

Mid Murray Council Newsletter

May 2023



A Message from the Mayor

While the media crews may have packed up and left and the temporary levees have disappeared, the devastation left by the floods is still evident across our beautiful district and the pain of the significant impacts of this disaster is still raw for our community.

The clean-up is well and truly under way and it's been heartening to see the waters recede, more roads reopening and ferries back out on the water bringing people back together again.

We have had our work cut out for us as we continue to assess and repair 200km of roads, 28 Community Wastewater Management Systems, numerous parks, reserves, playgrounds and toilets – and a huge 440km of riverbank.

So far Council has spent around \$7 million on emergency response measures in preparation for the flood such as the temporary levees, decommissioning of CWMS, road closures and other mitigation strategies to protect the community and infrastructure, as well as the clean-up, repairs to key infrastructure, supporting impacted property owners and residents, and much more. This is a substantial impost for a small regional Council with a limited budget and we continue to work with the State Government to seek financial support to cover these costs.

Council – and I'm sure all in our community – is deeply grateful to our incredible emergency services crews and volunteers for their support during the flood event, as well as the efforts of State Flood Recovery Co-ordinator Alex Zimmermann and his team, and the many other organisations who have assisted our community throughout the emergency and recovery periods. I would also like to recognise the incredible resilience and connection that is evident in our community and the way we have all risen to the need to pull together and take care of each other.

Council is also very mindful of the impact of the floods on those communities that are not on the River, with the focus of Council operations being directed to the emergency rather than across the entire Council district. Council is committed to focusing on the needs of all our communities moving forward, within the current resource constraints.

While the flood recovery work will continue for many more months, work has also begun on the development of Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget. This will set our direction for the 2023/24 financial year, including our core priorities, in line with our current Strategic Plan.

It is clear that we are operating in a challenging financial environment, with significant cost increases and flood recovery expenses.

Our focus going into this planning process is firmly on sustainability. We are committed to identifying cost savings and efficiencies to ensure we are getting the best value and outcomes for our community. We'll also be reviewing our Strategic Plan to determine what programs, services and projects should be prioritised, and what changes may be necessary to ensure that Council is sustainable into the future. Difficult decisions will need to be made and this will have an impact on what Council delivers to the community.

I encourage everyone in our community to take the time to read our Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget once they are released in coming weeks for consultation. Please provide your feedback and input to help us make these difficult decisions about our future.

As always, please look out for each other – or ask for help if you need it – as we continue to recover together as a community.

Simone Bailey, Mayor

In This Issue

Mayor's message	1
Flood Recovery	2
Waste & infrastructure update	3
Save the date: Morgan author visit.....	4
Mannum Leisure Centre new staffed hours	4
Contact details	4



Flood Recovery

Council acknowledges that the River Murray Flood Event has been a challenging time for residents and businesses. As the focus now turns to recovery, there is significant efforts being made to ensure residents are supported in the redevelopment of their properties. There is also considerable assistance available to aid residents with accessing grants and the many other support packages currently available. Further information is available on Council's website.

Re-building after the River Murray flood

To assist property owners during the re-building stages and to aid flood resilience, the State Government Planning and Land Use Services (PLUS) team is investigating possible amendments to the Planning and Design Code.

Council has been working with PLUS and have identified a number of improvements that could be made to the Code to help mitigate future flood risk and support resilient redevelopment.

Guidelines and support material to outline the process for rebuilding in flood-affected areas, including design, materials, risk mitigation and approval processes to support communities are currently being developed.

For more information about the work being done to support flood recovery go to the PlanSA website at https://plan.sa.gov.au/our_planning_system/programs_and_initiatives/re-building-after-the-river-murray-flood or call 1800 752 664.

Visit a Recovery Centre

Recovery centres for people impacted by flood are operating in Mannum and Murray Bridge, with recovery services also available at the Berri Housing SA office. A range of agencies are available through these centres including Disaster Ministries, Services Australia, Good Shepherd, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions and the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science.

- Access to recovery information and referrals
- Quick and easy grant assessments
- Well-being check-ins and referral if needed
- GISA clean-up registrations
- Access to clean up suits & paint brushes
- Foodbank boxes
- A friendly ear to talk to
- Business grant information referrals/assistance

Berri

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
Housing SA office
29 Vaughan Terrace, Berri

Mannum

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday,
9:30am to 4:30pm
Mannum Institute
47 Randell Street, Mannum

Murray Bridge

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
28 Bridge Street, Murray Bridge



Helping flood-affected River Murray communities recover



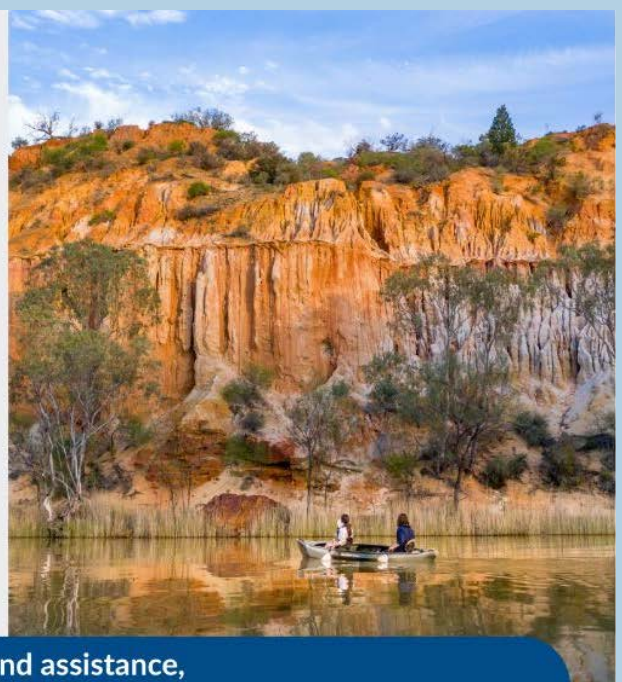
1800 302 787

State Relief and Recovery Infoline



sa.gov.au/floods

Latest recovery information,
financial assistance and support



**For clean-up information and assistance,
call the State Relief and Recovery Infoline on 1800 302 787**

Infrastructure & Waste Management update

Waste Management

The flood clean up has commenced throughout the region and flood affected properties have registered with Green Industries SA to have their waste collected from the kerbside. Images below of some kerbside waste. Please see Green Industries SA website to register.

This flood affected waste is being processed predominantly at Council's Cambrai Landfill site and segregated to maximise the recyclables from this collection.



Over 830 tonnes of waste has been received up to 31 March 2023. Once delivered, the waste has been sorted and processed by both Mid Murray Council staff and contractors.

Murraylands Road upgrade

The sealing of the Murraylands Road upgrade has now commenced. This section follows on from the northern end seal from Morgan and the sealed area is adjacent to the Devils Gate property. Further upgrades will occur as funding is received.



Save the Date

Author Visit

Darry Fraser is coming to Morgan Activity Centre!



Author talk - Thursday 6th July

Writing Workshop - Friday 7th July

More information to follow



NEW STAFFED HOURS

**MONDAY - THURSDAY
3PM - 7PM**

FRIDAY 6AM - 10AM

CONTACT DETAILS

All Correspondence to -

Mid Murray Council

PO Box 28, Mannum SA 5238

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Principal Office/ Administration

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Development & Community Services

Main Street, Cambrai, SA

Morgan & Districts Community Hub

Cnr Fourth & Eighth Street, Morgan, SA