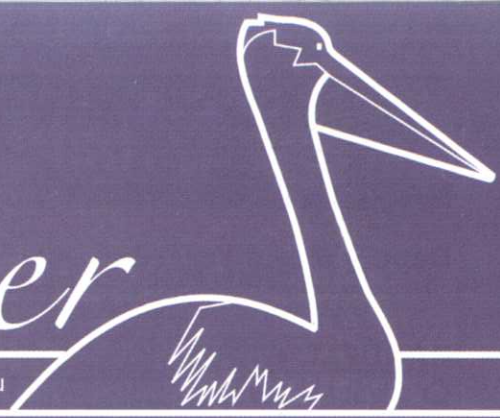


AUGUST 2009

Mid Murray Council

Newsletter

Email: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au • Web: www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au



Principal Office and Administration: 49 Adelaide Road, Mannum, PO Box 28, Mannum, SA 5238
Phone: 8569 0100 • Fax: 8569 1931

a message from the Mayor

The 2008/09 year has been a very active one for both Councillors and Staff with many hard decisions being made to fulfill our statutory obligations, keep the budget on track and provide the best services within these constraints to our community.

Again the weather was unfavorable for our primary industry sector with only 18% water allocation and an ever lower river level below Lock One. The irrigation sector was devastated by this lack of water and dairy, horticulture, viticulture and vegetable industries experienced high input prices and lower farm gate returns and ultimately record numbers in financial difficulty.

The world economic downturn was felt by the whole community especially the tourism industry where reduced confidence in discretionary spending for holidays was very apparent. Council was fortunate that our investments and loans are with the Local Government Finance Authority which had very little exposure to the foreign financial collapse.

A bright spot amid the gloom was the Federal Government's Infrastructure Fund announced in November where Council received \$460,000 to fund 18 projects spread across the Mid Murray area. These projects may have had to wait for years if it were not for this welcome grant.

Development applications were again strong this year with new greenfield sites in the Mannum area having considerable growth. It was also pleasing that the Mannum Waters Marina gained its Major Project Development approval with on-ground work starting in the new financial year.

The Mannum Council office extensions are almost complete, the Morgan office refurbishment is now finished and the Cambrai facility was extended recently. These projects will enable our staff to serve the public with far greater efficiency.

Council is again keen to work with its community to attain its strategic goals of a strong economy with a vibrant community while preserving our built and natural environment.

Ian R Mann OAM,
MAYOR



WORKS PROGRAMME 2009/2010

Council has set its Works Programme for the new financial year; the majority of funds are directed towards maintaining or improving our existing infrastructure.

Road Infrastructure

The construction gangs will be mainly concentrating on the re-sheeting of rural roads, with a target of 30 kilometres programmed for this year. Council has included the following roads to be upgraded to a sealed surface:-

- Cliff View Drive, Wongulla
- Morgan Causeway, Morgan
- East Front Road, Younghusband
- Rathjen and Kittlety Roads, Caloote
- Purnong Road, Mannum
- Priest and Mackintosh Roads, Cadell
- Punyelroo Road, Punyelroo

The re-sealing programme will continue with approximately 6 kilometres of roads. This is an essential part of maintaining our most valuable road asset, the sealed road network.

Other Infrastructure

The staged implementation of the Mannum Stormwater Mitigation Plan is continuing with Adelaide Road stormwater drainage works and survey works through the SA Water site.

Cambrai and Mannum Landfills will start the rehabilitation process as per the State Government Environmental Protection Authority Post Closure Plan.

Development in Urban areas this year includes:-

- Crawford Crescent Walkway, Mannum
- Truro Streetscape Project
- Footpath construction in Truro, Swan Reach, Mannum and Tungkillo
- Streetscape Upgrade - Railway Terrace, Morgan

The Works Department has funds to upgrade plant and machinery; this will include replacement of two semi-side tippers, one twin cabin truck and four utilities.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MAYOR Ian Mann OAM (08) 8569 1646

Deputy Mayor Dave Burgess
(08) 8570 8320

RANDELL WARD

Cr Mick Morrissey 0411 632 932
Cr Brian Taylor (08) 8569 1239
Cr Kerry Yeates 0439 877 849

RIVER SOUTH WARD

Cr Dave Burgess (08) 8570 8320
Cr Peter Milsom 0439 189 690

STURT WARD

Cr Inez Bormann 0438 806 112
Cr Ros Schultz 0408 849 043

RIVER NORTH WARD

Cr Kevin Myers 0428 518 994
Cr Ken Sayers (08) 8540 5258
Cr Marie Rudloff 0412 096 888

