

OCTOBER
2023

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL



The Flinders
Ranges Council

MAYORAL REPORT

For the past three decades and more, the township of Quorn has grappled with a persistent water quality issue. The Flinders Ranges Council, its residents, and previous administrations have tirelessly advocated for a solution, to no avail.

SA Water's official statistics indicate only 3% of residents drink the water due to its poor quality, in respect of calcium, chlorine and salt content this is obviously not something new for residents.

The water is Undrinkable, Unsavoury and Unacceptable AND it's Unthinkable that in the 21st Century a community has to put up with this poor quality, basic of services that most other communities take for granted.

Over the last 12 months, the Council has engaged in extensive negotiations with the government, including the Deputy Premier, Local members and federal representatives, Agencies' including SA Water and The Essential Services Commission of SA (ESCOSA) all in an attempt to address this ongoing issue. Whilst the 12 months of hard work offered some hope of gaining a position on the SA Waters 4 year investment plan, we again seem to have been relegated to the long term plan, with no commitment of funding to solve the issue.

Council has again (after an initial submission in the previous SA Water's 4 year plan back in 2020), placed another submission to SA Water to review their plan and to include Quorn's water quality issue in the funding.

Despite our best efforts and the resilience of Quorn's residents, progress has remained elusive. We find ourselves at a critical juncture, requiring a collective response from all residential South Australians.

The water supply problem in Quorn has not only persisted but increased costs for each individual in the township of Quorn (figures of at least \$1,000 per person per year on replacement costs for plumbing fixtures, hot water systems, washing machines to mention a few). We have seen the toll it takes on our community, both socially and the economic stress that our elderly and vulnerable residents are subjected to. In the face of this protracted struggle, we are intending to reach out to our fellow South Australians, seeking support and collaboration in our campaign for an improved water quality in Quorn.

The water quality issue in Quorn is not just a local concern; it is emblematic of the broader challenges our region faces. The Flinders Ranges is a crucial part of South Australia's identity, and a thriving Quorn is essential to the success and well-being of the entire region and state. Access to reliable quality water is fundamental to sustaining our community, fostering growth, visitation and preserving the unique heritage of Quorn.

As we prepare to launch this campaign for Quorn's water quality improvement, we urge all residents to join us in our pursuit. We believe that by uniting our voices and resources, we can bring this long-standing issue to the fore.

We will be asking for comments and input of photos and evidence of the economic cost for residents to be lodged through a council website and information relating to how you

can register your support to get this issue fixed. More details on how and where will be circulated through Council's newsletter and Facebook page in the near future.

In the coming months, we will be sharing our concerns with the broader public of South Australia and offer opportunities for collaboration. Together, we can ensure that Quorn and the Flinders Ranges not only survive but thrive.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and dedication to the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

Ken Anderson

Mayor

COMMUNITY FAREWELL FOR CEO

As the community is aware, CEO Eric Brown has taken up a new position with the City of Port Lincoln and will be finishing up with us officially on the 12 November 2023.

To celebrate his achievements and to give our well wishes, the Council community is invited to attend a farewell for Eric on Friday 27 October 2023 from 5.30pm in the Quorn Town Square.

A BBQ tea will be supplied so RSVP for catering purposes is appreciated either in person at the Council Office, email council@frc.sa.gov.au or call 8620 0500 by 25th October.



Mayoral Seniors Christmas Lunch

The Annual Seniors Christmas Lunch will be held at the Quorn Town Hall on Tuesday 5th December 2023 from 11.30 am for a 12 noon lunch.

All seniors are welcome to attend.
The community Buses will be available for Hawker residents.

Please contact Council on 8620 0500 if you have any questions.

RSVP's appreciated but not compulsory.



MY LOCAL SERVICES APP

This is a free app which can be used for submitting a Council request/complaint, checking on waste collection dates and Community Events.



FIRE DANGER SEASON – Now STARTED

Fire Ban season has commenced as of 16th October 2023. This is in place until 15th April 2024

Also, remember the new fire danger rating system that is now in place, so plan and prepare yourself, your family and property for the upcoming season.

The material load is high so plan and prepare now!

For further information please visit
www.cfs.sa.gov.au



Swimming Pools 2023/2024

Council is working towards opening both Hawker and Quorn swimming pools at the end of October/start of November.

Official dates, opening hours and fees will be advertised on both the Hawker Pool and Quorn Pool Facebook pages-

Hawker Swimming Pool

<https://www.facebook.com/HawkerSwimmingPool>

Quorn and Districts War Memorial Swimming Pool

<https://www.facebook.com/quornmemorialpool>

QUORN & HAWKER FEES

Season Family Pass (2-5 people):	\$346.00
Extra Family Member:	\$58.00
Season Pass Single:	\$173.00
10 Swim Pass:	\$48.00
General Admission:	\$ 6.00

QUORN OPENING HOURS:

Mornings: -

Laps: - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (Volunteer Dependant) & Friday, 6:30 am - 8:00 am

Afternoons: -

Monday - Thursday 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Friday - Sunday 2:30 pm - 7:00 pm

School Holidays: -

2:30 pm - 7:00 pm each day

HAWKER OPENING HOURS:

Afternoons: -

Monday - Thursday, 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Friday - 3:30— 7:00

Weekends 2:30—7:00pm

Watch the Facebook page for Quorn Saturday Morning Openings

Pool/s will remain open until 5:30 regardless of numbers however from then on will depend on attendance.

If the weather is forecast for less than 25 degrees the pool/s may be closed however all closures will be posted on Council's Facebook pages.

Eftpos will be available at the pools (strictly no cash out available). Season pass must be paid in full at time of purchase.

Unfortunately, due to staff training both pools will be closed on Saturday 18 and adjusted hours on Sunday 19 November 2023



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT

"Buckaringa" Shop Lease - 40 First Street, Quorn

Council is seeking expressions of interest from potential businesses (either new or existing) for the lease of the "Buckaringa" at 40 First Street, Quorn.

The shop is in a prominent location and interacts directly with the newly constructed Quorn Public Square. The shop is over 280m2 in size, with a large shop front area, bathroom, kitchen and storage rooms.

Council is seeking to obtain a commercial return on the building and a lease fee would be payable, this would be negotiated based on a rental valuation. However, as the building requires work on the interior, Council would be interested in considering an offset for a part of the fit out against lease fees. Council may also be able to complete some internal work to assist a potential business

It is expected that any expressions of interest would be put to Council for decision.

A basic form is required to be completed as part of a submission as well as a business plan and other information.

For more information, or to arrange an inspection, please contact:

Mr Sean Cheriton, Director of Finance and Administration,
The Flinders Ranges Council, PO Box 43, Quorn SA 5433
Or via email to council@frc.sa.gov.au

For more information including the EOI form go to the Council website.

**Submissions will close 5pm
on Friday 1 December 2023**



CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

Please note the temporary closure of the following Council facilities over the Christmas period :

Quorn Principal Office: – close at 12:00 pm Friday 22nd December 2023 and reopen at 9:00 am Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Quorn and Hawker Depots: – close at 12:00 pm Friday 22nd December 2023 and reopen at 7:00 am Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Flinders Ranges Visitor Information Centre – closed at 12:00pm Friday 22nd December 2023 and reopen at 10:00am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Quorn and Hawker Swimming Pools – closed 25th December 2023 only.

No changes to existing kerbside waste collection schedules and transfer station opening hours are predicted, however, any changes will be communicated as soon as the information is received.