

Vibrant - Enthusiastic - Creative

# Wakefield Regional WRAP

Summer/Autumn 2018

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



All time high - \$8m in development approvals

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Celebrating quarter century of service with our 'Lamo'



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Seal of approval as street plans roll out for townships



## Mayor Reid's Reflections

One of the most satisfying roles I play as Mayor is recognising the incredible people we have in our community – those who give generously of their time to make Wakefield a better place.

This year's Citizen of the Year, Brian Eime, has done so much for his local community of Blyth and it's an honour to be able to acknowledge his efforts at one of our Australia Day ceremonies. You can read more about Brian and our Community Event of the Year in this publication.

While I wholeheartedly congratulate the winners, I also want to thank those who took the time to nominate great citizens for these awards.

In other news for the region, Council is holding a by-election for the Central Ward as a result of Councillor Dick Pain's resignation. Keep an eye on our website and in the local media for further details.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Councillor Pain, who served on Council since 2012 and was also a member of the previous Wakefield Plains Council in the 1980s.

The 2018 year promises to see more and more opportunities and growth across Wakefield. From Hamley Bridge, where residents will be moving into the new facility at the local hospital, to the expansion of JBS - Primo Smallgoods at Port Wakefield, to the rebuilding of the Lutheran Church at Blyth, to the new disability cabin becoming accessible at Balaklava Caravan Park: there are many great developments – big and small – underway or on the cards for our district.

Mayor Rodney Reid

## 'Lamo' hits Councillor milestone

Central Ward Councillor and Balaklava resident, David 'Lamo' Lamond, has racked up an impressive 25 years of dedicated community service as a member of Wakefield Regional Council.

Last November, Cr Lamond was recognised with a 25-year service award presented by the Local Government Association SA during an event held at Adelaide Oval.

Mayor Reid, who attended the awards with Cr Lamond, said it was great to see the Councillor's commitment to leadership, guidance and facilitating communication between the Central Ward and the broader community acknowledged.

When Cr Lamond was elected to Council in 1992 it was under rather unusual circumstances, with elected members appointing him after a sudden vacancy on Council.

It was this force of fate that led him to follow in his "old man's footsteps".

"Local Government is in my blood," Cr Lamond said. "My old man did it before me and I kept that tradition of serving the community going."

Thomas William Lamond, his father, was a Councillor for the District Council of Balaklava for over 20 years.

"It was a much more humble set up back then, with only two staff members – a clerk and an office secretary," Cr Lamond said.

A born and bred Balaklava boy, and a retired farmer, Cr Lamond has held many positions throughout the broader community. This includes 26 years on the Balaklava Golf Club Committee, a past President of the Balaklava Bowling Club, and a Bowls SA Country Councillor for 10 years as well as 55 years of service with the Mount Templeton CFS. He is a current member of the Balaklava and District Lions Club.

Highlights from his time on Council range from the transformation of the Balaklava Golf Club from scrapes to green grounds in 1996, the sealing of the Blyth-Lochiel Road and Nantawarra Road, and fostering economic development through Balco, Primo and Gilmac's expansions.

Away from Council and his community duties, Cr Lamond likes to unwind with his wife Kaye at Port Vincent, and cast some lines from the boat – "but there's always more water between me and the fish".

He also enjoys a game of bowls with his friends and spending time with family. Cr Lamond thanks his wife, Kaye, his family and friends and Wakefield Regional Council for the past 25 years.



(From left) Cr David Lamond with Mayor Rodney Reid at the Local Government SA Awards, held at Adelaide Oval last November.

## 'Local government is in my blood'



**Did you know, regional South Australia contributes over \$20 billion towards the state's economy, and over 50 per cent of exports?**

## Council to State leaders: commit to services and help us grow

Wakefield Regional Council has sounded out political parties in the lead-up to the 2018 State election to understand how committed they are to regional growth, in particular, to providing more agencies to serve regional residents.

Wakefield's strategic plan includes population growth as a key pillar but Chief Executive Officer Jason Kuchel says lack of child care availability, appropriate housing and limited State Government services were acting as a barrier to that growth.

Mr Kuchel said new workers to the area were often being attracted from the metropolitan areas where they were used to much higher levels of service.

"In many cases they need similar levels of service and we're lobbying the decision makers to see just how committed they are to delivering for the communities we want to see grow and flourish," Mr Kuchel said.

Many other regional and rural councils also believe population growth will likely follow when more public services are provided in regional areas instead of being centralised in Adelaide.

Mayor Rodney Reid said we were living in an era where 'convenience is king' and all levels of government needed to offer more convenient ways of living in regional areas, by providing services and facilities.

