Kaleidoscope Dinner / Cabaret, attended by 300, was an outstanding success for the Mallala Hospital and ended another great day.

On Sunday the Adelaide Plains Touch Football Challenge was held at Balaklava, with the Adelaide Plains Cup race meeting, also at Balaklava, completing a busy weekend.

This was the second year of the Festival, with growing interest and participation by our Adelaide Plains communities. I would strongly encourage more people to become involved in the March event next year. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase what we have to offer and the progress we are exhibiting.

*Margaret Gameau,
Chairman*

In this Issue

Adelaide Plains Cup Festival	1
Aged Accommodation – Mallala	4
Bushmin Rabbits—Field Day	2
Chairman's Message	1
Community Events	4
Community Partnerships Funding	2
Council Elections	2
Council Meetings	2
Council Logo	4
Construction and Sealing of Roads	3
Dog Registration – Door Knock	3
Dublin Institute	2
Gawler River—Public Meeting	4
Helpline Information	3
Level Crossing—Gawler River Road	3
Open Air Market	4
Public Consultation –Thompson Beach Access	2
SA Regions at Work—Free Training Programs	4
Trees for Life—Workshops	3

2006 National Field Day

The Farmed Rabbit Industries of Australia Ltd will be holding its 2006 National Field Day at Long Plains on Saturday, 22 April, with local producer, Chris Bushell, from Bushmin Rabbits hosting the day.

Local and export demands continue to increase, with new markets emerging and promotion of various cuts — sausages, schnitzels and smoked fore-quarters as examples.

The farmed rabbit industry had a gross valued in Australia in 2005 of nearly \$5 million.

Mallala Council, through its Community Partnership funding, recognises the value of encouraging local producers to establish a business enterprise.

Dublin Institute

Over the last few months Council has undertaken repair work to the Dublin Institute.

A pigeon eradication program was instigated and this was followed by roofing and ceiling repairs and all evidence of pigeon infestation has now been removed.

A new Institute Committee has been formed and if you would like to hire the institute, or require additional information, please contact Pat Thompson on telephone 8529 2028.

Council Meetings

Council meetings are held on the third Monday of each month and are open to the general public.

If the scheduled date falls on the Monday of a public holiday the meeting will be held on the Tuesday following.

If you have an issue you wish to have raised at a Council meeting, please be aware that all correspondence is to be received at the Council office *two weeks prior* to the date of the meeting.

Council meetings for the remainder of the year are as follows:

18 April (Tuesday), 15 May,
19 June, 17 July, 21 August,
18 September, 16 October,
20 November, 18 December

Council Elections—November 2006

An early reminder to all residents / ratepayers that the next periodical election is set for November this year and nominations will again be called for candidates for Council. The term of office for council is now four (4) years.

Eleven Councillor positions will be available — two vacancies for the Dublin area, two for Mallala, three for Two Wells and four vacancies for Lewiston.

If you have a genuine interest in what happens in your community and would like to play an important part in developing a better community for the future, it may be time for you to seriously consider standing for Council.

If you would like information on becoming a Council Member you can contact one of your local Councillors or, alternatively, you can contact the Local Government Association who will be happy to assist you with your enquiries.

Dates to be aware of:

- Friday, 11 August Close of rolls
- Tuesday, 5 September Nominations open for standing as a candidate in Local Government elections
- Tuesday 19 September (12 noon) Nominations close

Community Partnerships Funding

For the fourth consecutive year, Council has made funding available to community groups for a variety of projects. Over this four year period, 46 projects have benefited from funding, with the 12 recipients of the funding this year being:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
National Farmed Rabbit Industry of Australia	Field Day	1,000
Mallala Economic Development Board	Community Liaison Officer	14,000
Two Wells Community Centre	Centre Upgrade	3,637
Windsor Institute Committee	October Long Weekend Market	520
Mallala Community Hospital	Kaleidoscope Cabaret—Adelaide Plains Cup Festival	3,640
Mallala Economic Development Board	Visual Arts—Adelaide Plains Cup Festival	1,200
Port Parham Sports & Social Club	Kitchen Enhancement	3,000
Mallala Institute Committee	Kitchen Upgrade	6,299
Mallala Museum	Century of Change	17,000
Community Partnerships Program	Marketing Material	1,500
Two Wells & Environs Strategic Planning Committee	Two Wells Visitor Information Centre	20,000
Dublin History Group	History Centre Construction Planning	5,000

Value adding for these projects will result in over \$250,000 in value for the community, with the outcome from the Kaleidoscope Cabaret, Century of Change and the Two Wells Visitor Centre resulting in a much greater dollar value.