REEDY CREEK WARD

Cr Jeff Howie (08) 8569 7221

DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICY ISSUES

Council is making progress on a substantial Development Plan Amendment Programme with the following Development Plan Amendments underway:-

- Mannum Township DPA
- Mannum Waters DPA
- River Murray Zone Minor Amendments DPA
- River Settlement Policy Area and Miscellaneous Minor Amendments DPA
- Township and Settlement Boundaries DPA
- Cadell Irrigation Area DPA
- Heritage DPA
- Minimum Development Unit DPA
- Better Development Plan DPA

Information relating to the above can be obtained by contacting Council's Planning Staff at the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

Just a Reminder — PLUMBING INSPECTIONS

You need to contact the Environmental Health Officer at least one business day prior to work being undertaken for underfloor inspections, connections to STED/sewer schemes or installation of septic tank and aerobic systems. Phone the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

2009/10 BUDGET

The figures in brackets are a percentage of the total.

INCOME \$16,817,708

Rates \$8,671,966 (51.6%) – includes income received from rates (including effluent \$960,908) and fines on rates

Grants, Subsidies and Capital Contributions – \$3,358,458 (20.0%) comprises income received from Government Grants and Capital Contributions towards Effluent Drainage Schemes

Fees, Charges & Reimbursements— \$2,014,507 (12.0%) – includes income received from Rents, Hire Fees, Private Works, Building and Planning fees

Loan Income \$1,020,152 (6.0%) – New loan borrowings

Transfers from Reserves and Others \$1,752,625 (10.4%) – includes Transfers from Reserve Accounts, Interest Received, Sale of Plant.

EXPENDITURE \$16,892,752

Administration & Governance \$2,545,366 (15.0%) – Information Technology, Public Liability Insurance, General Administration and Council Members' Expenses

Public Order, Health & Safety, Welfare Services \$633,877 (3.8%) – Health Services, Emergency Services, Dog Control, Aged Care & Youth Services

Housing & Community Amenities \$4,027,149 (23.8%) – Street Lighting, Public Conveniences, Sanitation and Garbage, Effluent Drainage Schemes

Recreation and Culture \$1,564,523 (9.3%) – Libraries, Parks and Gardens, Maintenance of Ovals

Roads, Traffic, Footways & Drainage – \$5,264,064 (31.2%) Construction and maintenance of Council's road infrastructure

Plant and Vehicle Purchases \$589,634 (3.5%) – Purchase of one truck, two semi-side tipping trailers, replacement motor vehicles and minor plant

Debt Servicing \$1,301,745 (7.7%) – Loan Repayments

Transfers to Reserves, Tourism & Other \$966,394 (5.7%) – Mannum Caravan Park Expenditure and Development, Tourism, Depot Upgrades, Building Control and Reserve Account Transfers.

Copies of the complete budget as well as minutes of Council budget meetings are available for inspection at any of the Council offices, at no cost, during normal office hours.

ASBESTOS DUMPING

Over the past 12 months, Council has identified a trend where 14 truck loads of asbestos have been dumped on the roadsides within the Council District. This trend has been repeated in other neighbouring Councils, and extensive efforts have been made to apprehend the person/s responsible. Illegal dumping is a real problem for all Councils, however the illegal dumping of asbestos is of particular concern placing the environment and community at risk. Council is keen for any property owner to contact Council's Compliance Staff when engaging contractors to remove asbestos from their property, to ensure the asbestos is disposed of correctly. Phone the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

SMOKE ALARMS

South Australia's fire services are encouraging householders to check the age of their smoke alarms. No matter what type of smoke alarms are installed or how they are powered (battery or 240 volt mains powered) after 10 years they are too old to rely on. They can take longer to respond to smoke, or might not even work at all.

Don't take a chance. Check the age of your smoke alarms and replace them if necessary. Phone 1300 737 637 for more information or visit the MFS or CFS websites: www.mfs.sa.gov.au www.cfs.sa.gov.au.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Truro Stormwater Management Plan

Council, in consultation with the Truro community and the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board and the Department of Transport, Energy & Infrastructure, are developing a stormwater management plan for the town of Truro, to address flooding and environmental problems associated with the town's stormwater. This plan is a result of an Integrated Water Resource Management Plan carried out last year.

