



Your community

Summer 2015

Recognition of Service ...



Above: Barossa Council Mayor Bob Sloane, presented Gordon Bitter with a volunteer award at the December Council meeting.



Former Mayor Brian Hurn presented former councillor, David Lykke (above) with a certificate acknowledging his 26 years' service to Local Government and also to Cr John Angas (above right) acknowledging 15 years' service and Cr David de Vries (right) acknowledging 10 years' service.



What's on ...

Barossa Made Markets

16th April, 2015 from 10am-2pm

@ the Tanunda Village Square (in front of the Barossa Visitor Centre)

Thursday April, 16 during the vintage festival

For further information or to register a stall, contact the Visitor Centre on 8563 0300 or email visitorcentre@barossa.sa.gov.au

Summer reading Club Finale Party

Saturday, 7th February @ the Nuriootpa Library

Celebrate your reading over Summer with an adventurous finale party, awards and fun activities. Bookings essential 8563 8440

Save the date! Author event

Australian author, Loretta Hill will be visiting the Barossa on Saturday, 7th March at a brunch commencing at 10.30am. For more information call 8563 8440.

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
T: 08 8563 8444 F: 08 8563 8461 E: barossa@barossa.sa.gov.au www.barossa.sa.gov.au



Get Bushfire Ready

Residents are reminded that with the warmer weather comes the increased risk of bushfires.

Council is urging everyone to take a proactive approach and ensure they are prepared should a bushfire event occur this Summer.

The CFS website has a wealth of information and materials about how you can become bushfire ready this season. There are tips on what to do in the event of a fire, how to stay informed and how to develop and enact a bushfire survival plan.

For all this information and more visit www.cfs.sa.gov.au. You can also find a number of useful resources and information regarding fire danger season on Council's website www.barossa.sa.gov.au.



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Cycle Hub ready to roll!



The wait is over!! The first dedicated cycle tourism facility in regional South Australia is now open in the Barossa.

Located in the heart of the Tanunda main street, adjacent to the Barossa Visitor Information Centre, the Barossa Cycle Hub was officially opened on January 20, by Mayor Bob Sloane.

The Cycle Hub represents a significant achievement for Council in terms of its continued investment establishing the Barossa as a genuine cycle tourism destination.

The project not only resulted in the creation of a dedicated facility and building, but the new Cycle Hub verandah and shelter areas now incorporate the exterior of the Tanunda CWA building, providing it with a facelift and bringing it front and centre into a revived town square.

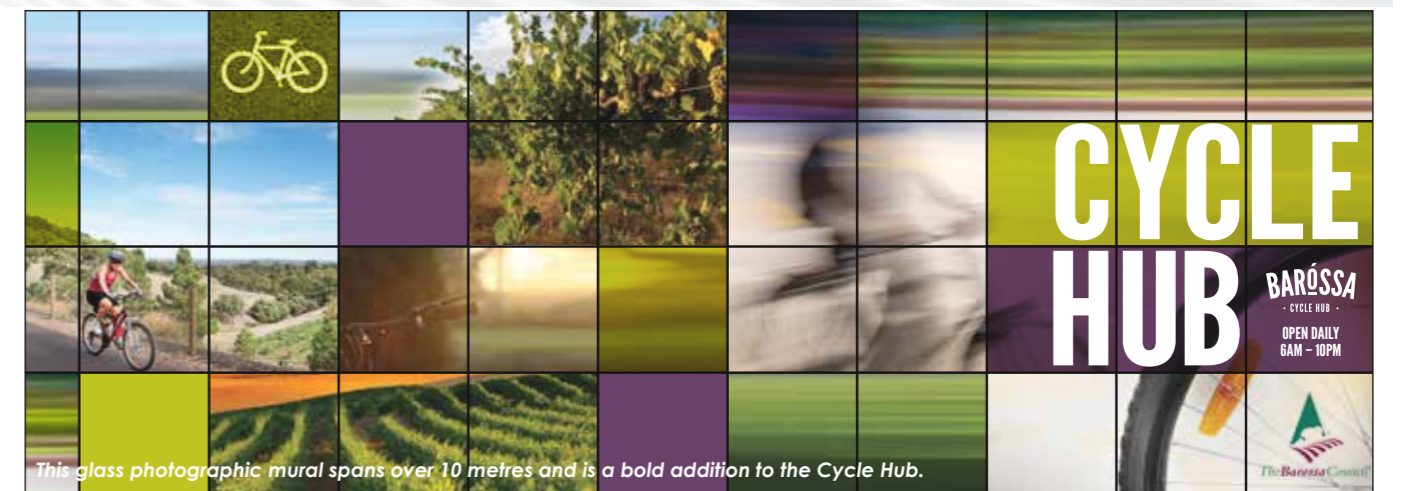
Mayor Bob Sloane said the project is a great example of Council's commitment to support local community groups and businesses whilst also strengthening tourism opportunities.

"Many local businesses have been involved in this project right from the initial planning phase through to the construction and design elements; continuing on with the supply of cycle hire via the Visitor Centre and the cycling goodies in the vending machine. Thanks must also to the Tanunda Town Committee for its contribution to the project with the funding of the decorative feature wall and related signage," he said.

"The Cycle Hub has already become a focal point for the Tanunda township and enhanced the main street precinct.

"We anticipate this facility will generate lots of interest and encourage people (both tourists and locals) to embrace the cycling culture and utilise the new facilities."

The Cycle Hub includes: bike storage; amenities including toilets and changerooms, a bike maintenance station, lockers for personal items, a vending machine stocked with essential cycling items and bike hire.



This glass photographic mural spans over 10 metres and is a bold addition to the Cycle Hub.

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Customer survey



Council will be conducting a survey in coming weeks, aimed at providing a clearer insight into your experience when dealing with us.

