

# Council Newsletter

February 2020



## A Message from the Mayor

I hope that everyone had a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to continuing to work with you in 2020.

During November 2019, the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) officially named the new River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve, in South Australia's Mid Murray district, as one of the most magnificent places on Earth to see the night sky. This is a proud moment in our history, once again providing international recognition for our unique environment. See story on Page 3.

Community grants totalling almost \$40,000 were awarded late last year to recipients for a range of projects and initiatives that support local events, help improve community wellbeing and encourage active lifestyles in the first round of funding for 2019/20. Round 2 will close on 31 March 2020 for Small Community Grants, Community Event Grants and Community Project Grants. Individual Sport & Cultural Grant applications are open all year.

Council's Strategic Management Plan is currently being reviewed internally by Council members and staff. The existing Plan, Mid Murray Council Community Plan 2016-2020 was adopted in June 2016 and expires at the end of this Financial Year. The new strategic plan will set the direction for the organisation for the next four years. It will provide clarity of purpose, identify the priorities for the next four years and define what Council will focus on and deliver across this period. A key component of the planning process will be engagement and consultation with the community and key stakeholders, and Council look forward to hearing the thoughts of the community as we work through the process over the next few months.

On the infrastructure side, a lot is planned or underway this year and some of these projects include:-

- Mary Ann Reserve playground upgrade as part of the Mary Ann Reserve Upgrade Stage 1 Project,
- Swan Reach Deep Mooring Facility - placement of pontoon and mooring piles for the Murray Princess and other large river vessels for mooring,
- Hermanns Landing, Nildottie - upgrade of river bank including grassed area to complement the new amenities within Hermanns Landing,
- Reconstruction and sealing of Milendella Road, Milendella and resheeting of the Church Crescent, Palmer; Tungillo Township roads; Glenburr Road, Burdett; Falkenberg Road, Cambrai; Pipeline and Ballone Road, Fisher,
- Morgan Boat Ramp works - which involves the placement of a single pontoon either side of the ramp.

Thank you again to all the volunteers from Progress Associations, Sporting Clubs and other community organisations that assist us so much in achieving projects and services for our community.

*Mayor Dave Burgess*



### Drought Support

The Premier and Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development have announced a \$21 million dollar expanded Drought Support Program to help South Australia's drought affected primary producers and communities.

One of the initiatives is immediate financial relief by offering a 50 per cent rebate for council rates or pastoral lease rent in 2019-20 and 2020-21 for primary producers receiving the Farm Household Allowance.

For more information, please visit [https://pir.sa.gov.au/grants\\_and\\_assistance/drought\\_support/financial\\_assistance](https://pir.sa.gov.au/grants_and_assistance/drought_support/financial_assistance)

### HAVE YOUR SAY ON SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DRAFT PLANNING AND DESIGN CODE

Your feedback will help shape the future of South Australia's planning system as it undergoes its biggest modernisation in 20 years.

#### Have your say

Consultation on the Code for Phase Three is now open until midnight on 28 February 2020.

You can have your say on the Code framework, the wording of policies, the range of definitions and the way they are worded, where the different rules apply across the State, and the way applications are assessed.

#### More information

You can access the Code and all supporting materials at [www.saplanningportal.sa.gov.au/en/have\\_your\\_say](http://www.saplanningportal.sa.gov.au/en/have_your_say)

If you have any questions please email DPTI. [PlanningReform@sa.gov.au](mailto:PlanningReform@sa.gov.au) or call 1800 318 102.



## Infrastructure News

A number of projects are underway or have been completed. The Mid Murray Council would like to thank the Federal Government for partnering with Council in funding under the National Stronger Regions Fund and the Bridges Renewal Program.

### Hermanns Landing

Funded by the Federal Government's National Stronger Regions Fund, completion of the upgrade of Hermann's Landing which provides a recreational area for the public that includes, a pontoon, BBQ with shelter and wharf rebuild.



### Milendella Bridge Upgrade

Check out these before and after photos! Funded by Council and the Bridges Renewal Program the Milendella Bridge upgrade is now complete.

Before



After



### Dutton Bridge

Works have commenced on Dutton Bridge Upgrade which has been funded by Council and the Bridges Renewal Program.



### Mid Murray on the Move

Economic, Tourism and Development News

An initiative of the Mid Murray Council this newsletter is about promoting and sharing economic, tourism and development news that is occurring throughout our region.