"It's important Council campaigns State leaders for regional and rural funding so we ensure our townships continue to be well-served," Mayor Reid said.

Once Council has received information back from political leaders, it will look to make the commitments available to ratepayers via its website.

"These are really important issues for our community and we want to make sure our ratepayers are well informed about the responses we receive," Mr Kuchel said.

The 'population growth' pillar of Council's strategic plan acknowledges capital investment and job growth have not always translated into population growth as many people live in other areas and travel to Wakefield for work.

Council identified a number of critical factors ranging from access to social services, such as child care, to beautifying streetscapes and providing more 'green' recreational spaces, through to providing lifestyle housing opportunities as key decision points for new job holders as to whether to move into our region.

The plan states: we will not attract everybody, but it is important that we attract as many people as possible to grow our population, which in turn ensures local services remain sustainable for our existing population. The actions outlined in the plan aim to achieve that sustainable future.



## Record \$8m development approvals

This year some of us will be thinking about embarking on a home extension or that long overdue renovation project – perhaps even building a new home.

Whatever your dream design, you will need to apply for a development application through Council before beginning your build.

The development application process can seem daunting when you just want to get stuck into building.

That's why Council has undertaken more staff training and looked closely at the application process from end to end to streamline the process for customers.

As at the end of November, Council had approved 112 applications – almost twice the number at the same time last year (63) and up 40% on 2015 (80).

Chief Executive Officer Jason Kuchel said it was all part of Council's commitment to constantly improve operations to deliver more effective and efficient services for the community.

"The more efficient our processes, the less stress for applicants and the quicker people can undertake their building work," Mr Kuchel said.

"So far this financial year we have approved applications with a total value of just under \$8 million. Most of the applications have been new residential developments or additions to existing properties, such as carports or home extensions.

"Our development team is always happy to have a pre-lodgement discussion about planned projects too so people can approach their building or development activity with confidence."

Mr Kuchel said the more development happening in the region, the better for the whole community.

"Council has plans to grow the region and encourage more businesses and home owners to join our community," he said. "We're excited to see the developments that will take shape in the rest of the financial year."

For more information on planning and building approval visit Council's website at [www.wrc.sa.gov](http://www.wrc.sa.gov) and go to Council Services > Development and Building or call our office on (08) 8862 0800.

**'The more efficient our processes, the less stress for applicants'**

## Your development questions answered

We get a lot of questions about planning and building approval. Here are a few of our most asked.

### Q1: Do I need approval for my garden shed?

You do not need approval for a garden shed if it meets the following criteria:

- It is on the same allotment as an existing dwelling
- The floor area is 15m<sup>2</sup> or less
- It is 2.5m or less in height
- It will be placed in your property's backyard

### Q2: How long does approval usually take?

This really depends on what sort of application you are lodging and the completeness of your application.

Council tries to process development applications as quickly as possible. Legislation allows the following timeframes to approve applications:

- Planning only – 8 weeks
- Building only – 4 weeks
- Planning and building – 12 weeks

Please keep in mind these timeframes don't include time waiting for further information from the customer or builder.

### Q3. What is the difference between planning approval and building approval?

Simply put:

A planning approval is for the use and/or development of land.

A building approval relates to the construction of a building only, under the building regulations.

It is suggested that you contact Council's Building and Planning Officers on (08) 8862 0800 to determine which approvals you require.

### Q4. Do I need an architect to draw my proposed plans?

For commercial development, new homes and dwelling additions, the use of an experienced design and drafting service (or architect) is strongly recommended. However, most home owners can draw up a site plan for domestic outbuildings using a pen and ruler. The more complete and accurate the information is in the application, the quicker to process.

Still didn't answer your burning question? Send it to us at [admin@wrc.sa.gov.au](mailto:admin@wrc.sa.gov.au)

## Program paves way for town road sealing

Phillips Street in Port Wakefield is the latest roadway to receive a fresh upgrade, with a sealed surface, new kerbing and the addition of a hardy dolomite footpath.

Wakefield's new Infrastructure Services Manager Leon Kruger says his team will be busy this year formulating a program to see more roads within townships sealed over the next few years.

"It all comes under the third key pillar of our strategic plan – to provide quality infrastructure to the community," Mr Kruger said.

"We plan and plan, leaving no stone unturned and looking at every worst case scenario to ensure our projects are sustainable, on budget and meet the expectations of our community."

The Phillips Street upgrade was not without challenges, with our Infrastructure Services team needing to work carefully around essential underground services like mains water pipes, as well as employing an excavator to remove hard sheet rock before laying the road's foundation.

