

OUR NEWS



Message from the Mayor

Welcome to 2024! I hope everyone has had some time to enjoy a break with family and friends.

Australia Day celebrations were well attended by the community. I would like to congratulate our Citizen of the Year – Kerran ‘Gus’ Glover, Young Citizen of the Year – Melissa Pahl and Active Citizen of the Year – Anthony ‘Horse’ Huntingford on their awards. All three are very deserving award winners. Thank you also to Deputy Mayor Allison Pickford who stepped in at late notice to host the awards ceremony on my behalf.

I would like to praise the staff at the Elliston Hospital for keeping alive a much loved member of our community, Murray Adams, following a shark attack at Cape Finniss on January 9th. Without their expertise it would be a different story.

I would also like to thank those that attended our Informal Shark Discussion night. It was a good opportunity for me to speak about what Shark Incident Mitigation strategies the Council is working towards and for everyone to exchange ideas and offer suggestions. As a result, more sessions will be held over the coming months to benefit the mental health of those impacted by shark attacks.

Cheers

Mayor
Andrew McLeod

COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUSTRALIA DAY

Thank you to the 250 people who attended our Community Day held on Australia Day at the Elliston Parklands.

It was a great day to celebrate Our People and Our Place and to award our very worthy citizen's of the year. Our 2024 Award winners were:

- Citizen of the Year **Kerran 'Gus' Glover**
- Young Citizen of the Year **Melissa Pahl**
- Active Citizen of the the Year **Anthony 'Horse' Huntingford**

Music supplied by the Chrissy K Band and DJ Jimmy entertained the crowd throughout the afternoon, while the food and drinks and market stalls were very popular.

The BBQ raised \$540 for the Mid-West HAC to assist with renovations for the Elliston Matron's House.

The event was supported by a grant provided by the National Australia Day Council.

Council would like to thank the following:

- Heath Transport - truck trailer (stage)
- Elliston Community & Visitor Information Centre - coordination of market stalls, stage steps and tables and chairs
- Elliston Sports Centre - tables and chairs, wine barrels and eskies
- WCT - BBQ
- Elliston Netball Club - gazebos
- Elliston Area School - can bins
- Nigel & Debbie May - portaloos
- Sunny's Eathworx - portaloos

Thank you also to those who helped on the day: Guy Sibenaler, Darren Becker, Matt Peters, Nigel May, Sunny Gardiner and Ian Quinn as well as Council staff Karen Quinn, Luke Pryor and Tim Brierley.

The biggest thanks, however, goes to Darren and Leanne Kelly for the significant amount of time and energy they put into organising and running the event. They worked tirelessly with Council staff to ensure the event ran as smoothly as possible and their efforts must be commended.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUSTRALIA DAY - CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - KERRAN 'GUS' GLOVER

Kerran was born and raised in Lock. He balances his growing agricultural business with his community involvement and is always willing to go the extra mile.

While he is a thinker rather than a talker, he has an amazing ability to communicate as a leader, especially when dealing with delicate issues that challenge sentiment and tradition and his message is always for the betterment of the community.

He is the community representative on the Eyre Peninsula Football Board, and has been involved in three sub-committees in his time on the board. He was involved in a review of the Port Lincoln Football League which resulted in a restructure of governance and in a working group to rectify the umpiring shortage on the Eyre Peninsula.

He is a leader within the Lock Football Club ensuring the club is providing a family-friendly environment for future generations by promoting junior development and coaching the senior and junior colts teams.

He has also been highly involved in the Lock CFS, receiving his 20-year service medal in 2018, and has taken on positions of Lieutenant, Captain and management committee member.

He has held positions of Vice President, President and Treasurer of the Lock and District Community Sports Centre, being involved since 1996.

He has been a Chairperson and Governing Council member at the Lock Area School.

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - MELISSA PAHL

Melissa has fully involved herself in the Lock community ever since she moved there in 2017, making herself available to assist in any way.

She is the Head Trainer and Secretary of the Lock Football Club. She is the Treasurer of the Lock Murdinga Tooligie Progress Association, the Lock Racing Club, the Lock and Districts Swimming Pool and the Eastern Eyre Softball Association.