Head to our webpage or

<https://mailchimp/8d7114cc5039/mid-murray-on-the-move-newsletter-6-december-4033265> to view the sixth edition!



### ADVANCE NOTICE

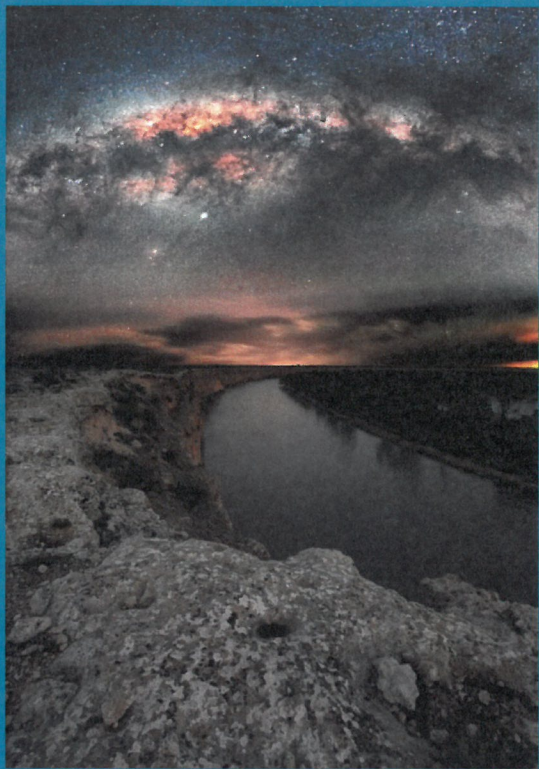
#### CAURNAMONT BOAT RAMP TEMPORARY CLOSURE for the Purnong Water Regatta and Floatfest on the 14th and 15th March 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 33 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 1961, which makes an order directing that the road on which the Purnong Water Regatta and Floatfest is to be held be closed to traffic from 8.00 am Saturday 14th March 2020 until 6.00 pm Saturday 14th March 2020 and from 8.00 am Sunday 15th March 2020 until 6.00 pm Sunday 15th March 2020.

The boat ramp will be open before 8.00 am and after 6.00 pm on Saturday 14th March and before 8.00 am and after 6.00 pm on Sunday 15th March 2020. The closest public boat ramp is located at 28 Chucka Bend Rd, Bowhill.

Any questions please contact the Secretary – Purnong, Caurnamont & District Progress Association, Kris Sims on 0412 773 023.





## Mid Murray Night Sky takes place on Global Stage as one of the world's best places to see the stars

The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) has officially named the new **River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve**, located within the Mid Murray district, as one of the most magnificent places on Earth to see the night sky and is one of only 15 internationally recognised Reserves in the world.

The newly accredited 3,200 square kilometre Reserve is the first of its kind in Australia. It has a 'core site' within the Swan Reach Conservation Park, and also incorporates the towns of Swan Reach, Cambrai, Nildottie, Bowhill, Palmer, Tungillo, Sedan, Blanchetown, Black Hill, Walker Flat, Big Bend and Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park. The Reserve will also host an education/research centre at the Meldanda Camp Site near Cambrai.

For more information on the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve visit:

<https://www.themurrayriver.com/play-pause/Our-Night-Skies/>

## Fire Prevention – “IT’S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY”

It has been many years since Australia has faced the full brunt of nature similar to what we are experiencing at this current time with the bushfires burning throughout our Nation. The fires throughout the Country have been relentless.

The community applauds the efforts of our volunteer firefighters, and seeks to blame or find reasoning as to why these fires are so prevalent at this time. However, property owners must also take responsibility when to prepare themselves and their properties for the fire danger season.

In South Australia, legislation within Section 105F (1) of the Fire & Emergency Services Act 2005, makes it a requirement for:

An owner of private land must take reasonable steps— (a) to prevent or inhibit the outbreak of fire on the land; and (b) to prevent or inhibit the spread of fire through the land; and (c) to protect property on the land from fire; and (d) to minimise the threat to human life from a fire on the land. *Maximum penalty of \$5 000 applies.*

Over 300 landowners/occupiers of land within the Mid Murray Council area this year have chosen to ignore the law and place themselves and their communities in danger, by not reducing the fire hazards on their land prior to the commencement of the fire danger season. What is more concerning, as we enter the new year, many of these property owners or occupiers have chosen to ignore orders issued by Council's Fire Prevention Officers issued in accordance with Section 105F (5) of the Act, to reduce the hazards on their land.