TEMPORARY DIVERSION OF GREYWATER

Did you know that due to the drought the Department of Health now allow manual bucketing of greywater onto the lawn and garden areas (not the vegie garden) using water from the bathroom or laundry. They also allow the temporary use of a hose manually fitted to the washing machine outlet hose provided that clothes are not soiled by faeces. Check out the fact sheet at: <http://www.dh.sa.gov.au/pehs/PDF-files/ph-factsheet-greywater-bucketing.pdf>

DOG REGISTRATIONS DUE 31 AUGUST

Council encourages responsible dog ownership and the registration of dogs is a key step to being a responsible dog owner. Registering dogs provides Council with early identification of wandering dogs, and reduces the number of dogs impounded.

Council sends out Dog Registration Renewal Notices every year, as a friendly reminder to residents with registered dogs. As a responsible dog owner, your commitment to your pet makes your neighbourhood a better place to live and Council congratulates you. All payments must be received by the 31 August or an additional late payment fee of \$10-00 will apply.

Any questions in relation to the registration of dogs can be obtained by contacting the Council office or by contacting Council's General Inspector, Brett Stapleton on 0429 999 641.



RATE CAP REBATE REPEATED

A rebate will again be provided by Council to reduce the impact on ratepayers whose general rates have increased significantly this year. The rebate reduces rates so as to limit the increase to 10%.

The rebate is not available if:-

- Building improvements have been made to the property; or
- There has been a change of land use of the property; or
- The land upon which the property is situated has been rezoned; or
- Ownership of the property has changed since 1 July 2008.

Ratepayers can apply for the Rate Cap Rebate by completing the form included with your rates account and returning it to Council by 26 March 2010.

BOAT RAMPS

The low River level below Lock One has created varying problems within those communities. Of particular concern to boat owners was the condition of the boat ramps. Some funding was made available through the SA Boating Facility Advisory Committee which enabled Council to perform work on eleven ramps to make them a reasonable operational standard. Special purpose concrete mattresses were installed to lengthen the ramp approaches. With future levels dependant on numerous factors it is becoming increasingly difficult to design the ramps on a cost benefit ratio.

Council will be applying for funding to upgrade the Swan Reach, Caurnamont and Mary Ann Reserve boat ramps.

IMMUNISATION CLINICS

Council continues to provide free vaccinations as part of the childhood and school immunisation program. Council holds clinics at the following locations every 3rd Tuesday of the month except December.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Cambrai Council Office	9:00 – 9:30 am
Swan Reach Area School Library	10:30 – 11:00 am
Blanchetown Medical Centre	12:00 – 12:30 pm
Morgan Medical Centre	2:00 – 2:30 pm
Truro Primary School	By appointment only

For bookings please contact the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

Clinics are also held at the Mannum Medical Centre every 1st Wednesday of the month except January and bookings are essential. Bookings can be made by contacting Council's Mannum office on 8569 0100.

For information about Council's immunisation services, contact Council's Environmental Health Officer at the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

MANNUM OFFICE EXTENSIONS



Work was completed in early July on the extensions to the Mannum office. The extensions comprise additional offices, storage room, meeting room and disabled toilet facilities. A re-designed garden area and extended car park will be constructed during August to complete the project.

SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

Monument Corner Stormwater Drain – Mary Ann Reserve

Council has received funding from the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board to install a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) in the Monument Corner stormwater drain in Mannum.

The GPT will remove 100% of gross pollutants and up to 99% of sediment. The GPT will collect all kinds of chemicals, litter and nutrients that normally find their way to the River Murray.

DISABLED ACCESS INCENTIVE SCHEME

Council is continuing the scheme that provides grants of up to \$500 to assist the private sector in improving access for people with disabilities.

The scheme is an example of Council's commitment to its Disability Access Action Plan which endorses the principle of equal access.

Information on the grants can be obtained by contacting Council's Director, Environmental Services, Kelvin Goldstone at the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.



**MUSEUM
ENTRANCE
VOUCHER FOR
ONE (1) ADULT**

**Mannum Dock Museum
of River History**

in appreciation of the support of the Mid Murray community, is offering free admission to the Museum, including inspection of PS Marion on presentation of this voucher.

Please present this voucher at the admission sales point for the Museum, at 6 Randell Street, Mannum.

Museum opening times

Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
Saturday & Sunday 10.00 am to 3.30 pm
Phone (08) 8569 1303 **Valid to 30/6/10**