

MEDIA RELEASE

CHANGES TO OPERATION OF CAMBRAI AND MANNUM POOLS TO MAXIMISE SAFETY

Opening hours at the Cambrai and Mannum pools will change for the 2023/2024 season as the Mid Murray Council puts in place best-practice regulations to improve safety.

To maximise supervision and safety for patrons, the number of days open for each pool will be reduced, with alternating days between facilities to enable the appropriate staffing ratio. The changes are in line with recommendations made by the Royal Life Saving Society for the improved running of both facilities.

These changes will enhance safety, but will also increase operational costs. As a result, entry fees to both pools will also increase this season.

Mid Murray Council Mayor Simone Bailey says while implementing recommendations made by the Royal Life Saving Society following its recent audit of the pools is important, the Council also needs to ensure the facilities are operating in a sustainable way.

“Our pools provide an important service for our community for recreation, sport and fun, and these changes will ensure that these facilities continue to be available for our residents with improved safety standards,” Mayor Bailey said.

“As a result of these changes, and Council’s financial challenges, we have had to make some tough decisions to ensure the pools continue to service the community in a sustainable manner.

“Learning to swim is an important life skill, and having access to pools is imperative to a child’s water safety and awareness and confidence. Our pools are also an important place for exercise and community connection, so it’s vital they’re run efficiently.”

As Cambrai has historically had a higher attendance, and also services a wider area, with patrons from Sedan, Black Hill, Keyneton and surrounds, the decision has been made to open it one more day than Mannum.

2023/2024 operating hours are:

Cambrai pool	3.30 to 7.30pm, when weather is forecast above 25 Degrees	2 lifeguards on duty	Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 1 Dec 2023 – 3 Mar 2024
Mannum pool	3.30 to 7.30pm, when weather is forecast above 25 Degrees	2 lifeguards on duty	Open Monday, Thursday, Saturday 1 Dec 2023 – 3 Mar 2024

Fees for the 2023/24 season:

Adult Entry	Concession Entry	Adult Season Pass	Concession Season Pass	Family Season Pass
\$5.00	\$4.00	\$90	\$65	\$160

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Officer Ben Scales
P: (08) 8569 0100 | E: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

Entry fees will now be consistent across both pools. The adult entry fee remains unchanged, due to maintaining a comparable fee to pools in neighbouring towns. All other fees have an approximate 50% increase, however, the concession has been rounded down to accommodate users who experience challenges in utilising both pools, however the Season Passes will now provide access to both pools.

"With one Season Pass now providing access to both pools, I hope our community can enjoy both facilities, offering value for money and fostering a stronger sense of community and connectivity," Mayor Bailey said.

"Council will monitor visitation and use of the pools over the upcoming summer season and consult with the community to guide our future planning for the pools."

"Each year we do consider visitation numbers and trends at both pools when planning opening hours and resourcing. I encourage our community to support these local facilities by visiting this summer to ensure there's continued local demand for the future operation of the pools, because we do know they serve an important role in keeping our community fit, active, water-safe and connected to each other."

The pools will reopen to swimmers in December, with the swimming season running through until Sunday, 3 March 2024.

– ENDS –

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Officer Ben Scales

P: (08) 8569 0100 | E: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au