



Your community

Winter 2015

# Honour Roll

Congratulations to our very own Council Engineer, Steve Kaesler whose contribution to the community through music has earned him an OAM in the Queen's birthday honour list. Steve has been a key driver of the restoration of the 1875 Hill & Son Grand Organ.

Steve is joined on the honours list by Cr. Bim Lange, who was recognised for longstanding service to local government and the wider community.



Steve Kaesler OAM



Michael (Bim) Lange OAM

## Innovation

Council's General Inspector, Chadd Schwarz (pictured right) was recently crowned South Australia's Animal Management Officer of the Year.

The Award recognises Chadd's commitment to best practice in animal management as well as innovation. Chadd will represent South Australia at the national awards in Townsville in October. Congratulations and good luck Chadd.



## Barossa in focus

Do you have what it takes to capture the true essence of the Barossa in a photograph? The Barossa Calendar will be back in 2016, and amateur photographers are encouraged to send in their favourite photographic entries for consideration.



Last year 297 entries were received, which Jo Seabrook, Manager Tourism Services, said was far beyond predictions. "The calendars were such a hit, we ended up selling out, and that was after two print runs."

The calendars were a popular choice for locals and tourists with many people sending them overseas as gifts. For more information contact the Barossa Visitor Centre on 8563 0600, or visit [www.barossa.com](http://www.barossa.com). Entries close at 5pm on August 19.

## What's On

Every Saturday: Mount Pleasant Farmers Market	31 July - 31 Aug	Aug 15	Aug 17	Sept 20
	<b>SALA Exhibition - "A New Season" by Jennifer Ahrens</b>  @Barossa Regional Gallery. For more information visit <a href="http://www.barossagallery.com">www.barossagallery.com</a>	<b>Barossa Bushgardens JUST EAT IT</b>  Barossa Gourmet Weekend Visual and Culinary experience 6pm-11pm tickets \$45 pp includes movie and supper. <a href="http://www.barossabushgardens.com.au">www.barossabushgardens.com.au</a>	<b>An evening with Simon Bryant and Maggie Beer</b>  Hosted by Barossa Public Library at The Farm Barossa Function Centre from 6.30pm. For more information phone 8563 8440.	<b>Hill &amp; Son Organ Series featuring UK Organist, David Pether</b>  @ the Barossa Regional Gallery. 2.30pm. Email <a href="mailto:skaesler@barossa.sa.gov.au">skaesler@barossa.sa.gov.au</a> for more information.

### Your elected members



Mayor Bob Sloane, Cr. Leonie Boothby, Cr. Scotty Milne, Cr. Margaret Harris, Cr. Mark Grossman, Cr. Dave de Vries, Cr. Michael Seager, Cr. Richard Miller, Cr. John Angas, Cr. Christopher Harms, Cr. Tony Hurn, Cr. Michael (Bim) Lange

The Barossa Council 43-51 Tanunda Road (PO Box 867) Nuriootpa SA 5355  
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# d'Vine

Barossa Council community newsletter

Winter 2015



# Event-full Barossa

The Barossa is becoming well-known as the events mecca of regional South Australia, and it's not just our great food and wine that is attracting tourists.

Now sport and recreation are high on the attraction agenda following the successful bid for the Barossa to host the \$175,000, 18-carat gold Emirates World Cup trophy and the recent announcement of a Southern Barossa stage finish for the 2016 Santos Tour Down Under.

For the first time since Council has been a host partner of the Santos Tour Down Under, the southern Barossa town of Lyndoch has secured a stage finish.

Mayor Bob Sloane said the announcement of Stage One race route will see riders travel on loops through the Southern

Barossa townships of Williamstown, Lyndoch and Cockatoo Valley.

"This is by far the best route to date for the Southern Barossa," he said. "These communities have always been strong advocates of the Tour Down Under and have worked tirelessly to actively promote the event, and the Barossa region."

"Last year Williamstown won the Best Dressed Town Competition, so it is great to see them rewarded for their hard work."

Mayor Sloane is confident that it won't just be businesses in the Southern Barossa that will benefit from having the tour rush past, but agrees the economic spin-offs will be felt through the wider Barossa region.

(continued over page...)

## What you need to know!



Dear Ratepayer,

For the last 40 years the State Government has funded Councils to provide a rebate on Council rates to eligible pensioners and concession card holders. Last year these amounted to rebates of up to \$190 or \$100 respectively and were automatically deducted from the amount of Council rates due.

The State Government has recently announced they will no longer be funding Councils to provide this rebate. That means that pensioners and concession card holders will no longer receive a rebate on Council rates. Instead the State Government will introduce a "Cost Of Living Concession (CLC)" payment which will be paid to you directly.

The new allowance will be up to \$200 for eligible recipients. It is important to note that not all former recipients of the self-funded retiree rates concession will be entitled to the new payment.

For questions regarding the CLC and to check eligibility please contact the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion Concessions Hotline directly on 1800 307 758 or go to [www.sa.gov.au/](http://www.sa.gov.au/) for further information.

We encourage you to use the payment you receive from the State Government to assist in the payment of your Council rates.

Concession entitlements on Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS) remain unchanged for those who are eligible.

The Barossa Council thanks you for supporting our campaign to maintain pensioner concessions.

From

Mayor Bob Sloane

For further information please go to <http://www.lga.sa.gov.au/pensionerconcessions>

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## Event-full Barossa

The 2015 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour will visit Angaston on October 11-12 as part of the South Australian leg of the Tour, providing the local community the chance to get up close and personal with the famous trophy.