Fires very rarely start within small land or housing allotments, but the impact from ember attack from fires surrounding communities, is increased considerably upon those properties not adequately prepared, which can result in the loss of properties or even lives. Embers from fires many kilometres away are the hidden danger for landowners or occupiers, as we are constantly reminded within the current fire danger season.

Council's Fire Prevention Officers and the CFS are passionate in ensuring you are all prepared for the fire danger season along with preparing your plans of action should you be impacted upon the threat of fire or a catastrophic fire warning. It is with this in mind that Council seek everyone's support in ensuring your properties are prepared **prior** to the fire danger season in future years, and not wait a reminder from the Council before undertaking the appropriate works. In future years, it is likely that these reminders from Council, will include fines for not being prepared.

**It is your life and property you are protecting and that of your community, so “Put it in your Diaries!”**

Should you have any questions or require further information on preparing your properties for the fire danger season, please feel free to contact Council's Fire Prevention Officer at the Cambrai office on 8564 6020 or the CFS.



*A bushfire and fearsome cloud loom over Harrington, a township in the Mid North of NSW - Photo Courteously from Kelly-ann Oosterbeek*



## State Government partnership supports tourism, health and wellbeing

In October this year Minister David Speirs MP announced a new partnership between the Mid Murray Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, Coorong District Council, Murray River, Lakes and Coorong Tourism Alliance and the SA Department for Environment and Water.

Regional leaders were on site with the Minister and Ngarrindjeri man, Harley Hall, to celebrate the news and start planning the next steps of the 450km nature-based trail spanning from Cadell in the Riverland to Salt Creek in the Coorong.

Already there are 4 sections under construction, totalling just over 30kms of walking/bike trail. The trail will run along the water's edge through towns such as Meningie, Murray Bridge, Tailem Bend and Mannum - with remarkable views.

Once complete, the multi-use walking and cycling trail will bolster economic opportunities for the State and Murraylands region, with potential for exponential growth in tourism, recreation, environment, social and community wellbeing, small business, employment, culture and more.

The Murray Coorong Trail is predicted to attract 54,000 trail users annually and an estimated \$7.6 million per year in direct visitor spend alone. In addition, it is reported that a total of 45+ employment opportunities will be created.

Mid Murray Council was also recently successful in receiving funding of \$438,791 through the Federal Government's Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Grants program to construct a new section of trail from Nildottie to Swan Reach, with planning to commence in early 2020.

For further details, please contact Mid Murray Council, and stay tuned as we work towards connecting the entire 450kms over the coming years.



Left - McGorman family enjoy a stroll along the start of the Murray Coorong Trail; Middle - Rural City of Murray Bridge Deputy Mayor Fred Toogood, Coorong District Council Mayor Paul Simmons, Minister David Speirs, Murray River, Lakes & Coorong Tourism Alliance Chair Ian Hill, Ngarrindjeri man Harley Hall and Mid Murray Council Mayor Dave Burgess; Right - Local boys going for a run along the East Front Road levy bank



### MANNUM LEISURE CENTRE

#### Staffed Hours

Monday - Thursday 3pm - 6pm  
Friday 7am - 10am  
Phone: 8569 0185

Should you require assistance outside of the above hours please contact -  
Mannum Council Office  
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm  
Phone: 8569 0100



## MANNUM & CAMBRAI SWIMMING POOLS



### OPENING TIMES

WHEN 25C & ABOVE

3.30PM - 7.30PM EVERYDAY

### CONTACT DETAILS

#### All Correspondence to -

Mid Murray Council  
PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238

email: [postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au) | website: [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au)



#### Principal Office/Administration

49 Adelaide Road, Mannum, SA  
Telephone: (08) 8569 0100  
Facsimile: (08) 8569 1931

#### Development & Environmental Services

Main Street, Cambrai, SA  
Telephone: (08) 8564 6020  
Facsimile: (08) 8569 1931

#### Morgan & Districts Community Hub

Cnr Fourth & Eighth Street, Morgan, SA  
Telephone: (08) 8540 0060  
Facsimile: (08) 8569 1931