If you would like to read more about our Strategic Plan and infrastructure over the next five years hop on to our website at [www.wrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wrc.sa.gov.au) and go to Council Documents > Council Plans and Reports.

Other major projects scheduled for this year include:

- The upgrade of Snowtown's Railway Terrace West
- Mail Road (off of the Copper Coast Highway) will also receive an upgrade as part of a State Government funded project
- Replace bridge structure on Kybunga Top Road with culverts north of Woodlands Brae Road.

We'll keep you updated though a range of communications throughout the year.



Infrastructure Services team members (from left) Hayden, Grant, Leon, Mark and Greg at one of the sites upgraded in 2017-18.



## Meet Leon Kruger Our new Infrastructure Services Manager

Leon comes to Wakefield with an extensive background in local government and civil engineering, most recently with the City of Busselton in Western Australia.

Originally from South Africa, where he worked with multiple Councils, Leon moved to New Zealand with his family in 2004 and took up the position of Wastewater Manager for the Far North District Council and then Utilities Program Manager for Hamilton City Council/ MWH Alliance Partnership. After returning to engineering consultancy in 2006, Leon immigrated to Australia in 2012 and tried his hand at the mining sector as Senior Engineer for the Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) Australia.

Wakefield has significant infrastructure investment across the community but that doesn't worry Leon, who is relishing the opportunity to work to meet the community's needs and expectations.

"My team and I will take care of some fundamental projects this year, with road maintenance still high on the agenda and of course more upgrades to take place."

Leon is probably most excited about the prospect of working in a largely farming community, having grown up in a similar community himself.

"I think I'm a country boy at heart," Leon said. "I have just about fallen in love with the Wakefield region already."



**Did you know, around 55,000 litres of water could be collected from a 100m2 roof area and used to supply part of your household's water needs?**

## Time to check your tanks

With summer here and most of us making use of the rainwater that has collected in our tanks, we would like to remind residents of the simple checks you can carry out to ensure your rainwater is up to scratch.

Rainwater collected from a roof is generally fine to drink but getting a good supply does take some maintenance.

### Looking after your tank:

**Every three months:** look to make sure your gutters are clean, to avoid leaves and debris potentially being washed into your tank.

**Every three months:** make sure your mosquito mesh is in good condition with no holes or tears to avoid insects and other vermin getting into the tank.

**Every six months:** regularly check the colour, smell and clarity of the water, as well as the level of sediment in the tank.

**Every six months:** double-check your filter, pumps and pipes to ensure they are functioning correctly.

**Every two years:** it is recommended you complete a desludge to remove the sediment that tends to build up in the water tanks over time. *(Information sourced from CSIRO).*

Regular disinfection is not needed, but if you are concerned about contamination, especially for those more vulnerable to illnesses, you can boil your rainwater before drinking, or consider installing a UV light in the tank for continuous disinfection.

As a general rule of thumb, if you notice something not quite right with your rainwater or tank, complete the above checks and/or visit [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au) for detailed instructions on tank maintenance.

## 2018 Council meetings

Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Phil Barry Chamber, Wakefield Regional Council, Balaklava.

On occasions, Council meetings are held elsewhere to offer community members an opportunity to attend the meeting locally.

Hop on to our website and go to Council Documents > Council before each meeting to double check the location.

All council meetings begin at 6:30pm.

The schedule for the 2018 meetings is as follows:

- Wednesday 24 January (Pt Wakefield)
- Wednesday 28 February (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 28 March (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 18 April (Snowtown)
- Wednesday 23 May (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 27 June (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 25 July (Owen)
- Wednesday 22 August (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 26 September (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 24 October (Brinkworth)
- Wednesday 28 November (Balaklava)
- Wednesday 12 December (Balaklava)

## Top honours for Blyth 'asset' Brian and Plains event

On Australia Day, our region acknowledges the achievements of our local heroes through the Citizen of the Year Awards.

This is an opportunity for us to thank and award those individuals who help make the Wakefield region a great place to live, work and play.

Wakefield's 2018 Citizen of the Year, Brian Eime, 68, was born and bred in Blyth and apart from several years of senior schooling in Adelaide he has lived in the area all his life. Brian has held many positions in the community and sport clubs and strives to make Blyth a better place to live.

Brian has been part of the driving force of major projects in Blyth including work on the Blyth Town Hall and the Bowling Club.

He works tirelessly writing grant submissions and has been successful in recent years for securing significant amounts of grant money to substantially improve the local bowls facilities. Brian also dedicates his time as an assistant bowls coach for the Clare High School students.