As Head Trainer she insures the game is run safely, with timely and adequate first aid being administered to players when required. As well as attending all Saturday games she attends Monday and Wednesday training sessions. She also makes herself available throughout the week for extra player needs and organises the trainers supplies for all of the football teams.

ACTIVE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR - ANTHONY 'HORSE' HUNTINGFORD

Anthony is a true community minded man - willing to help any person in need and volunteers endless hours of work for the Elliston community.

He has volunteered on many community groups and Elliston Sports Centre in busy-bees for nearly 20 years, while being on the ticket gate for over 5 years. He also sponsors local activities like the Elliston Football Club, Elliston Area School Woolshow and Elliston Speed Shear from his small business.

While Anthony has run a small mowing business and worked for Council for many years he does many hours of unpaid upkeep in the Elliston community going the extra mile to keep the town looking tidy.

COUNCIL NEWS

STRATEGIC PLAN

The District Council of Elliston has commenced public consultation on the Draft Strategic Plan 2024-2028. A copy of the document can be found on Council's website at: <https://www.elliston.sa.gov.au/home>. This is a very important piece of work that sets the vision of Council for the coming 4 years.

The CEO will be holding meetings in Elliston, Lock and Venus Bay during March and April. To book a time to speak to the CEO, please contact the Council office on 8687 9177.

REFUSE SITES – CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER RATING

As we move into the summer months, please be reminded that when the Fire Danger Rating is CATASTROPHIC, we do not open our refuse sites. Where possible, we advertise closure of these sites on our Facebook page.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, but the safety of our District, staff and residents comes first.

JETTIES

Jetties are in the news as many of the state-divested jetties (of which the historic Elliston Jetty is one) are reaching end of life.

Jetties are an important part of our history, giving people a reason and a way to visit our coastal towns and to provide our community with easy access to the water.

Around 25 years ago, the state handed control to the Council for the Elliston Jetty. At that time, Council had no choice but to take on responsibility for maintenance of the jetty or else the jetty may have been closed.

Council is required to maintain the jetty and does allocate a budget each year for repairs and maintenance, but significant work will need to be undertaken soon.

The State Government, the 'landlord' of the jetty, is asking local councils to take on responsibility for ensuring jetties remain structurally sound. This is like a landlord asking a renter to fix the roof if it collapsed on a rental property.

The State Government has allocated \$20 million over 4 years to help repair all jetties across the state – around \$10 million for council-lease jetties. This is nowhere near enough, and to access that money, councils are being asked to bear future costs, long after the funding is exhausted.

For our District, this is not an option, and the financial exposure to the Council and community is too great. A better long-term answer is needed. Council, and the wider Local Government Association, are working together to ensure the State Government understands the value of our jetty to our community.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS - ALLISON PICKFORD

1. What is the greatest accomplishment of your life to date?
Making a difference to the lives of children with the greatest need.
2. What skill would you most like to learn?
Dancing with dogs.
3. What do you do in your spare time?
Walking and caring for my dogs, gardening, Duolingo (Language App), listening to music and podcasts, reading, keeping up with current affairs, cooking, watching the tennis Open Competitions.... There is no 'spare' time!
4. What is a talent that you have that most people wouldn't know about you?
Possibly cooking. Regency Park trained with experience including Chef in 5 star Hotels, restaurants and my own business.
5. What is your favourite music?
Acapella to Zydeco, but especially Opera.
6. Have you always lived in Pt Kenny, if no, where else have you lived?
Most of my life in big and small towns in country SA and also in the burbs, moving for work related reasons.
7. What is your current occupation?
Self-employed property management.
8. Do you live by any piece of advice or motto?
Do unto others.
9. What is the furthest place you have travelled to? Why did you go there?
Alaska. An adventure with family members.
10. What's the strangest thing in your fridge?
Clostridium perfringens. (Joking) Probably most things according to most people.
11. What is something you have been thinking about lately?
AI and dystopian futures.
12. What is a perfect day for you?
A day outside in nature with my dogs.
13. What is one thing that instantly makes your day better?
Waking up, the sound of birds in the garden, acts of kindness, compassion, generosity and understanding.
14. What are you most looking forward to?
Every day is special, world peace.
15. What is the best advice you have ever received?
Don't give advice! Be alongside others. People don't care what you know until they know that you care.
16. What or who inspires you?
People who are respectful of others, mindful, strive to make a constructive contribution in an ever changing, complex world, people of peace, for some it's a Long Walk to Freedom. Philosophy and the arts inspire me.

