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WAKEFIELD
REGIONAL COUNCIL

IT'S HERE!

The Balaklava Swimming Pool finally opened in early December 2022, with the pool drawing large crowds over the summer school holidays.

• **You can read all about the pool on pages 2&3**

Wakefield Regional WRAP

Summer/Autumn 2023

Keeping the region informed of Council's progress, activities and topics of interest for the community.

Message from the Mayor

When we worked with the community to develop our Wakefield 2030 strategic plan, it was clear we all wanted the same thing for our region: places and spaces designed for people to pursue recreation, leisure and fun along with communities connected by social events, a sense of pride and quality infrastructure that serves them well.

This Wrap features one of Council's largest infrastructure projects to date – a project that ticks all of the Wakefield 2030 boxes: our $3.2M 'Pool for All'.

The Balaklava swimming pool is already taking centre stage in the region, with hundreds of Wakefield families lapping up the fun at this aquatic facility.

There is a real sense of pride as we have worked with our contractors and community volunteers to bring the project to life.

More amazing facilities and town upgrades are now in planning stages and the year ahead promises to deliver projects and activities to excite our existing residents and entice new people and business to Wakefield. Watch this space!

In this edition, we also introduce our Council, including four new Council Members who will bring fresh perspectives to the chamber. You will also find the best way to contact your elected representatives and a brief message of what they hope to see achieved during their four-year term on Council.

Each year we take the time to acknowledge the citizens within our communities who dedicate their time and efforts volunteering at the Citizen of the Year awards.

This year's Citizen of the Year is Blyth's Barry Spinks and the Community Event of the Year Award is the Balaklava Courthouse Gallery's Community Chook Art Project.

I encourage you to think about the awards throughout 2023 – maybe there's a person or group in your community who deserves to be acknowledged with one of these fantastic accolades.

I hope you have a prosperous New Year and I can't wait to see what our Council can accomplish – with the community – throughout 2023.

Mayor
Rodney Reid

The shell of the Owen swimming pool.

Owen's opening is just around the corner

WE cannot wait to show you what the Owen swimming pool has to offer. With construction well on its way now, the team from TPS Aquatics are working hard to complete the pool. So far the old scum gutters and concourse have been removed, with a new gutter system installed ready for new wet deck gutters.
New filters and pumps have also been acquired along with a new balance tank for the toddler pool.
Throughout January, you'll start to see the pool taking shape with tiling of the 25m pool set to begin. The concrete concourse will be poured, the plant room will be fitted out and the new diving platform will be installed.
Keep an eye on Council's Facebook page for pool progress and updates.

MAIN IMAGE: Balaklava High School students enjoy the fantastic new facilities at the Balaklava Swimming Pool.

FRONT COVER IMAGE: Back Row: Simon May, Riley Michalanney, Lexi Battle, Patrick Pearson, Chase McCracken, Nikki McCracken. Front Row: Harper Jarmyn, Alexa Arthur, Penelope Lomman, Holly Zerk.

The summer fun has only just begun

BALAKLAVA'S Pool-For-All opened on December 9, signalling the completion of the $3.2m major project.

The pool has quickly become a staple of summer fun for families as they flock to beat the heat.

Construction over the past 12 months has seen 350m^3 of locally sourced concrete poured, 24 tons of steel reinforcement, 2km of PVC piping and 800m^2 of tiles used for the project – a mammoth amount of materials.

Now completed, the site features a new and upgraded 25m eight-lane accessible pool, which is in line with modern standards and legislative requirements.

The new pool features diving blocks and racing lanes, which will encourage greater sport and recreation activities, including school swimming carnivals.

Chase McCracken takes full advantage of the splash pad.

The shallower learn to swim pool was also upgraded with improved filtration and a wet deck overflow system. The pool caters for swimming lessons for children who are learning to swim.

At the heart of this amazing aquatic hub is the family favourite splash pad, which provides hours of fun to kids. The splash pad has squirting jets, water play areas and a tipping bucket.

Luscious green landscaping has provided the perfect space for families to lay down a picnic blanket and enjoy an afternoon poolside, and the shade provided by the shade sails has also been welcomed by pool users.

Beyond beating the heat, the pool is now home to plenty of great activities with swimming classes, aqua aerobics and morning lap swimming all utlising this great facility.

You can find all the details on the pool's opening hours and how you can sign up to be a member at balaklavaswimmingpool.com.

Don't forget...

- **Our pools will only open if the Adelaide BOM forecast is 25 (degrees C °) at 5pm the day prior to opening.**
- **Pool committees and lifeguards may extend pool opening hours when the Adelaide pool forecast is 35C ° or above.**
- **Always keep children under the age of five within arms-reach and children under the age of 12 in your eyesight.**

Get to know your new Council Members

In November 2022 our new Council was sworn in and we took the opportunity to ask them 'what is the most important thing you want to see happen in the next four years?'