The survey will provide us with valuable information that will assist to improve our customer focus. We will be writing to randomly selected customers, inviting you to participate, however the confidential survey is open to all customers.

Should you wish to participate in the survey please contact Council on 8563 8444 or email barossa@barossa.sa.gov.au.

Barossa Comes Home

In the lead up to this year's Barossa Vintage Festival, organisers are asking you to encourage your friends, family and colleagues to come back for the Barossa Vintage Festival from 15 – 19 April, 2015.

April is the perfect time to visit, and with over 95 events, the Barossa Vintage Festival has something for everyone – from decadent feasts and long table lunches, to the iconic Festival Parade and Scarecrow Trail.

Start the conversation, plant some seeds and get planning for Australia's biggest and best Festival celebrating food, wine, arts, heritage and community.

It's time to invite the world home to celebrate with us.

For the full program visit: barossvintagefestival.com.au or pick up a copy from the Nuriootpa Council office or the Visitor Information Centre.



Rates Concessions

Included with this newsletter and your rates notice is a very important flyer highlighting cuts to funding for pensioner and other concessions by our Federal and State Governments.

The proposed cuts will place an unfair burden on those who are currently eligible for a concession, with a projected 'bill shock' of around 15% without the concession.

Council is opposed to the Federal cut and is also opposing the State Government's decision to abolish concessions on Council rates.

To support Council's aim to reverse this decision you are encouraged to contact your local Federal and State Member of Parliament. Contact details can be found on the back of the Rates Concession flyer.

Bushgardens captured on film

Stay tuned for the launch of a new documentary which takes a look behind the scenes of the Barossa Bushgardens. The five minute film will be launched in the coming months and everything the Bushgardens has to offer.

WW1 descendents sought

Williamstown & District Historical Society is searching for descendants of World War One soldiers killed in action between 1914-1918.

The Society intends to recognise the soldiers at the next Anzac Day ceremony. Descendants of Private Boomer Percy, Private Burton Horace, Private Cundy William, Lieut Gilbert John, Private Gilbert Joseph, Private Green Martin, Private Kennewell Sydney, Private Manser Walter, Sapper McNamara Louis, Private Meakins Walter, Private Millington Arthur, Gunner Pappin William, Private Speck John, Private Stanley Walter, Private Tobitt Harold, Private Wilson Alfred, Private Wilson Bert, Private Wilson Harold, Private Harris Charles, Private Wilson George, Lance Cpl Gaston David, Private Gower Ernest, Private Kennewell Charlars, Private Meyer William and Private Price Sydney are asked to contact Jodie Randall on 0438 325 401 or Trevor Jessop on 0424 300 548. A dedication ceremony for a new World War One monument will be held in front of the RSL Hall in Williamstown on April 19, 2015.



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Bushfire response

Were you aware that Council plays an important role during significant bushfire events by offering assistance to emergency services and surrounding Councils?

Most recently, Council has provided direct support during the Angaston fire in December and the Sampson Flat fire in January, but was also very active 'on the ground' during last year's devastating Eden Valley fires.

Working closely with, and under the direction of emergency services, Council has provided a range of assistance including tree removal, clearing of roads, stock burial, fence removal, general clean up and enforcing road closures.

Council machinery, such as front end loaders and water tankers are also utilised to assist with the fire response.

Council staff have with experience in emergency management have also provided logistical support at incident control centres.

Through its involvement with Local Recovery Committees that are established following significant bushfire events, Council assists in the coordination of recovery efforts for fire affected communities.

Council's proactive response has been praised by local CFS, who are grateful for the extra assistance provided.

Tourism on the rise

Tourism continues to boom in the Barossa, according to recent operational statistics from Council's award-winning Barossa Visitor Centre.

November and December Visitor Information Centre statistics have continued to reveal a significant increase in tourism bookings and enquiries, representing a boost for the local economy.

Jo Seabrook, Manager Tourism Services said the holiday period between Christmas and New year was exceptionally busy for Visitor Centre staff and volunteers.

"With 2,854 enquiries recorded in a ten day period from Boxing Day to January 4, staff and volunteers were kept very busy, a 17% increase on the same period last year" said Jo.

"On one day alone, staff fielded 432

enquiries. And our bookings for the month of December were valued at \$53,177 compared to \$36,054 last year.

"This just highlights the confidence in tourism for our region and the great work of all related industries in promoting the Barossa. There is no doubt the Barossa Be Consumed campaign has assisted in building our tourism presence and encouraging people to visit the region.

"During this financial year we have seen a positive trend with sales continuing to increase, and also our tour bookings.

"It's great to see such a positive trend and with the opening of the new Cycle Hub we are confident tourism numbers and investments to the region will continue to rise."

Summer pool safety



We all like to keep cool as the Summer weather heats up, and the idea of having your own backyard pool or spa is appealing. But are you aware of the risks and safety requirements?

Drowning is one of the most common causes of unintentional death in Australian children aged between 0-4 years. Backyard swimming pools are regarded as the single most dangerous water environment for young children. Pools and spas are required to have safety barriers or fencing constructed in accordance with Australian Standards to restrict access by young children to the water.

Development approval is also required for a swimming pool exceeding 300mm in depth. This includes any above ground or inflatable swimming pools with a filtration system; or a spa pool with a maximum capacity exceeding 680 litres.

To find out more about pool safety visit www.royallifesaving.com.au or check out council's fact sheet at www.barossa.sa.gov.au.

AgSafe drumMuster

Council residents are reminded about the drumMuster program that allows farmers and winemakers to recycle their empty and clean agvet chemical containers.

Drums can be dropped off at the Nuriootpa Dump (Belvedere Road) during normal opening hours. For more information visit www.barossa.sa.gov.au or call 0418 607 348.