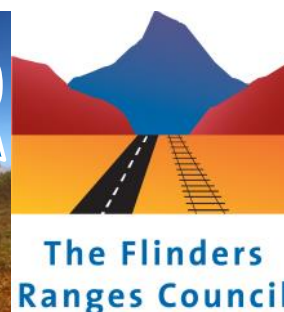


JANUARY
2022

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL



MAYORS MESSAGE

Since the Government has decided to open the borders we have been expecting the Coronavirus to reach us and now it has with many cases across our Council area. As I explained in my December report we have had a contingency plan in place since the virus hit our shores to ensure that Council will still be able to function in the event that some members may become infected. This has been documented and may be found on our website and has also been placed on Facebook. I know that the fear of catching the virus places a lot of stress on the community but it is refreshing to see people wearing their facemasks and sanitising their hands.

SA Health also has a contingency plan in regards to our hospitals and health providers and as part of this plan they have had to move our elderly residents from the Hawker Hospital to the Quorn Hospital. They have done this to better protect these residents as the aged care facility and the emergency department of the Hawker Hospital are under the same roof with the same ventilation system and same staff. I am a member of the Hawker H.A.C. and have spoken to the Hawker DON and Craig Packard and I have been assured that this is a temporary measure and that there is no threat of either the Hawker or Quorn Hospitals closing down.

Unfortunately as with many others some of the paving crew currently laying pavers in Hawker have been affected by the virus and they are all in isolation until the 24th of January 2022. To answer many queries in regards to the pavers, once they have been placed they will be mechanically packed down and all trimming will be done including cutting and inserting expansion joints. We have many projects to complete this year and hopefully these types of delays won't crop up too often but we know that they will so please be patient with us.

Mayor Greg Flint

CANCELLATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY EVENTS

At its Ordinary meeting of 18 January 2022, Council made a decision to cancel all Australia Day events including those scheduled for Quorn, Hawker and Cradock.

This decision was not made lightly and it is in line with many other Councils who have also cancelled similar events and celebrations due to COVID restrictions and uncertainties.

Council is doing its best to try and protect the community and its staff and recognises the efforts that community organisations and members have already put into these events.

We hope that all community members continue to celebrate Australia Day in COVID safe ways.



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Council wishes to congratulate the following recipients of the 2022 Australia Day Awards:

Citizen of the Year—Dani Chapman, Quorn

Dani is heavily involved in volunteer work in the community including the Stockyard Arena Association, tennis club and netball club and holds different positions on these committees including President. Dani played a key role in the recent Stockyard Arena upgrade project.

As well as her community involvement Dani is also married with three children and maintains a busy lifestyle with them including horse riding, sports and also getting them involved in the community.

Dani has also managed to squeeze in study to become an enrolled nurse, which has assisted greatly in the caring role she has for her son who became a paraplegic after a motorbike accident some years ago. Dani is also continuing studies to become a registered nurse.

Dani was nominated by a fellow community member who wanted her dedication to many community associations, volunteer work, study, family balance and general positive contribution to the community recognised.

Certificates of Recognition have also been awarded to the following recipients:

Geoff Finlay— for providing exemplary service to his customers for over 21 years and for going above and beyond to deliver.

John Simpson—for his service to the SES and for pushing to improve equipment such as drones and infrared cameras and for his ongoing support for Flinders Flicks and for bringing other major events to Quorn.

Heidi Roberts—for over 17 years volunteer service on various sporting and community committees within the local community.

Ian Heymink (awarded posthumously) - for his promotion of local businesses via social media which spurred on a fantastic pre-existing community spirit and for embracing the town with gusto and even though he was very ill he found an outlet for his creativity.

Council wishes to congratulate all recipients and thank them for their ongoing community support and spirit. All recipients will be presented with certificates at a smaller ceremony with the Mayor to be held in the near future.



