



Unlocking barriers to disability access

People with a disability will now have 24/7 access to the Barossa Cycle Hub toilets in Tanunda after Council installed an innovative locking system.

The system enables people with a disability to purchase a Master Locksmiths Access Key (MLAK) master key, which will open all toilets, playgrounds and other facilities that are fitted with the specially designed lock.

Council is currently exploring other venues, including playgrounds, that may be fitted with the system as part of its commitment to improving disability access across the region.

Council's Manager Building and Health Services, Peter Morgan, said the initiative was spearheaded by Council's Disability Access Review Committee (DARC) and Asset Management Team.

"By ensuring the Cycle Hub accessible toilet facility is MLAK compatible, local residents and visitors to the area with a disability can use these facilities after hours, providing greater accessibility and enhancing social inclusion," Mr Morgan said.

The move coincides with the development of the first Regional Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, which is currently

undergoing public consultation. Members of the public are invited to give feedback at community workshops being held at Tanunda Community CWA Hall on August 26 from 1pm to 3.30pm, and 6.30pm to 9pm.

"To improve opportunities for people with disability, we need to hear from people living or caring for someone with a disability, as well as interested community members or organisations with a view concerning disability access," Mr Morgan said.

Meanwhile, people can find a national list of disabled toilets at <https://toiletmap.gov.au/>



Council's Manager Tourism Services, Jo Seabrook and Manager Building and Health Services, Peter Morgan.



Teacher Bill Conway, Year 12 student Dale Vidler, Barossa Bushgardens volunteer Trevor Waldhuter, Bridgestone Nuriootpa owner David Jaensch and school principal Neil White.

Woodland set for regreening

One of the largest remaining green spaces in the Barossa is set to be regenerated by Nuriootpa High School students with the help of Barossa Bushgardens.

The school has won a \$10,000 Bridgestone Grant to rehabilitate the Blue Gum woodland into an outdoor classroom through hands-on learning.

Students have already begun work to create a natural amphitheatre in the bushland setting, and will be involved in replanting, fencing, weed

removal and constructing pathways and wheelchair access.

Teacher Bill Conway said the woodland will be embedded into the curriculum through the art, photography, science, history and special education units, eventually extending to all curriculum areas.

Barossa Bushgardens will play a key role selecting and supplying seedlings, with a focus on indigenous plantings to learn more about local Aboriginal culture and Indigenous uses of plants.

Barossa Bushgardens Natural Resource Centre Coordinator Sarah Barrett said they are thrilled to work alongside students to rehabilitate an environmentally significant parcel of land.

"This project will have a positive and lasting impact, not only for the students but for the whole community," Sarah said.

"The Blue Gum woodland will be a place for learning, reflecting and connecting with nature, which is at the heart of what we do."

New director on board

After making his mark on many high-profile South Australian infrastructure projects, Matt Elding (pictured) is taking up a community-focused role as Barossa Council's new Director Works and Engineering Services.



Beginning his career at Holden, Matt comes to Council with a strong people, engineering and project management background that has seen him work on many projects including the award-winning Adelaide Desalination Plant and the Torrens Road to River Torrens South Road upgrade.

Matt says he is looking forward to the challenges and rewards of working at a grass-roots level in local government.

"Working in the corporate world, you don't often see the impacts to the local community directly," he said.

"This is a very broad role that brings together my career experience in management,

leadership and project management on major projects, and some of the smarts around lean thinking through the automotive industry.

"The chance to bring those skills together and work within an awesome community and a progressive organisation is something I'm really looking forward to."

In his spare time the father-of-three enjoys bushwalking and camping with his family as well as amateur competitive cycling and rogaining, which he describes as "strategic"

Last chance to have a say

Community members responding to an Elector Representation Review options paper favour retaining an elected mayor at The Barossa Council as well as the current number of councillors.

The Review is aimed at ensuring all electors across the Council area are fairly and adequately represented.

The Representation Review Report was compiled following a public consultation process that attracted 12 submissions from the public.

The Report recommends retention of an elected mayor, no change to the number of elected members (11), and retention of the existing "no wards" structure.

People are invited to comment on the recommendations in the Report, which will return to Council for a final determination in October and then be referred to the Electoral Commission for approval.

The Review is legally required and takes place about every eight years.

The Review Report can be viewed on Council's website at www.barossa.sa.gov.au or at any library branch.

Submissions can be made until close of business on 23 September 2016 in writing addressed to the CEO of The Barossa Council, PO Box 867, Nuriootpa 5355; via email at Barossa@barossa.sa.gov.au or via Council's online engagement platform at www.ourbetterbarossa.com



Barossa Leisure Options' Arts 4 Us SALA exhibition was launched earlier this month by local artist Gary Steele.

The display of individuality, self-expression and whimsy can be viewed at the Nuriootpa Council offices until August 31.

Pictured is Barossa Leisure Options Coordinator Monique Lloyd, contractor Debbie Seater and artist Jesse Daly and his artwork 'House on Wheels'.