

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **COUNCIL SHARES \$40,000 IN GRANTS TO HELP DELIVER MID MURRAY COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

From community Christmas carols to barbecue fundraisers and supporting emerging local athletes to compete on a world stage – 31 organisations and individuals from across the Mid Murray district have been given a helping hand.

The Mid Murray Council has awarded almost \$40,000 in community grants to recipients for a range of projects and initiatives that support local events, help improve community wellbeing and encourage active lifestyles.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said the grants would help local organisations in small communities across the district to continue their valuable contributions.

“Community groups and sports clubs are the lifeblood of our towns and contribute so much to making our district a great place to live,” Mayor Burgess says.

“The volunteers who run these groups are dedicated, passionate and selfless people who give a lot to their area. We value the work they do to create vibrant, connected and healthy communities.

“While many of these groups are active fundraisers themselves, Council recognises the importance in supporting these events, activities and projects and the fantastic benefits they deliver to our district.”

Among the grant recipients are the Angas Valley Recreation Hall and Tennis Club, which received \$4000 to install light towers around the courts to allow for evening activities. A further \$3000 will go towards a competition and training boat for the South Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club, with the same amount donated to the Lions Club of Morgan for its gazebo project, the Truro and District Community Association to save the original Truro Council building and the Nildottie Tennis Club for its Greenways Park oval project.

A \$500 grant will help the Walker Flat and Districts Progress Association buy a new barbecue to replace its old broken one so it can carry on its cooking for fundraisers, meetings and social events. Getting in shape will be made a little easier for Morgan locals, with Morgan Fitness and Wellbeing receiving \$900 to assist in the purchase of new gym equipment.

“Many of our grants often go towards small and simple projects in the community, which often have positive, more broad-reaching outcomes for local peoples’ wellbeing, and we look forward to seeing them roll out,” Mayor Burgess says.

Three talented sportspeople will also receive small grants to help cover the costs of travelling overseas and in Australia to compete at the top level of their chosen sports.

“Competing at a high level in any sport can be a costly exercise, but there are added challenges for sportspeople from rural areas,” Mayor Burgess says. “This is why we consider it so important to support our local talented competitors in their national and international endeavors. They also become inspiring role models to others in our community, especially our young people, often encouraging them to pursue their sporting dreams.”

The Council has also chosen to split its \$80,000 Community Grants budget into two rounds this financial year, so organisations will have another opportunity to apply for one of our three community grants closing in March 2020, with the Individual Sport and Cultural Grant open all year round.

### **Mid Murray Community Grant Recipients – Round 1, 2019/20**

#### ***Small Community Grants***

- Friends of Younghusband River Care - \$400 to maintain the Riverside Reserve and Frog Pond.
- Walker Flat and Districts Progress Association - \$500 to purchase a new barbecue.
- Truro and District Community Association - \$800 to purchase paint.
- Morgan Fitness and Wellbeing - \$900 to buy gym equipment.
- Claypans Cricket Club - \$900 to buy equipment and upgrade irrigation of the Purnong Oval.
- Teen Challenge SA, Mannum - \$400 for the purchase of outdoor equipment.
- Mid Murray Suicide Prevention Network - \$500 to help establish a choir.
- Mannum Golf Club - \$500 for a new fridge.
- Lions Club of Ridley - \$500 for bus transport for seniors and isolated people.
- Blanchetown District Hall and Community Services Committee - \$800 for the purchase of turf.
- Swan Reach Soldiers Memorial Bowling Club - \$750 to assist with a designated barbecue area.
- Blanchetown Kart Club - \$750 to buy racing flags.

#### ***Community Event Grants***

- Morgan Small Bore Rifle Club - \$1000 for the Mid Murray Championship Open Shoot event.
- Mannum Inter-Church Council - \$1000 for the Carols by the River event.
- Centacare - \$1500 for the White Tie Dinner.
- Mid Murray Landcare - \$1500 for the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve community launch.
- Mannum Hospital Auxiliary - \$1500 for the Mannum Hot Rod Day.
- Mannum Rowing Club - \$400 for the Annual Regatta.
- Black Hill Public Hall - \$650 for the Community Bingo Day.

#### ***Community Project Grants***

- Nildottie Tennis Club - \$3000 for the Greenways Park oval project.
- Mannum Bowling Club - \$2000 for the upgrading and improving of shade protection structures.
- Lions Club of Morgan - \$3000 for the gazebo project.
- Truro and District Community Association - \$3000 for saving the original Truro Council building.
- Mount Mary Citizens Hall - \$550 for the hall renovation.
- South Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club - \$3000 for the purchase of a competition and training boat.
- Cadell Pistol Club - \$3000 for toilet renovation.
- Angas Valley Recreation Hall and Tennis Club - \$4000 for the installation of stage 2 court lighting.
- Purnong, Curnamont and District Progress Association - \$1500 to buy a defibrillator.

#### ***Individual Youth Sport and Cultural Grants***

- Ashley Sinkinson - \$500 to participate in the Fiji Ultimate Cup.
- Charlotte Lane-Hatton - \$400 to participate in the Australian Junior Eight Ball Nationals.
- Toby Christiansen - \$500 to participate in the Singa Cup.

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