Trees For Life

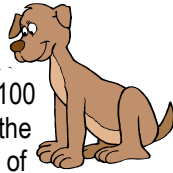
Trees for Life's bush management program, 'Bush For Life' runs one-day workshops at various locations around the metropolitan area. These workshops are a great way to learn about the Australian bush. These free workshops run right through until October.

For more information and / or to book your place, please phone Trees For Life on 8372 0150 .

Dog Registration Door Knock

To determine adherence to registration regulations and to confirm dog numbers, Council recently conducted a door knock of the district. Areas included Mallala, Dublin, Port Parham, Webb Beach, Thompson Beach and Two Wells. Small parts of the Lewiston area were also covered in the door knock, including the vicinity of Harniman Road; James and Betty Roads and Clydesdale Estate.

The door knock was conducted over a two week period and involved over 1100 homes and resulted in the registration of in excess of 150 dogs and included one business registration.



In total, 40 expiation notices were issued to dog owners for keeping unregistered dogs.

It should be noted that, although the door knock was a concentrated exercise undertaken by Council, regular spot checks are conducted throughout the year.



Helpline Information

For information on pregnancy issues, contact:

- Helen May House: 8303 1183
- Parent Help Line: 1300 364 100
- LifeLine: 13 11 14
- Crisis Care; 13 16 11
- Women's Health (State-wide): 8239 9600

Public Consultation Access to Thompson Beach

Council held two community consultation meetings in the Dublin Institute on Wednesday, 22 March 2006.

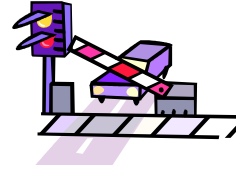
Councillors and staff provided information to the 70 members of the public on the options being considered on upgrading the road access to Thompson Beach and adjacent communities.

All attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions and, at the conclusion of the meeting, indicate their preferred option and to record any issues of concern.

A copy of the information sheet is available on Council's website at www.mallala.sa.gov.au. Written submissions on realigning Ruskin road will be accepted by Council until 5:00pm on Wednesday, 5 April 2006.

Once all written submissions have been received, the matter will be considered by the Roads Evaluation and Advisory Committee and a recommendation prepared for Council to consider.

Council will keep residents informed on the progress of this matter through this Newsletter.



Level Crossing Gawler River Road

In 2005-2006 Council applied for, and received, a 'Blackspot' grant to realign the level crossing on Gawler River Road to improve safety for both rail and road users.

Since the approval of that grant, however, several technical problems have arisen which virtually makes realignment impracticable.

Consequently, Council has explored alternative options to achieve the original aim of improved safety.

Conditional on the 'Blackspot' grant being transferred to the 2006-2007 financial year and additional funds being approved in Council's budget, Council now proposes to engage the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) to install an active crossing at this location.

An active crossing is equipped with lights and other devices rather than relying on drivers stopping at the crossing. ARTC have agreed to maintain the warning system at its cost, once installed.

If everything goes according to plan, we will see vast improvements to this crossing by the end of 2006.

Construction and Sealing of Roads

Many of our residents and ratepayers often request the upgrading of their gravel road to a sealed standard. Council has developed a six parameter formula to help set the priorities for road construction and sealing.

