As newly elected councillors and mayors find their seats, the Riverland West anticipates the next four years...

NEW TERM, NEW FACES

SONIA FOWLER and ERIN WILLIAMS

THE two Riverland West councils – Loxton Waikerie and Mid Murray – have welcomed a total of 10 new faces to lead their respective regions for the next four years. Local Government Association (LGA) president Sam Teller said statewide, the 2018 council elections have seen about 305,000 South Australians vote this year, which is 38,000 more than in 2014.

“Voting in council elections is one of the most important ways that people can have a say about the future of their community and it’s encouraging to see more people taking an interest in who is representing them,” Mr Teller said.

“Importantly, I would like to congratulate all of our new councillors and mayors who now hold responsibility for improving their communities and ensuring the voices of their constituents are heard.”

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Hope for missing persons colours Cadell

SONIA FOWLER

A CADELL building has received a facelift of a different kind, after an artist painted the side wall with the theme of missing persons.

Through the Missing Persons Advocacy Network (MPAN) the Barnett's General Store, situated at River Terrace, Cadell, has taken part in a concept called, ‘Help make the missing, unmissable, by donating a wall’, and covering the cost of materials.

The MPAN website has a free tool called Unmissable, designed to help the families of long-term missing people reignite the search for their loved ones, by partnering them with writers and artists to make them unmissable.

Proprietors of the Cadell business, Lin Peters and Gordon Conyard, had a South Australian Artist paint the wall on their store using only aerosol spray cans.

‘Artist Joel van Moore, of Port Pirie, painted the 3m x 1m mural on the wall of the shop,’ Mrs Peters said.

‘It’s a realistic image of Ryan Chambers, of Mount Gambier, who went missing in India in 2005.

‘The stories of families and their missing loved ones I find very emotive and the image on the mural is quite confronting.

‘The hope is that maybe the mural on our shop will trigger someone to contact their family of someone that knows something about a particular missing persons whereabouts might pass on the information, then it’s all worth it.

‘Research from MPAN said more than 100 Australians are reported missing every day, and while most are found quickly, many remain missing long term.

‘Research shows at least 12 people are directly impacted when someone goes missing – emotionally, psychologically and financially – and almost half a million Australians every year, the spokesperson said.

‘MPAN has launched and creates awareness for missing persons, as well as providing practical support to their families and friends.’

MPAN was established in 2013 by Loren O’Keefe, whose brother Dan went missing in July 2011.

His disappearance prompted the biggest campaign of its kind called Dan Come Home.

Over 18 months, the search for Dan gained significant traditional media attention and a captive social media following of over 70,000.

Other families in similar situations began to make contact, desperate for advice and support, which led Loren to found MPAN.

This is the motivation behind the foundation project – Missing Persons Guide – a world-first practical guide of what to do when someone goes missing.

The guide explains critical processes, minimising time wastage when efficiency matters most.

Mrs Peters said pictures of the painted wall will be officially published soon after the artwork is complete.

Opposition visits Riverland: ‘TIME TO LISTEN’

ERIN WILLIAMS

POLITICIANS converged on the Riverland over the weekend when Labor leader Peter Malinauskas brought his shadow cabinet up here.

The Liberal State Government scrapped the Country Cabinet concept in its September budget, with Member for Charles Trosset Whetstone describing it as a “vainy exercise.”

Shadow Attorney General Kyran Maher said the visit was for the ministers to listen to Riverlanders and inform about Opposition policy.

“Once difference I’ve noted between being a minister and a shadow minister is now I have a lot more time to listen,” he said.

“I visited schools, police stations and local businesses, and spent a lot of time listening to the concerns of growers and locals.”

Mr Maher said he will be taking several issues brought up by Riverlanders back to Adelaide.

“A major one is water security,” he said.

“ar lot of growers are facing pressure and concerns over new crops, and what the current drought is going to mean for them.