LIKE AND SHARE OUR FACEBOOK PAGES



<https://www.facebook.com/Flinders.Ranges.Council/>

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



Check out the Flinders Ranges & Outback Visitor Guide 2021 for adventures, activities and experiences.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/woofmedia/flinders-ranges-and-outback-visitor-guide-2021/full-view.html>

COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATE

Council is continuing to monitor the ever-changing COVID-19 situation and putting practices into place to help protect its staff and the community.

As per the update provided in late November, our works Depots in Hawker and Quorn remain closed to the public and all transactions and face to face service is being managed through the main office in Quorn and also through Teagues Motors in Hawker.

At this stage all public facilities including parks, toilets, playgrounds, historic sites, gorges, trails etc will remain open to the public. Please observe social distancing and wear a mask if possible when interacting with other members of the public.

In relation to the Hawker and Quorn Swimming Pools, we ask all attendees to please wear a mask on entry and ensure that you check in via the COVID app or contact tracing sheets.

If you are not swimming or are there as an observer, please wear your mask when moving around the site e.g. if you are using the bathrooms, going to the canteen or walking around. Please also note that all eating and drinking must be done while seated. Please observe social distancing with other members of the public when in and out the pool.

Cleaning regimes on all facilities are also continuing to be monitored and adjusted according to usage.

The Quorn Oval facility is still open for visitors for camping and caravanning.

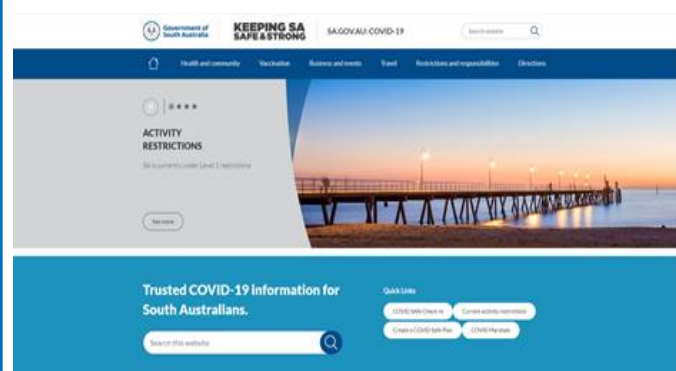
The Waste Transfer Stations remain open and waste collection services will continue as normal.

Where possible, Council encourages community members and rate payers to make any payments via electronic means or over the phone. If you wish to discuss a matter or have a question, please call the office if your matter or enquiry can be handled via telephone, or email council@frc.sa.gov.au

Please be assured that any restrictions are temporary and are in place to protect the staff and members of the public and that Council will continue to monitor the situation, meet regularly to assess changing situations and restrictions and any changes will be communicated to the public. If you have any questions or concerns please call the main administration office on 8620 0500.

As of Monday 17 January 2022, the Flinders Ranges Visitor Information Centre (VIC) will be closed due to staff availability for up to two (2) weeks. Staff are responding to telephone calls and email enquiries.

For the latest COVID-19 information, restrictions, and guidance on activities and COVIDSafe plans visit <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/>



MAINSTREET(S) FACELIFT PROJECT PROGRESSING

The Mainstreet(s) Facelift program is continuing to progress well with some applicants completing their projects resulting in an improvement in the visual look of the main street precincts.

The program offers eligible applicants 50% funding for upgrading property facades (up to \$5,000) in Quorn, Hawker and Cradock and aims to provide a significant visual lift to the streetscapes of the towns and enhance the regions tourism and residential appeal. If you are in an eligible area, the program is still open so please call the main office on 8620 0500 to discuss your project. This project received grant funding from the Australian Government through the National Radioactive Waste Management Facility - Community Benefit Program.



HAWKER SWIMMING POOL—SHADE SAIL DONATION

The Hawker Swimming Pool Fund Raising Committee has agreed to donate a considerable amount of funding for the purchase of a new shade sail at the Hawker Swimming Pool.

The Council and community wish to thank the fund raising committee for their kind donation.

The sail will be installed during the off season to minimise disruptions.



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