HIGHWAY COMPLAINTS

The Flinders Highway, Birdseye Highway and Tod Highway are the responsibility of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT), even though they pass through our Council area. Council has no jurisdiction over these roads.

Road and hazard faults on these Highways need to be reported to DIT's Traffic Management Centre on 1800 018 313.

You should report any hazards that present a risk to the safety of road users. Hazards may include:

- Debris on the road – eg a fallen tree, gravel, glass
- The need for road maintenance
- Damaged safety railing guardrails
- A dead animal causing a traffic hazard on a roadway

Consumer and Business Services

Missing an old rent bond?

You can check if one is still being held on SA's Bond Status Register.

It might be waiting here for you to claim.



Scan the QR code here or visit www.cbs.sa.gov.au/unclaimed



Consumer and Business Services has all the details on how to check and claim what's yours at www.cbs.sa.gov.au/unclaimedbonds



Government of South Australia
Consumer and Business Services

UPDATING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S BUSHFIRE HAZARD MAPPING AND PLANNING RULES

Have your say on a proposal to update bushfire hazard mapping and effectively plan for and mitigate the impacts of bushfire hazards across South Australia.

The State-wide Bushfire Hazards Overlay Code Amendment is being undertaken by the State Planning Commission and seeks to update the spatial application of the bushfire hazard overlays to reflect recent bushfire hazard mapping, and review the policy contained in each of the overlays.

For more information including the draft amendment, FAQ's and details on how to have your say please go to the YourSAY website: <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/state-wide-bushfire-hazards-code-amendment>.

A series of in-person and online public information sessions are being held. The drop-in information session at Port Lincoln is being held on 15 February 2024 between 4.00-7.00pm at the Nautilus Arts Centre. You can book a spot via the YourSAY website. You can talk with staff and ask questions, share ideas or concerns and provide your feedback.

There is also an online information session on 19 February from 11.00am-12.00noon with opportunities to ask questions at the end of the session.

The public consultation closes at **5.00pm on 8 March 2024**.

COMMUNICATIONS AND CONNECTIVITY NEWS

NBN IS COMING TO LOCK

The Council is pleased to announce that in conjunction with NBN co we have been successful in obtaining funding of \$1.32million to deliver fixed wireless broadband to Lock, providing improved connectivity. More details will follow soon.

CLOSING OF TELSTRA 3G NETWORK

From 30 June 2024 Telstra will be switching off it's 3G services. If you have a 3G only device you will be unable to connect to Telstra's network after they close this network. Also in order to make calls (including emergency calls) you will need Voice over LTE (VoLTE) on your 4G device as well. To find out more about how to check your device and other information head to: <https://www.telstra.com.au/support/mobiles-devices/3g-closure#network>

Telstra also have some responses to commonly asked questions at the below webpage which you may find helpful:

<https://www.telstra.com.au/exchange/our-3g-closure-in-2024--your-questions-answered>

GET BACK TO SCHOOL READY WITH THE SCHOOL STUDENT BROADBAND INITIATIVE!

Children who can access online learning at home as part of their education are more likely to engage in classroom activities.



With broadband internet access your family will be able to access fast internet at home, which supports children to build their digital skills, learn how to safely use the internet and participate in a world that is more dependent on digital technology.

With the recent program extension there is now more time to sign up for the School Student Broadband Initiative, with the new school year starting - this is a great time sign up for this offer or refer a family:

- For any new families signing up now, this offer means **free internet until 31 December 2025**.
- For families who have already connected with SSBI, their free internet will automatically be rolled over until **31 December 2025**.