“Another thing is speed limits on regional roads; the State Government made promises to raise limits in the Riverland on some roads from 100km/h to 110km/h, and it hasn’t delivered on those promises.

“Thirdly, several people voiced their concerns about access to hospitals and emergency services across the region.

“While most people seem to be in agreement that there is an excellent quality of care, they want to see health services more accessible.”

The Shadow Country Cabinet visit included a ‘Shadow Cabinet and Labor Listening’ forum, held at the Loxton Football Club on Sunday, to which about 60 to 80 people attended.

Mr Maher said he always enjoys visiting the Riverland.

“Walkerie’s a wonderful little town, and it’s great to see some new shops opening in the streets,” he said.

“About four years ago, I came through during the Melbourne Cup and stayed at the Walkerie Hotel for some time.

“The locals really know how to put on a show.’

MOBILITY SCOOTER SERVICING. LOAN A SCOOTER WHILE YOU WAIT!
New faces for Loxton Waikerie

SONIA FOWLER

RESULTS for the local election last week saw five new councillor faces join the five incumbent members re-elected to the District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

The Waikerie district now has four elected members on council, Loxton also has four, while Kingston-On-Murray and Brown's Well have one each, filling the 10 positions.

The newly-elected councillors are Waikerie's Peter Walker, Clive Matthews and Jordon Kleemann, while Sonya Altshagaver and Terry Wheelan are newcomers representing the Loxton district.

Michael Vowles, Trevor Norton, Jenny Fyr, Kyrn Webber and Deb Tickle will be seated back in the council chambers for another four year term.

The quota for the District Council of Loxton Waikerie in the elections was 416, and polling saw Ranko resident Peter Walker receive 402, the highest number of first-preference votes in the local election.

Although a high percentage of Loxton Waikerie council voters took part (50.28 per cent), the results saw both the mayoral and elected member polling receive 231 informal votes in total, made up of 203 informal votes for councillors and 11 for mayor.

A total of 124 nominations were received for the 2018 SA elections - more than in 2014.

"This was the highest number of nominations received since 1988, when SA had 115 councils compared to today," he said.

"We also had 454 women nominate for council this year, which is a 20 per cent increase from 2014 and the highest on record," Mr Teller said.

The LGA and councils ran a campaign to increase the diversity of candidates in the lead-up to those elections, and this message appears to have resonated with both candidates and voters.

"This diversity of representatives will help deliver greater depth to decision making, with a variety of knowledge, experience, and perspectives," he said.

"We still have a way to go, but it's encouraging to see more people willing to take on leadership positions, particularly women who will make up around a third of our mayors.

"To those who nominated but were unsuccessful - you are to be commended for putting your hand up and being willing to take on this responsibility. I hope you consider running again in four years' time."

Half and half: new MMC welcomes new councillors

ERIN WILLIAMS

FIVE fresh faces have joined the new Mid Murray Council (MMC) alongside five returning councillors and mayor to lead the region for the next four years.

Simone Bailey, Peter Smith, Steve Hennessy, John Perrester and Dennis McCarthy collected the votes needed to secure places in MMC for the next four years.

Joining MMC are past councilors Peter "Beachy" Raison, Steve Wilkinson, Jeff Hall and Kevin Myers, while re-instated Mayor Dave Burgess takes the helm for his third term in office.

Returning for his fourth term as councilor, Mr Burgess said he wants to see continuing projects develop.

"We've got a lot of ideas on the drawing board, and one project in particular I'd like to keep watching is the pa Canal," he said.

"I'd like to see this new council continue the work done in small towns and their outskirts, whether it be footpaths and road repairs or playgrounds."

The new and returning councillors met at an informal gathering last Friday, and Mr Burgess said he is looking forward to getting started.

"I'm hoping this new council will be transparent," he said.

"If everyone can get on and no one is just there for their own self-interest, we'll be able to get a lot done for the region."

First-time councillor Dennis McCarthy, of Sedan, said he decided to nominate as he had been part of community groups everywhere he had lived.