Mayor Rodney Reid

"I wish to see the elected members work diligently together in their decision making and with staff through workshops, committees etc, to bring into fruition as much of Wakefield 2030 as practical and as a result, I wish to see improvements in all the communities in the WRC area."

mayor@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0438 280 589

Central Ward

Malcolm May

"Council needs to focus on community growth – we need more people to live, work and play in the Wakefield Regional Council. 1. Encourage people, families to build or rent in our community. 2. We need to have an environment where business will establish, grow and prosper. 3. We want people to want to stay and be part of our community all year round. Our vision, our charter."

mmay@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0419 822 312

Michael Rankine

"I'd like to see equitable rating, so everyone pays the same rate in the dollar, the Port Wakefield master plan progressing, an asset review and disposal of surplus assets."

mrankine@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 8867 1293

Di Taylor

"I will support council in their continued implementation and delivery of the Wakefield 2030 - Our Community Plan. This document focuses on three key areas – liveable communities, thriving regions and a sustainable future. I will focus on communicating and supporting the community enhancing the quality of life we enjoy in our region."

dtaylor@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0418 817 158

Michael Greenshields

"I'm excited for the next four years and hope we can continue with the work already done and the work underway to build, expand and continually improve the education, health services, social services and offerings our region already has that make Wakefield Regional Council a great place to raise a family."

mgreenshields@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0447 536 692

North Ward

Deputy Mayor Denni Agnew

"I want to maximise efficiencies and spend funds responsibly. I'm keen to see Council help community groups source external funding for some of our shovel ready projects as well as progressing Sports Precinct Master Plans. I will also have a focus on different waste and recycling opportunities."

dagnew@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0431 233 679

Derryn Stringer

"I would like to see increased collaboration to leverage more external funding into community projects, increasing the appeal of our towns to tourism, industry and population growth."

dstringer@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0427 231 285

Tom Michael

"Families and prosperity will be my priorities over the next four years. I want to see parents with jobs and kids in our communities."

tmichael@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0425 300 755

South Ward

Barbara Chappell

"I hope to see the Wakefield Regional Council and the people who live in the area prosper; and in the South Ward and in Hamley Bridge where I live, I will work to help people better understand how Council goes about its business, so they know what support is available through Council and what is beyond the scope of Council."

bchappell@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0429 155 743

Peter Bowyer

"I would like to see WRC, firstly, as a team, focus internally on the ratepayers and community by providing the services that they desire and are funding through their rates. Secondly, that externally we focus on our responsibility to participate in the wider external debate to deliver a fairer outcome to regional areas of our state."

pbowyer@wrc.sa.gov.au Ph: 0419 760 072

WAKEFIELD
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Spinks' spark for community spirit shines in Citizen of the Year awards

BLYTH'S Barry Spinks has been announced as Wakefield Regional Council's Citizen of the Year for 2023, while the Balaklava Courthouse Gallery's popular Balaklava Community Chook Art Project has been awarded Community Event of the Year.

Retiring to Blyth in 2006, ex-carpenter Barry hasn't been able to put the tools down since arriving – volunteering his skills and labour on countless community projects.

His expertise and knowledge have been used time and time again in and around Blyth from undertaking small repairs in the Town Hall to helping with the major construction of the second Cinema at Blyth Cinema – no job is too big or small for Barry.

Forever putting the community first, Barry's motto is "It's not what the town can do for you, it's what you can do for the town".

This motto shines through with Barry's various roles volunteering and serving on committees including the Blyth Golf Club, Netball Club, Management Committee, Community Hall, Bowling Club, Cinema, Progress Association and Development Board.

Mayor Rodney Reid said Barry, 78, exemplified community spirit and Blyth – plus the wider Wakefield region – should be extremely grateful for his devotion to the community.

"Barry should be immensely proud of the work and time he has given to the Blyth community– he has truly left his mark on the town, through the countless number of repairs, projects and community groups he has been a part of," Mayor Rodney Reid said.

ABOVE: Barry Spinks hard at work repairing the Brooks Lookout sign.
PHOTO: IAN ROBERTS

INSET RIGHT: Balaklava Courthouse Gallery President Jo May and Gallery Patron Mayor Rodney Reid with chickens from the Community Chook Art Project .

Ruling the roost for Event of the Year is the Balaklava Courthouse Gallery's Community Chook Art Project – an event which raised funds for the gallery to install exhibition lighting.

The project highlighted the Wakefield region's chicken industry and encouraged community members to decorate blank chook canvasses for display throughout local towns.

Blank concrete roosters, hens and chicks were developed by Wallaroo Mines artist Peter O'Callaghan for the gallery to sell and community members could add their artistic flare to decorate a rooster, hen or chick. Schools, businesses, community groups and families all hopped on board to showcase their creativity.

A parade of poultry wowed crowds when the gallery hosted its Spring Chicken Festival and the gallery was able to showcase the community's creations – with over 100 chooks from all walks of life on display.

"Bringing the community together to decorate the chooks was a great way to encourage creativity in Wakefield and put our chicken industry in the limelight," Mayor Reid said.