Always keen to get his hands dirty, Brian never fails to help out during community busy bees, especially when he brings along his workshop tools, welder, grinder, forklift, mower and his know-how.

Brian's nomination described him as "a huge asset to the bowling club and the town of Blyth ... humble, a listener, a leader, an ideas man, talented in many areas and carries a bright smile and a witty sense of humour."

Community Event of the Year was awarded to 'Plains on a Plate' - held by the Adelaide



Plains on a Plate which dished up delights in 2017 and (inset) Blyth local hero Brian Eime. Photo courtesy: Plains Producer.

### '... [Brian] carries a bright smile and a witty sense of humour'

Plains SA Country Women's Association (CWA) and attracting over 1,000 people to Owen, the event showcased the very best of the Adelaide Plains food bowl.

The event came about from the idea of wanting to bring the community together and give something back to the district which had been put under significant stress since the Pinery Fire in 2015. Its aim was to hero the local businesses, farmers and produce found on our doorstep.

In putting on this event the group attracted support from local businesses and

received a Pinery Fire recovery grant. This enabled it to put on a ripper day, securing headline attractions in Simon Bryant who did cooking demonstrations using local produce, and George the Farmer who entertained and educated kids about where food comes from and the importance of supporting farmers.

The CWA was able to raise thousands of dollars towards future support for emergency relief in our state.

Mayor Rodney Reid thanked those who submitted nominations.

"We have incredible people in our region and I hope to see those who missed out back in the mix for the 2019 awards," he said.

Hamley Bridge Library Depot  
IS GETTING A  
NEW LOOK  
IN 2018



The Hamley Bridge Library Depot has closed but a new look service is being planned for 2018.

In the interim, please use the services of Balaklava, Riverton or Gawler libraries or visit the Libraries of SA website at [www.libraries.sa.gov.au](http://www.libraries.sa.gov.au).

GOT QUESTIONS?  
Visit [www.wrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wrc.sa.gov.au)  
or call 08 8862 0800



## Aquabubblers popping up

Quenching your thirst around Snowtown and Brinkworth has never been easier, thanks to new drinking fountains installed by SA Water and Wakefield Regional Council.

The drinking fountains, called Aquabubblers, are located in Snowtown Skate Park and Stockyard Reserve – both popular areas for the community.

Mayor Reid said Council was delighted to be working with SA Water to install the new drinking fountains.

“The drinking fountains reinforce OPAL’s ‘Water. The Original Cool Drink’ message, which encourages water consumption and reducing the amount of sugary drinks consumed by children and families,” Mayor Reid said.

“Choosing water over sugary drinks is a very important part of a healthy lifestyle, and by installing water fountains in popular locations, we can help make this choice easier for our community.

“By installing the AquaBubblers, access to the water in the community has improved, making it easier to choose water over other alternatives.”

## Festival coup as the finest of folk coming to Balaklava

In its first tour across the SA border, the Festival of Small Halls will be stopping in the Wakefield region in 2018.

The Festival takes the finest national and international folk-contemporary artists from the country’s two most renowned folk festivals - Port Fairy Folk Festival and the National Folk Festival - and tours them to small town halls. Balaklava Town Hall is set to host what will be the Festival’s only South Australian appearance.

After 18 months of discussions, Balaklava Town Hall Manager Brenda Nankivell said her team was thrilled to hear it had been successful in attracting the Festival.

“Details of our leg of the tour have not yet been announced but we can tell you that the Festival Concert is set down for Wednesday 7 March - mark the date on your calendar,” Ms Nankivell said. “This is an exciting opportunity for us to host this highly regarded Music Festival in our region and we welcome the possibility of it returning on an annual basis.”

Information on current tours can be found at [festivalofsmallhalls.com](http://festivalofsmallhalls.com) and more information about the Balaklava events will be shared in early 2018.

For further information contact the Balaklava Town Hall on 1300 655 224 or via email [admin@bth.org.au](mailto:admin@bth.org.au).

## Let’s keep in touch

Wakefield Regional Council

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

08 8862 0800  
[admin@wrc.sa.gov.au](mailto:admin@wrc.sa.gov.au)

visit our website for more information  
[www.wrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wrc.sa.gov.au)



## Your Quarterly Cut-Out

### 3 month bin collection

January						
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			

  

February						
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			

  

March						
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

Recycle Bin

Green Organics Bin

### 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 Road

Tuesday  
9am - 11am

Saturday  
9am - 11am

Sunday  
9am - 11am

Residents of Wakefield Regional Council may access any of the above transfer station.