"I'm always out getting involved with the community and local groups, so I decided to make it official and nominate for council," he said.

"As a councillor, I'd like to see financial improvements and positive surplus in council's budget, as well as more road maintenance."

MMC has a lot of road across its region and has done a lot of maintenance to them, but there's still potholes and scrub by the roads that needs clearing - things like that."

"I'd like to see getting taken care of." The new Mid Murray Council had its first meeting yesterday at the Cambrai council offices.

Parliament of South Australia
Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Health, Safety and Compensation
Inquiry into Workplace Fatigue and Bullying
in South Australian Hospitals and Health Services

The Committee is undertaking an inquiry into fatigue and workplace bullying in South Australian Hospitals and Health Services. This will be a wide-ranging inquiry and consider factors contributing to workplace fatigue and bullying; for impacts of excess compliance of work practices with industrial and regulatory requirements; for impacts from other industry sectors; measures to improve management of fatigue and bullying; fatigue and medical misdiagnosis, and other relevant matters.

The Committee invites written submissions and requests of interest to appear before the Committee to make verbal submissions.

All submissions must address the Terms of Reference for the inquiry (in whole or in part), which can be found on the Parliament of South Australia website.

The following defendants, from SafeWork Australia, apply to the inquiry:

Bullying: "Workplace bullying is repeated and unreasonable behavior directed towards a worker or group of workers that creates a risk to health and safety."

Fatigue: "In work context, fatigue is neutral to and/or physical exhaustion that reduces your ability to perform your work safely and effectively."

You may request that all or part of your submission remains confidential.

Further information regarding the Inquiry may be found at: www.parliament.sa.gov.au/ocshsc
Email: ochs@parliament.sa.gov.au
Phone: (08) 8237 0220 or (08) 8237 9343
Closing date for submissions - 31st January 2019

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Sergeant Observer Robert Ambrose Redman

Redman November 20, 1919 – March 15, 1943

NIGEL CAMPBELL

Robert Ambrose Redman was born November 20, 1919, to Oliver Redman, (who was later the superintendent of the Defaf and Dumb Mission in Adelaide), and Vera Redman. Bob was the eldest son of his family and very much looked up to by his brother Alan. Bob was educated at the Giliaha Street and Adelaide Technical High Schools, and was a fully qualified accountant and secretary. He was on the staff of the State Bank of SA, and while attached to the Waikerie branch, enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in early 1941.

After his enlistment and commencing training, Bob married a Waikerie girl, Sylvia Lehmann, on October 16, 1941. Bob and Sylvia subsequently welcomed a daughter, Patricia.

He was locally interested in sport, and was a popular all-round footballer and cricketer, having played the latter with the Adelaide B grade team and football with Waikerie. Before enlistment, he was an active worker in the Unley Church of Christ, with which he had been associated for many years.

Bob was stationed at Port Pirie until early 1943 when he was transferred to Western Australia.

Bob was a rigger in a Beaufort air transport, when at around 6am on March 15, 1943, the plane he was in crashed into a hill shortly after take-off in heavy fog. All aboard (four crew and four other RAAF members) were killed when the crash occurred at Weels in WA.

All were buried, March 17, 1943, at Geraldton. No cause could be determined.

SERGEANT Observer Robert Ambrose Redman.

For the plane accident.

On March 27, 1943, all cricket games at Port Pirie stopped and stood in silence for two minutes to the memory of their fallen mate and fellow player.

Five months after his death, his widow Sylvia gave birth to their second daughter, in Queensland.

Robert Redman is interred in the Geraldton War Memorial Cemetery and is commemorated on the Australian War Memorial on the Roll of Honour.

Bob is also commemorated with a tree plaque in the Waikerie War Memorial Gardens.