Mayor Reid congratulated both award recipients and thanked all who took the time to nominate.

"It is impressive to once again see a great selection of local heroes and events recognised for helping make Wakefield a great place to belong."

Awards will be presented at Australia Day events: dates and times of these ceremonies will be advertised in the new year.

Let us know the vegetation hotspots in your area

COUNCIL launched a program in 2022 to work with the community to pinpoint areas where roadside vegetation may be causing safety or access issues for vehicles and machinery.

Council spends almost $300,000 each year managing overgrown roadside vegetation through a rolling 5-year maintenance program.

However, Council also relies on local landholders reporting issues when they come across a hotspot.

Last year, Owen farmer Andrew Parker reported overgrown roadside vegetation on Aldenhoven Road as it was interfering with machinery movement and causing safety concerns.

Andrew Parker used the My Local Services app to lodge his vegetation hotspot issue with Council.

"I used the My Local Services app to report the overgrown areas and I also called Council directly," Andrew said.
"Using the app is a great way of having a paper trail of what you've logged and where the problem is. Using the app I was able to give the exact location.
"Overgrown vegetation areas that were causing immediate safety concerns - such as issues at intersections - were dealt with swiftly."

Andrew encouraged people who may be considering reporting these problem areas to do so.

"The sooner you communicate your issue, the sooner it can be fixed," Andrew said.

Council has three ways to report overgrown vegetation. The methods are explained in the graphic below.

Report roadside vegetation issues – it's easy as 1,2 or 3

Is there a roadside vegetation hotspot near you? If you see overhanging branches, vegetation causing safety issues or roadside obstructions please let us know in one of the following ways:

1. MyLocal app

- Dowload the app to your phone
- Open the app and click on the 'report it' icon
- Add a photo if you have one then click next
- Choose the category 'trees' from the drop down menu
- In description type 'Hotspot ID' and then a short description of the issue and its location
- Enter your contact details and press submit

2. Web form

Fill in the 'Hotspot identification form' on our website – bit.ly/3QiTAKe

3. Phone it in

Contact us on 8862 0800 during office hours and report your hotspot information.

FIGHT the BITE

COVER UP. REPEL. ELIMINATE.

MOSQUITOES can be a nuisance, but some can also spread serious diseases – make sure you're doing your part to fight the bite.

Mosquito-borne diseases that spread in South Australia include Ross River virus, Barmah Forest virus and Japanese Encephalitis virus.

An important step to protecting yourself and your family is to avoid being bitten.

Handy tips for keeping mozzies at bay

- Use mosquito repellent when outdoors: Look for products that contain ingredients like DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- Wear long sleeves and pants: Covering your skin can help reduce the number of mosquito bites you get.
- Stay inside during peak mosquito hours: Mosquitos are most active at dawn and dusk, so try to avoid being outside during these times.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors: If you are camping or sleeping outside, use mosquito netting to create a protective barrier around your bed.
- Remove standing water: Mosquitos lay their eggs in standing water, so eliminate any sources of standing water near your home to reduce the mosquito population. This includes emptying flower pots, buckets, and other containers that may hold water.

Pre-register for your 2023 burning permits

FOR the first time, Council is offering property owners the chance to pre-register for their burning permits.

Property owners can complete the forms now and submit them to Council's Fire Safety Officer so they can be issued a pre-approved permit.

Between 1 March and 30 April (dates subject to change), Council will issue the pre-approved burning permits to farmers to help maintain and prepare land for the coming season.

These permits allow farmers to burn off their land within the Council area under strict conditions – depending on where the burn is taking place and the type of burn you are conducting.

On the day of burning, you can simply phone the Council office during opening hours to notify your intent to burn and request activation of the permit number.

A permit must be obtained prior to burning off.

Blanket permits may be obtained until the end of the fire season, however notification of intent to burn must be made on a daily basis.

Permits do not allow for burning off on any weekend or public holiday, on a day of total fire ban or on a day when Council's Fire Prevention Officer believes it is not safe to do so.

Pre-registration forms can be collected from Council's Balaklava office or you can complete the form online at www.wrc.sa.gov.au/support-for-residents/fire-and-emergencies/burningpermits.

Let's keep in touch

Scotland Place, Balaklava,
South Australia
PO Box 167,
Balaklava SA 5461.

08 8862 0800
admin@wrc.sa.gov.au
visit our website for more information
wrc.sa.gov.au

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Your Quarterly Cut-Out 3 month bin collection

Recycle Bin

Green Organics Bin

JANUARY

Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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MARCH

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Our waste depot opening times

Owen, 386 Pinery Road
Wednesday 10am - 11am
Saturday 9am - 11am
Sunday 11am - 12pm

Port Wakefield, 150 Shrike Road
Thursday 10am - 11am
Saturday 10am - 12pm
Sunday 9am - 10am

Everard, 1060 Hancock Rd.
Tuesday 9am - 11am
Saturday 9am - 11am
Sunday 9am - 11am