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# Wakefield Regional WRAP

Winter/Spring 2019

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

**Wakefield's  
got a  
million  
reasons to  
celebrate**  
pg. 2



**Apex Park is alive!**  
New community garden, upcoming nature playground and more ...

75% of us love living the Wakefield way!



# Mayor's Message

It has been an action packed few months! We've been busy preparing our plans and activities for the year ahead; these are detailed in the Annual Business Plan Summary, which you can find in this edition of the Wakefield Wrap.

We've had some well-known faces visit our region as we've showcased our wonderful community.

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC took the opportunity to meet the students involved in Owen Primary School's Rope4Hope fundraiser (winner of SA's Event of the Year 2019). He also had a tour of the upgraded Snowtown Pavilion with Wakefield's 2019 Citizen of the Year Derryn Stringer where he also met members of the Blyth-Snowtown Football club, local CWA and primary school students from Blyth and Snowtown. The Governor and his wife Mrs Le finished their tour, going back in time a hundred years (or more!) at the Balaklava Museum.

We held a free community event 'A Million Reasons to Celebrate' in Balaklava on 30 June, to celebrate the completion of our \$1 million Drought Communities Programme, which saw 23 community-focused projects delivered across the region. Special guest and celebrity chef Poh Yeow visited a local lentil grower and AGT's processing plant in the morning, before joining the celebrations at the Town Hall and whipping up a culinary masterpiece, starring all local produce, during a live cooking masterclass.

Gardening Australia's Sophie Thomson dug up some knowledge on drought resistant gardens as part of her 'Back to Basics' event at Blyth Town Hall. Sophie's appearance was funded through the Drought Communities funding and included conversations around mental health and general wellbeing. Speaking of gardens, our Community Garden is springing up right now in Apex Park. You can read about all the great things taking shape there, including the nature playground, on the next page.

Wakefield region is a vibrant place to be and I hope you've embraced the events and activities that we've rolled out recently. If you didn't get a chance, there's plenty more to enjoy throughout the rest of the year – we'll keep you posted!



## New in town

CEO Andrew MacDonald has been at WRC for several weeks now and has been keeping busy with the everyday workings of Council, so what does he think so far?



It is such a pleasure to be a part of Wakefield Regional Council – not just as its Chief Executive Officer, but as a community member as well! My wife Katrina and I have moved from Kingston to Balaklava and we have been met with so many warm welcomes, and we have been loving the lifestyle that Wakefield has to offer.

I'm motivated by the amount of potential we have here on our doorstep like – the local industries, the active and lively sporting clubs we have, and of course, the community and its devotion to volunteering and pulling together to help one another out.

### What are your top priorities?

I'm most passionate about Elected Members and Council employees working together as one team, guided by one vision and striving for the same goals, which includes delivering great services and projects that are valuable to our residents and that impact on their everyday.

Council wants to stay open and connected with our community and receive your feedback when we go out to consultation, so we can understand what you think about our plans.

All of us – Council staff, including volunteers, Elected Members and the community – will help shape Wakefield's future when we begin the process of reviewing our Strategic Management Plan. It is undeniable that changes are taking place because of the pressures our local businesses face but we envision the Plans will bring proactive actions that are sustainable and that drive the community towards the future with confidence.

I am determined to have a focus on promoting the brilliant lifestyle we have here in Wakefield. Our towns are not too far from the city and still offer a country oasis, with day-to-day needs covered like schools, community spaces for clubs, groups and events, parks and playgrounds, and great little shops and cafes in our major towns.



# There's been some amazing projects popping up across our region!

Last edition we featured projects happening from Hamley Bridge in the south to Brinkworth in the north. This edition we swing the spotlight on Balaklava's Apex Park. Here's a look at what's happening ...

## 1. Balaklava Swimming Pool - completed

As part of the \$1 million Drought Communities Programme, Balaklava Swimming Pool received funding for solar panels that are housed on a free-standing structure, that was also provided through the funding. Switching to solar will cut costs for the Club into the future.

## 2. Community Garden – ongoing project

Our much anticipated community garden is growing in leaps and bounds! The community project was funded through SA Health's Healthy Towns Challenge. So far, the area has been marked out, fenced, some garden beds have been created and compost bays made from recycled pallets have been installed. About 10 savvy volunteers have been helping out with establishing the garden but they could always use another pair of hands. Anyone interested in joining in can come by the plot on Mondays between 10am to 2pm.

## 3. Neighbourhood House – coming soon

Balaklava Caravan Park's Neighbourhood House is getting a spruce up. The space is on its way to becoming a great little recreational room. Park Caretaker Gary Hedaux has been supervising the renovations, which include removing the thick glass doors and screens that once housed a squash court, and is also repairing the floors.

## 4. Nature Playground – coming soon

Wakefield's first music-themed nature playground is on the horizon! We are about to transform the old croquet club into an awesome play space for local youngsters. Nature play company Climbing Tree has begun building our music tower structure at their workshop in Adelaide. Site preparation is happening now. The plans involve a cubby house, an a-frame basket swing, a music tower structure and a bicycle track loop.





# Love living the Wakefield Way



## 75%

of our community say Wakefield is a great place to live.

We're not far from the city but enjoy all the wonders of country living – that's just one of the reasons why 75% of our community say Wakefield is a great place to live.

A major community survey undertaken this year showed a caring, friendly and warm community, open spaces, quality of life and closeness of family and friends were all reasons people were happy to live in our vibrant community.



## 72%

are happy with their quality of life in Wakefield

The survey was the first of its kind for Council and feedback from the community will help shape our plans for the future. In a snapshot:

- **96%** believe unsealed road maintenance is important, with road surfacing (**92%**) and kerbside waste (**90%**) also rated extremely high
- Kerbside waste services (**61%**), parks, reserves, playgrounds (**56%**) and public toilets (**51%**) received the highest levels of satisfaction
- Road surfacing (**24%**), unsealed road maintenance (**25%**) and planning, building and development (**29%**) received the lowest levels of satisfaction
- Country lifestyle yet being close to the city (**59%**) and the warm and friendly community (**44%**) were the most attractive reasons to live in the Wakefield region

Respondents identified priority areas for further improvement as: unsealed road maintenance, road surfacing (bituminising) and footpath maintenance.

The research garnered responses from 400 people and consisted of surveys through telephone contact, face-to-face activities, online, social media and a focus group. Council would like to thank all people who provided feedback. Detailed reports about the survey results can be found on our website.

Feedback is always welcomed via Council's Contact Council portal on our website, [wrc.sa.gov.au](http://wrc.sa.gov.au)



## only 25%

say they're satisfied with our roads.

### Dog registrations are now due!

Renew by 31 August to avoid any late fines.

Renew your dog registration from the comfort of your own home - go to, [dogsandcatsonline.com.au](http://dogsandcatsonline.com.au)

### Let's keep in touch

Scotland Place, Balaklava, South Australia  
PO Box 167, Balaklava SA 546.

08 8862 0800  
[admin@wrc.sa.gov.au](mailto:admin@wrc.sa.gov.au)  
visit our website for more information  
[wrc.sa.gov.au](http://wrc.sa.gov.au)



**WAKEFIELD**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

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### Your Quarterly Cut-Out

3 month bin collection

Our waste depot opening times



#### July

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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			

#### August

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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

#### September

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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					

**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 Road

Tuesday  
9am - 11am

Saturday  
9am - 11am

Sunday  
9am - 11am

### New Bin Collection Calendar 2019/20 out now!

In your letterbox, local post office, or available to download from Council's website.