The parameters used are

- Hierarchy – is it an arterial, collector, township, settlement, rural living, rural or other purpose road.
- Traffic volume – how many vehicles and what type of vehicle uses the road on a daily basis (including commercial vehicles).
- Amenity value – how many property owners would benefit from construction and sealing of the road (additional emphasis is given where the road is the sole point of entry for a community).
- Customer requests – the number of customer requests received for a section of road.
- Maintenance costs – does this section of road cost more to maintain than other roads in the same category.
- Design deficiencies – is there horizontal or vertical defects in the section of road which could be eradicated by construction.

We believe that this provides Council with valuable information on which to base meaningful decisions.

South Australia Regions at Work

Free Training Programs

South Australia Regions at Work is supporting a number of employment and skill programs through the Yorke Regional Development Board—Employment and Skills Formation Network—for people in the District Council of Mallala. Training is free and is aimed at supporting people into the workforce. Programs include:

- Youth (16-25 yrs) Life Skills and Motivation
Managed by Employment Directions (Contact: 8521 5400).
Issues addressed include goal setting, self image and self perception, personal health & hygiene, form filling, basic life skills. Mentorship and direct links with job networks and pathways is provided.
- Youth (16-25 yrs) Entrepreneurial and Leadership
Managed by Halcyon Day (Contact Jonathon Mill on 0407 350 418)
Launched at Mallala in March, this project will encourage young people to consider self-employment.
- Mature Aged (40+) Up Skilling
Managed through the Two Wells Community Access Business Resource and Internet Centre (Contact: 8520 3682)
Basic IT, administration and customer service training to unemployed job seekers over 40 years of age
- Mature Aged (40+) Flexible Skills Training
Managed by Employment Directions (Contact: 8521 5400).
Designed at more tailored training, including career counselling, self work and networking opportunities.
- Meat Industry
Managed by TAFE SA through the Roseworthy Campus
Training for processing, poultry farms and piggeries which involves 3 x 2 week courses occurring between April and June to cater for the expected expansion in the meat industry.

The Regions at Work Program is an initiative of the Government of South Australia and is delivered in partnership with the Yorke Regional Development Board and Two Wells and Environs Strategic Planning Committee Inc.



For further information please contact
Simon Millcock on 0439 852 577.



Aged Accommodation

Work on the three aged homes, in Mallala, is almost complete, with handover expected some time in April.

This project has been a joint venture between Council, Barossa and Districts Housing Association and the South Australian Community Housing Association.

The selection process for tenants for the new homes was completed in February. The chosen occupants have been advised and should be in residence before the end of May.



Community Events

The next edition of 'The Communicator' will be printed in early June.

If you have any items of interest, or events to be publicised, I encourage you to provide your information to 'The Editor' by:-

Post— District Council of Mallala
PO Box 18
MALLALA SA 5502

Fax— 8527 2242

Email— editor@mallala.sa.gov.au

Closing date for receipt of articles for the next newsletter will be 28 May 2006.

Gawler River—Public Meeting

Following the flooding of the Gawler River in November last year, agreement has been reached between the Federal State and Local Government Councils to undertake flood mitigation works on the North and South Para Rivers, as well as the lower reaches of the Gawler River.

Local residents have requested information on what effect these works will have on their properties.

A public meeting will be held at the Two Wells Community Centre on Wednesday 10 May 2006 at 7:30pm.

Mr Fred Pedler, Executive Officer of the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority will be present to answer questions.



Council Logo

The design of the Council logo, which was introduced in 2004, is based on the concept of land use, together with the natural landscapes of the district.

The Council area is bordered by land on the northern and eastern boundaries; with the western boundary being coastline and crossed from east to west by two rivers. Land uses include agriculture and horticulture, with the remainder being natural vegetation.

The final design fitted the criteria—a refreshed image that was both simple and modern and used representative colours—the borders as ochre and dark blue, the rivers as pale blue, the crops as yellow and the agricultural / horticultural and bushland as green.

Open Air Market

In December 2005, Council's Development Assessment Panel approved the operation of an Open Air Market in Two Wells.

The market is held every Saturday on the roadside parking area, adjacent to the Oval on Old Port Wakefield Road at Two Wells.

The market has proven to be a huge success with a large number of people taking advantage of the opportunity to buy freshly grown, local produce.