Check your eligibility for **free nbn broadband** until the end of 2025 now:

Contact the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610 (Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm AEDT) or by visiting www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet.

COMMUNITY SAFETY NEWS

FIRE PREVENTION

January rains have triggered regrowth of fuels around the District. This is widespread in some areas and is largely due to the frequency and amount of rain that has occurred. This has resulted in some areas having similar fuel conditions to autumn where we see germination and then greening.

It is important for property owners to remember that fire prevention maintenance may be required to be attended to again.

During summer maintain your preparedness through the Fire Danger Season:

- Maintain defendable space of up to 20 metres around your home (greater if on a slope) and 5 metres from sheds and garages.
- Clear around trees.
- Remove leaves from gutters.
- Slash stubble near sheds and buildings (following regulations for Total Fire Ban Days).
- Check reserve water supplies.
- Practise your Bushfire Survival Plan with your family.
- Ensure you have a portable battery-powered radio and spare batteries to listen to bushfire warnings.
- Monitor Fire Danger Ratings.



MOSQUITOES

Don't let mosquitoes bite into your holiday!

In summer we love holidaying and being outside but it's also when mosquitoes breed and bite.

Protect your holiday houses, shacks, boats, caravans and tents:

- Mosquitoes breed in still water, fresh or salty water, and often in puddles and containers.
- Look for and reduce mosquito breeding sites around your holiday house, shack and caravan, or camping ground by emptying or covering anything that holds water.
- Make sure windows and openings are fitted with mosquito-proof mesh.
- Cover your sleeping areas or beds with mosquito nets if you don't have insect screens, or if you're camping outdoors near a creek, water hole, swamp, river or in long grass.
- Boats, canoes and dinghies should be stored so they don't hold water.

CATS AND DOGS



When our officers find dogs and cats (or one is handed in) they'll scan it for a microchip, then look up its record to get it back home with you. Your up-to-date details make this process smoother for you.

Did you know you can also add a temporary address on your account on <https://dogsandcatsonline.com.au/>. If you are holidaying with your pet or are having it looked after elsewhere, a temporary address and contact person can be recorded to your animal. It's easy! Just click on the animal's name on your account and scroll down to Location. Tick "Yes" to Temporary Location and fill in the required information and Save.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Are you interested in being part of an Elliston & Districts Business Association or Group?

We are seeking like-minded businesses, business owners and manager with a vision to work together to promote our businesses and encourage people to shop locally by identifying areas of shortfalls with the aim to improve business opportunities for all across the District.

Your input and ideas are welcomed. A meeting will be called, if enough interest is shown.

Please contact Woody Kelly on 0417 789 403 or via email: woodykelly@outlook.com for more information.

TIPS FOR LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Looking after our mental health is important for our overall wellbeing. Engaging in self-care strategies such as: staying connected with those we care about, moving our bodies, eating nutritious foods, getting plenty of sleep, and participating in activities we enjoy like hobbies are all ways we can help to care for ourselves and our mental health.

Sometimes we may feel anxious, uncertain or overwhelmed with things in life. If you are noticing these feelings are impacting your relationships, your work and your ability to care for yourself it might be time to seek some help. Talking with someone you trust like a close friend might be useful or it might be time to seek out professional support.

Mentally Fit EP has a list of All Hours Help and a list of Government and Counselling Services available on their resources page: <https://www.wcycs.com.au/resources>

There is also a list of Emergency Mental Health contacts here: <https://www.chiefpsychiatrist.sa.gov.au/emergency-contacts>

However if you or someone you know is at immediate risk of harm you can also call 000 or Mental Health Triage on 13 14 65.

Lifeline 13 11 14 can also be contacted 24hrs a day if you are wanting to talk to someone.

If you are dealing with grief and loss, or you are supporting someone going through this you may find the resources at GriefLink beneficial: <https://grieflink.org.au/>.

SHARK INCIDENT MITIGATION

As you are all aware, interactions with Great White Sharks have become more prevalent along the South Australian coastline in the last year.