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District Council of Loxton Waikerie poll
19 candidates contest: 10 vacancies
First last: 44.2%
Informal votes: 202 (4.2%)
Quote: 416

WALKER, Peter: 876 Elected 1 Quote 1
WHEELDON, Terry: 269 Elected 10 Quote 125
NIEGREN, Tracey: 179 Elected 207 Quote 88
WEBBER, Kyrn: 153 Elected 8 Quote 116
LLOYD, Sonen Minto: 373 Elected 104 Quote 22
VONAS, The Michael John: 768 Elected 2 Quote 1
NORTON, Trevor (Nobby): 340 Elected 4 Quote 3
KLEEMANN, Jordon: 203 Elected 0 Quote 89
WARD, Mark Leslie: 202 Elected 350 Quote 124
NICHOLLS, Bob: 103 Elected 158 Quote 44
HUGHES, Adrian: 39 Elected 62 Quote 50
ALTSHAGAVER, Sonya: 423 Elected 3 Quote 1
THEILE, Del: 104 Elected 9 Quote 125
MATTHEWS, Ghia: 270 Elected 5 Quote 55
ZEPPELL, Michael: 97 Elected 113 Quote 31
MURDOCH, Kimberlee: 68 Elected 70 Quote 16
HOFFMANN, Chris: 33 Elected 44 Quote
FLAKE, John: 273 Elected 7 Quote 99
PHILLIPS, Maureen: 87 Elected 202 Quote 60
A MAJOR, new water agreement was signed last Friday between the Commonwealth Government and Barrock Station to deliver water to its historic wetlands into the future.

The agreement was signed between the Cultural Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) Jody Swirepek and managers of Barrock Station signed the agreement to help secure the future for native fish, plants and animals at Barrock's wetlands for a further five years.

The contract, which is a unique agreement between the Commonwealth and a private company, will deliver water to the 130th wetlands.

Barrock Station Wetland manager Tim Field said the contract with Ms Swirepek and Acocola Wines, owner of Barrock promoted the representation of Megan Cole.

Ms Swirepek said the new demonstration of how the Australian Government and private businesses can work together to protect and restore crucial wetlands, vegetation and habitats for native species.

"The partnership shows us all how the careful use of water for the environment can help crucial areas revive and thrive, improve sustainability and leave a wonder- ful blueprint for future generations to enjoy," she said.

"Barrock Station's wetlands and floodplains are home to 284 species and plantas and is an important habitat for 171 species of fish, including the threatened parrot, along with 41 species of reptiles, 13 species of mammals, nine species of fish and eight species of amphibians.

"The Basin Plan came about because it was recognized that too much water was being extracted from the rivers to sustain them.

"This partnership is one demonstration of how the water has been recovered to help the environment is delivering tangible benefits.

"Barrock Station wetland manager Tim Field said sharing water to protect the environment was good for local ecology and business."

"The wetland was in a poor state when Barrock Station intervened, buying water to help red gums and black box woodlands, which were struggling to survive the millennium drought," Mr Field said.

"When Barrock Station and the CEWH first worked together to deliver water under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, the area has become one of Australia's hot spots for native birds.

"The Commonwealth Government's Threatened Species Commissioner Dr Sally Box said the partnership would improve the habitat for the nationally threatened regent parrot and southern bell frog, and other species.

"By working together, we can make a real difference and improve the outlook for some of our endangered species," she said.

Bringing Cadell wetlands to life

CADEL wetlands will soon be teeming with wildlife, thanks to a project brought together by an alliance of irrigators, community members, two environmental groups and government.

Nature Foundation SA chief executive Hugo Hopson said groups like this are often seen in conflict, but at Cadell everyone is working together to help a dry and struggling wetland.

"Because of the way the river is managed, the lagoon is almost permanently dry when normally it would have received regular natural floods," he said.

"The last time it was wet was following the high river in 2010-2011.

"This project will provide an important drought refuge for waterbirds, providing them with food, nesting and rearing habitat. There will also be benefits for the farming vegetation.

"The wetland will now take some time to be fully restored, but by pumping water into it, there is a chance to recover and build its resilience ahead of future dry years.