It will then continue its 118 day journey before returning to Melbourne for the 'race that stops a nation'™ on the first Tuesday in November.

"The Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour will showcase Barossa's cultural connection to the Cup and build community engagement in a town that is passionate about racing," said Mayor Sloane.

Since it began, the Tour has travelled more than 416,000 kilometres, visited more than 300 regional, rural and metropolitan destinations and hundreds of thousands of people have had the chance to hold the treasured trophy.



Mayor Sloane said, "Both the Melbourne Cup tour and Santos Tour Down Under events represent a great opportunity for the entire Barossa community. They will provide provides significant injection into the local economy by bringing thousands of tourists right to our doorstep."

## What a catch!



Celebrating the funding announcement at the Warren Reservoir with Sustainability, Environment and Conservation Minister Ian Hunter (fourth from left) are (l-r) Ivan Venning, Ian Fitzgerald (Rec Fish SA); Cr Michael (Bim) Lange; The Barossa Council Deputy Mayor David de Vries; Cr Michael Seager; The Barossa Council Director Works and Engineering, Peter Bice; The Barossa Council Director, Corporate and Community Services, Jo Thomas and Member for Schubert, Stephan Knoll MP.

**A \$20,000 State Government grant will enable Council to progress its long term aim to improve recreational opportunities in and around the Warren Reservoir.**

The funding will be used to develop a masterplan and early works program, which will identify future infrastructure development. "Council has been working behind the scenes for some time to make this a reality," said Mayor Bob Sloane.

"This project is about creating greater opportunities for recreational fishing which will deliver significant social, recreational and economic benefits and increase the average spend of tourist dollars in the Barossa region.

"Council is committed to diversifying the region's economic base by promoting eco-tourism and opening the Warren Reservoir for recreational use. The fact that we are the first beneficiary Council to receive this type of funding really highlights how progressive we are and our commitment to further expanding tourism opportunities for our region."



### Keep Your Best Mate Safe

It's dog registration time in council with discounts for desexed, micro-chipped and trained dogs. Make sure you can be reunited.

**COODOG**

Government of South Australia  
An initiative of the  
DOG AND CAT  
MANAGEMENT BOARD  
and your Local Council

### Dog Registrations

Dog registrations are now due. All dogs over three months of age need to be registered by 31 August. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure their dog(s) are registered each year. For more information visit [www.barossa.sa.gov.au](http://www.barossa.sa.gov.au).



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## Visual interpretations of Council at work



The winning design of the Community Banner competition has been selected.

Vicki Rochaus's interpretation (top left) of the theme, *How Our Community Benefits from Local Government* reflects Council's commitment to recreational facilities such as The Rex and the cycling network; as well as libraries and the Bushgardens.

Vicki's banner will be displayed in the City of Adelaide streets from October 18 to November 1, as part of the 175th anniversary celebrations of Local Government in South Australia. People will be encouraged to vote for their favourite banner with a People's Choice Award and a Local Government Association Competition Award winner being announced at the end of October.

Runner-up, eleven-year-old Elise Westrich's vibrant banner (top right) will also be printed and displayed throughout The Barossa Council area.

## Find us online

We've recently expanded our online presence through social media. Did you know The Barossa Council Public Library now has its own Facebook page? And the Barossa Visitor Centre has an online voice through a collaborative project with My Barossa.



## Budget 2015-16: Community investment

**Council's Annual Budget and Business Plan 2015-16 which was adopted on July 3, supports a strategy to invest in community assets and infrastructure in 2015-16, by allocating \$10 million for capital works including \$1 million to undertake works at major recreation park ovals and \$4 million for roads and footpaths.**

Mayor Bob Sloane said more investment in core services was at the heart of the 2015-16 budget. "Initiatives include an accelerated footpath program (\$600,000), sealing strategic roads (\$628,000), investing in our tourism assets and addressing works at our major sporting and recreational ovals," said Mr Sloane.

"In light of the growing cost of services and reduced support from the Commonwealth

and State, we are pleased to deliver a balanced budget with many new initiatives that contribute to community health and wellbeing."

The removal of the separate Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre rate after six years means the proposed net average rate and charges increase for residential properties will be just 1.17% plus any growth (depending on valuation and services provided at each individual property).

Based on the average house value of \$318,000, this equates to \$1865 – up \$22 on last year.

The proposed average increase in general rates is 4.5%. There will be a small increase in charges for waste water management and waste and recycling.

### Key initiatives in this year's budget include:

- Continued investment in rural road network (\$628,000)
- Barossa Valley Tourist Park improvements (\$621,000)
- Southern Barossa Recreational Hub feasibility study (\$25,000)
- Air cooling in the Rex sports halls (\$227,000)
- Second oval at Stockwell (\$345,000, subject to grant funding)
- Jack Bobridge Track connection at Gawler end (\$50,000)
- Angaston main street upgrade (\$80,000)
- Mount Pleasant main street upgrade (\$40,000)
- Tanunda main street design works (\$50,000)
- Increased township tree planting (\$25,000)

### Council Contribution - Major Community Led Projects

- Talunga Park - Pavilion Kitchen Upgrade (\$35,000)
- Tanunda Recreation Park Lights (\$115,500)
- Mount Pleasant Men's Shed (\$23,000)

The Annual Budget and Business Plan can be viewed online at [www.barossa.sa.gov.au](http://www.barossa.sa.gov.au)