Following the most recent attack in our District, the Council has advocated to the State Government for the following:

1. Increased tagging of Great White Sharks to ascertain additional information regarding shark movements through Australian waters
2. Installation of a network of monitoring buoys across the State's coastline, especially in regional and remote locations
3. Rollout of smart technology to allow information regarding shark movements near monitoring buoys to be made available to people considering entering, or already in, the water
4. Subsidisation of personal protection devices that are proven to assist with Great White Shark attacks
5. Investment in drone or alternative technology, that allows shark patrols to occur in remote areas
6. Establishment of a government body to oversee all aspects of shark management across the State
7. Improved reporting processes for commercial fishermen, ensuring impact-free reporting
8. Improved education to recreation fishermen regarding appropriate reporting of shark interactions through Fishwatch
9. Further research to be undertaken into water temperature fluctuations and the effect this has on shark movements

Additionally, Council is in the process of implementing the following:

1. Installation of Arterial Bleed First Aid Kits at strategic locations across our coastline
2. Increased signage at Boat Ramps and Jetties to remind fishermen to not clean fish out at sea or near these facilities
3. A Surfers First Aid Course

We have also sought financial support from the State Government for:

1. A swimming enclosure near the Elliston Jetty
2. Trauma and wellbeing support

The Council has also lodged a motion with the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association to:

1. Ban the use of berley and teaser baits at Shark Cage Diving sites
2. Allow PIRSA to cull Great White Sharks for a 48 hour period after an attack

WASTE AND RECYCLING NEWS

January

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2024

Waste Collection Calendar

Elliston, Bramfield, Port Kenny, Sheringa, Venus Bay

- Red General Waste Bin Collection Day
- Yellow Recycling Bin Collection Day

Waste Transfer Stations Open Hours

Elliston:	Wednesday	10.00am—12.00pm
	Saturday	10.00am—12.00pm
	<i>(First Saturday of each month only)</i>	
Venus Bay:	Thursday	8.00am—10.00am
	Saturday	10.00am—12.00pm

January

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February

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April

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2024

Waste Collection Calendar

Lock

- Red General Waste Bin Collection Day
- Red and Yellow Bin Collection Day

Waste Transfer Stations Open Hours

Lock:	Thursday	11.00am—1.00pm
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RECYCLING

We have a comprehensive list of where items can be recycled locally on our website at: <https://www.elliston.sa.gov.au/council-services/waste-and-recycling-management> under the heading “Recycling Information”.

You can also search on the Which Bin SA website to find out what to do with some of those items that are not so straight forward to know whether can be recycled or not at <https://www.whichbin.sa.gov.au/>.

ORAL CARE

The Elliston Post Office is now a drop-off point as well for you to recycle your old toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, floss containers and electric toothbrush heads only. Just drop them into the bucket! These are recycled through the Terracycle Program.

CONGRATULATIONS ELLISTON COMMUNITY

In the second half of the year you saved 19kg of household batteries from entering landfill!

INFRASTRUCTURE NEWS

VENUS BAY

Resealing of Matson Terrace and the Boat Ramp Carpark have been completed.

Work on the installation of the BBQ shelter at the playground will commence shortly.

PORT KENNY

Fencing of the children's playground has commenced. Paving of the area next to the BBQ will occur when the fencing has been complete.

Screening of the public toilets has been finished. This will provide a level of privacy to people using these facilities which are visible from Flinders Highway.

LOCK

The Aquatic and Gym Complex is nearing completion with Council staff and the builder undertaking a full site and defect inspection at the end of January. Opening dates will be advised as soon as we know.

Council is also working on a solution to address short-term worker accommodation, desperately needed by the town during harvest.



SHERINGA

Roadside clearance is being undertaken to help driver visibility and for fire prevention.

ELLISTON

Pigeon control is an ongoing issue in Elliston, and contactors are being regularly engaged to assist with this issue.

Garden beds on the Esplanade and Beach Terrace are being cleared ready for replanting when the weather is appropriate.

Council has removed pieces of the playground equipment from Trudinger Park due to safety concerns. We are currently investigating options for their repair or replacement.



District Council of Elliston

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