"Along with support from new SA involved groups include the Cadell Community Tourism Association (CCTA), Riverland Community Care and Central Irrigation Trust (CIT) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office.

The water will be pumped into the lagoon using CIT infrastructure and held there for approximately eight to 12 weeks.

"The project will utilise Commonwealth environmental water - which is also available through the Murray-Darling Basin Plan - and is expected to start within the next week.

Riverland Winegrowers Growers' Association Roundup

PEAK BODIES UNITE

An historic meeting of Australian Vignerons (AV) and the Winemakers Federation of Australia (WFA) took place in Adelaide on Tuesday, November 13.

With the organisations convinced their annual general meetings, which were following on the boards of both groups voted to amalgamate to form Australian Grape and Wine Incorporated (AGW).

"This agreement with other industry organisations in congratulating both peak bodies on this courageous, strategic initiative.

Executive chair Chris Byrne commented that Riverland winegrowers and winemakers agreed to unite in 2005 to represent and advocate on behalf of all parties for more Agreements and policies.

"There is a small amount of the fundamen- tal objective for all who invest time, capital and labour to grow grapes and make wine, to be profitable and sustainable," he said.

"We make a list of sense to work as a unit, to achieve those outcomes.

"With more than 80 per cent of all Riverland wine being exported, it is imperative we understand the myriad of market prices and consumers and that we apply our combined resources of the best competitive wine productions especially in the southern hemisphere. Working together we can become the preferred supplier ahead of major rivals, Argentina, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa.

"Commercial differences must be re- solved and mutually respected but more than the key to the wine industry's business and trading environment is sustainable", when winemakers and growers are planning and act in concert with a focus on leadership, respect, integrity and admit to our degenerative wrongs (but not all things are lost) towards education, growth, empowerment and entrepreneur- ship. Cooperation and collaboration will shine a light on sustainability, profitability and growth within much shorter timeframes.

Riverland winegrowers meet for the purpose of being actively involved in the new Australian Grape and Wine peak industry body.

CONGRATULATIONS BOB DAMBERGS

Still wine run deep. Those fortunate enough to know Bob Domingos are well familiar with his voice, but perhaps not so familiar with his gift of scientific planning and rigour stemming from his deep love of exploring and creating the secrets of grapes and wine.

He has been honoured this week to the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology (ASVO) along with Dr Richard Smart, being admitted as Fellows to the Society for his substantial and merita- rious contribution to the grape and wine industry and to the Society.

Dr Robert Smart is one of the true quiet achievers from the River- land. Alongside his love for science is his love for growing grapes on his Monahen vineyard. Bob has been a CWM member since 1985. He has served on the Grape and Wine Technology Development Group for the past three years and was appointed by growers to the ASVO Management Committee in August this year.

He has held a number of technical appointments at the Mallee Estate. He is a past secretary of the ASVO. He has also been involved with viticulture and winemaking research projects with the ABRI, undertaking much of his work in Tasmania.

In making the announcement, ASVO president Dr Anthony Robinson said: "Bob has been, and continues to be, an exemplary role model for researchers in balancing novel scientific findings with practical outcomes for industry. His con- tributions to the grape and wine industry have been countless but all generations from his unique combination of ideas of understanding industry needs, rigorous scientific planning and knowledge and critically, consideration of how to practically apply science to create impactful outcomes.

"Bob is another of the Riverland's hidden gems.

"The outstanding research and educational efforts have been critical to improving the wine industry in the state and the nation.

"The award is a testament to his efforts and commitment to the wine industry and ASVO.

"I am delighted that Bob has been recognised for his contribution to the wine industry and ASVO.

"Bob's award is a recognition of the vital role that research and education plays in the wine industry and the contributions of leading researchers like Bob.

"Bob's leadership and dedication to the wine industry have been instrumental in shaping the future of the industry in Australia and globally.

"I congratulate Bob on his well-deserved award and wish him continued success in his future endeavours.

