

MEDIA STATEMENT

VALE COUNCILLOR DENNIS MCCARTHY

The Mid Murray Council is deeply saddened at the tragic passing of Councillor Dennis McCarthy this week.

Cr McCarthy died suddenly in Adelaide on Thursday, 28 October 2021 and Council extends its deepest condolences to his family, colleagues and friends.

An active member of the Mid Murray community, Cr McCarthy was especially devoted to his hometown of Sedan. A first-term Elected Member, Cr McCarthy was elected to represent the Eyre Ward in November 2018.

Cr McCarthy was well-known locally for his involvement with the Sedan Historic Enthusiasts Den (also known as the Sedan Men's Shed), including several years as president. He enjoyed sharing his passion for historic vehicles – particularly Model T Fords – with others and exhibited his historic cars at a number of public events.

As an active volunteer with many local groups, Cr McCarthy often shared his financial skills gained throughout a 39-year career in banking to benefit the community. He served as treasurer for the Sedan Recreation Park and Sport Club, the Cambrai Agricultural Museum and the Lions Club of Ridley. He was also auditor for the Black Hill Hall and the Aroona Scouts Group, volunteered with the Sedan Progress Association, and chaired Council's Community Grants Committee.

A passionate advocate for men's health and his community's mental wellbeing, Cr McCarthy was also heavily involved with the Mid Murray Suicide Prevention Network as a community member from 2015 to 2019.

Prior to his time on Council, Cr McCarthy also established the Sedan Swap Meet in 2006 – an event that has to date raised more than \$125,000 for the local community.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said Cr McCarthy was a dedicated and enthusiastic representative for his community.

"We are all shocked and saddened to hear of Dennis' sudden passing," Mayor Burgess says.

"As an Elected Member – and in his everyday life – Dennis was dedicated to serving his community and to helping others. He was passionate about his region and represented the small towns and communities of the Eyre Ward with a genuine interest and dedication. He was generous with both his time and skills, volunteering with many local organisations.

"Dennis was highly respected in the Chamber and will be greatly missed for his committed service, his local knowledge, and his good-natured sense of humour.

"We extend our deepest condolences to Dennis' family and all who knew him."

In memory of Cr McCarthy, Council will fly its flags at half-mast on Friday and observe a minute's silence at its next general meeting.

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