"I am proud to be part of an industry that recognises and values the contributions of individuals like Bob.

"I wish Bob the very best for the future.

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"The meeting will be held in the Forthified Wines Barrel Hall at Acad- emic Estate winery. Members will have a chance of a later afternoon meeting with BBQ and wine tasting on Thursday December 6, or an early morning egg and bran breakfast with coffee and orange juice on Friday, December 7.

"Guest speakers will include:

- Senior manager from Ascensed Winery to provide some insights into the new bottling facility presents under construction and due to be operational early in the new year.

- Tony Battaglia, CEO of WFA at present discussing industry unity, outlook and key policy positions.

- Professor Seth West from the University of Adelaide to discuss the Remote Sensing Trials being conducted in collaboration with Riverland Wine and Wine Australia.

- Jim Canny to present observations and analysis of Riverland wine market and inviting members to participate in a calculation around 2012 grape and wine prices.

- More details are provided and advertised in the local papers in coming weeks.

- RAPP

- There is not a week that passes that someone doesn'torry "is it a good idea if we had a Riverland and Mallee primary producers business center?" (RAPP).

- This week to Mark Bell, economic development officer at the Remark and Paringa Council.

- Mark invited interested individuals and small groups to meet with representatives of one of the world's largest wine producers to discuss how the decentralist. The large company was BBQ, explaining how the emergence of black- "state wine produces" and the offer of off-trade wine opportunities and benefits for primary producers and pro- cessors.

- A small company was BBQ Robotics from Queensland, a start-up company specialising in a range of robotic solu- tions for orchards and vineyards.

- Earlier last week another entrepreneur presented to the company. The York, visited Riverland Wine to show "it is the the it has developed and integrated using artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and a range of remote sensors, with a focus on weather predictions, soil and vineyard health.

- All of these companies are keen to work with Riverland horticulturists, until growing and harvesting produce to realise how smart farming is becoming more accessible, more affordable and more imperative for farmers of all crops. It makes an awful lot of sense for this region's primary producers to work together to support these modern farming initiatives, to reduce risk and improve productivity and help us get our business back to the techology to estimate, predict and manage crops with much greater precision.

- Riverland winegrowers of a RAPP will only become louder.

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Morgan Lions Christmas Fair and Pageant

The annual Morgan Lions Christmas Fair and Pageant is one of the big highlights on Morgan’s event program for the year. Held on the picturesque Morgan riverfront from 3pm, on Saturday, December 8, the fair will feature stalls with crafts, jewellery, linen, clothing, wooden and other types of toys, candles and much more. Spokesperson for the event, Heather Pennington said the program of events for the afternoon will be jam-packed with fun and festivities for Christmas.

“Tours will be going on, including a great variety of delicious food choices on offer to tempt the taste buds,” Mrs Pennington said. “From 5.15pm all floats line up to be numbered to assist judges with their difficult choices for each section.

“Then at 6.30pm the pageant starts from Third Street, near the Morgan Police Station, featuring floats from families, community groups and businesses, with walkers, gophers, bikes and prams displaying their creative juices via Christmas float creations.”

This year sees three best float award categories, for service clubs, businesses and families, while the best boy’s bike, best girl’s bike, best walker, best golfer and best pram prizes will also be awarded.

Anyone wanting to enter a float can grab an entry form from Morgan Riverview Cafe or the Morgan Visitor Information Centre.

A Morgan and Cadell Christmas Lights competition will be judged the week before the pageant and winners announced on the night. From 6.45pm Santa will arrive at the riverfront with his goodie bags for the kids under 12.

After the pageant the Christmas celebrations continue with a sing-a-long to carols and music with Highway One at 7pm. At 9.15pm the spectacular fireworks display, supported by the Mid Murray Council, will shoot up into the night sky from the river and light up the Morgan river front.

“We invite the community to bring along chairs, rugs, bean bags and enjoy this fantastic family friendly event, it is always a great night,” Mrs Pennington said.