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# Wakefield Regional WRAP

Autumn/Winter 2023

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



## Owen's streets upgraded

• PAGE 6

## Are you eligible for free cat desexing?

National Desexing Network, Wakefield Regional Council and participating vets are here to help those in need. • PAGE 5



## STAGE ONE 'DUNN' AND DUSTED

A thorough cleaning and a fresh lick of paint on Balaklava's Dunn's Bridge has revitalised the 143-year-old bow string truss bridge and completed stage one of the restoration works.

• READ THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 3

Standing on the large scale scaffold that spanned the entire Wakefield River is painter Samuel spraying on the protective epoxy sealant.





Wakefield Regional Council Mayor Rodney Reid with Her Excellency Frances Adamson AC out the front of the Balaklava Council Chamber.

## Message from the Mayor

I'm always proud to showcase our region to those visiting Wakefield, in March we were fortunate enough to welcome the Governor of South Australia Her Excellency Frances Adamson AC and her husband Mr Rod Bunten.

Her Excellency spent time with our elected members discussing our region, the importance of our Wakefield 2030 Community Plan and the role liveable communities plays within our plan.

Whilst here the Governor highlighted our work on the Hamley Bridge and Balaklava Main Streets and acknowledged the improvements Council had made.

We continue to encourage work in this space with Owen currently hustling and bustling with civil works on both First and Main Street breathing new life into the streetscapes.

In this edition we also discuss the restoration of Dunn's Bridge, which has seen a historic landmark in our community given a second lease on life. A deep clean of the structure and fresh coat of paint has breathed new life into the 143-year-old bridge.

Council continues to take steps forward in protecting beloved pets within our community. The installation of an upgraded pound facility at our Balaklava Depot has allowed us to safely manage and contain lost or found dogs with future preparations made for a cattery.

Our Community grants have opened for 2023. This funding is open to not-for-profit groups so they can get projects off the ground 2023/24. Last year's grants saw 19 groups benefit from over \$100,000 in funding activating projects across our region.

Excellent projects are funded each year from these grants, it will be exciting to see what community groups accomplish this year from the funding.

**Mayor  
Rodney Reid**



ABOVE: Tiling the wading pool at Owen. TOP: The beginning of the 25m pool's tiling.

## Tiles laid at Owen Swimming Pool

UPGRADES at Owen Swimming Pool are more than 60 per cent complete despite rain delays putting a two-week halt on concreting for the project.

Both the small wading pool and larger 25-metre pool have had their tiling completed with joining work ready for a final layer of sealant.

Just like Balaklava, Owen will also receive the same upgraded wet deck gutters around the pool.

The plant room is also receiving a major overhaul with the construction of a new shed enclosure being built to house an upgraded filtration system.

The pool's concrete concourse will be one of the final pieces of concrete poured before one of the beloved diving boards is returned and a new static diving platform is installed.

Keep an eye on Council's or the Owen Swimming Pool's Facebook page for updates on the project.



# Facelift future proofs Dunn's Bridge

• From page one  
THE total budget to deliver stage one of the restoration project was \$80,000 with \$20,000 of funding from Heritage SA.

Restoration of the bridge started with a scaffold spanning the width of the Wakefield River erected below the bridge to create a safe working platform.

The scaffold was lined with plastic builders' film to capture loose debris that might fall from the bridge during the pressure washing process, this included dust, dirt, moss, mould and even bird droppings.

Existing chain mesh fencing surrounding the bridge was removed by Council, ready to be replaced with new mesh.

To protect the bridge an undercoat epoxy sealer was sprayed on the bridge to protect the structure and ensure future longevity before applying the final colour to the bridge.

Natural steel grey was chosen as the new colour with over 200 litres of paint used to paint the entire framework.

Council will seek future technical advice on the masonry and stone abutments surrounding the bridge in later stages of the project.

With the bridge closed to all vehicle traffic Council will install removable bollards to keep cars off the bridge and allow access for pedestrians and cyclists using the Shamus Liptrot trail.

ABOVE RIGHT: An aerial view of the Dunn's Bridge construction site while works were being completed to clean, seal and paint the bridge.

RIGHT: The completed repainted bridge with barrier mesh in place until the new metal mesh is installed.



## Clean parks, happy dogs: scoop that poop

NO one likes stepping in dog poo so remember to always take the time to clean up after your dog when you're out and about in Wakefield.

Each of the major towns in our region have dog poo bag dispensers at their town ovals or on their walking trails.

These compostable bags provide an easy way to clean up and dispose of your dog's poos.

If you're caught in the act leaving your dog's poo in one of our public spaces, you could face a expiation for not cleaning up after your dog.

## Collect free RATs from WRC

OUR council office is now a collection point for rapid antigen tests (RATs), with eligible residents able to collect five RATs from the council office.

### Eligible residents include:

- people with disability or who are immunocompromised
- a carer of someone with disability or who is immunocompromised
- eligible Concession Card holders (including Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card, Commonwealth Seniors Health Card and Department of Veterans Affairs Concession Card)

When collecting RATs from council, there is no need to register, however proof of concession may be required upon collection. If you have COVID-19 symptoms try to find someone who is not infected to collect the tests for you.



# First paws hit the floor in new pound

COUNCIL'S dog pound at our Balaklava Depot is up and running, safely containing lost or found dogs.

The modular design of the purpose-built facility has created eight spaces for impounded dogs.

Two of the eight cages are larger to ensure Council's officers have enough space inside the cage to deal with aggressive dogs.

Each individual cage also features automatic refilling water bowls, dogs are also kept cool thanks to an air-conditioning system that runs throughout the entire shed.

Preparing for future needs, space has been left for a cattery to enable Council to safely house lost cats.

Council's Community Safety Officer Michael Wilkin has welcomed the upgraded facility.

"It's great to have a facility where we can safely and securely house impounded dogs for extended or short periods of time," Mr Wilkin said.

"These new facilities will help us bridge the gap if pet rehoming centres such as the RSPCA or AWL are fully filled.

"We will be able to look after and house dogs longer."

With a completed and functional pound inside, the focus will now shift to creating a playful outside space for dogs.

"We hope to create a nice grassed area with plenty of toys and obstacles to keep any dogs in our care occupied," Mr Wilkin said.

RIGHT: Council's Community Safety Officer Micheal Wilkin in the pound



## Safe and secure – maintaining effective control of your dogs

WAKEFIELD Regional Council has noted a recent rise in dogs wandering at large and is reminding owners to keep their pets under control.

Over the past six months there has been over 30 complaints of dogs wandering at large leading to 20 dogs being impounded by Council.

Wakefield Regional Council's Community Safety Officer, Michael Wilkin, said dogs may seem harmless when roaming unaccompanied, but they can quickly become a nuisance, frightened or distressed, which can lead to dog attacks.

"Under the Dog & Cat Management Act it is an offence to allow a dog to be wandering at large," Mr Wilkin said.

"If your dog is found wandering at large it may be seized and detained by council with potential fines issued to owners.

"Council aims to reunite lost dogs or those found wandering at large with their owners as soon as possible, this can be achieved much faster if you maintain your dog's details on the Dogs & Cats Online (DACO) website.

"If we are unable to identify your dog due to a lack of a collar or microchip, they will be impounded, which will lead to owners paying impound fees.

"Owners of dogs found to be repeatedly wandering at large may also face an expiation as set by the Dog and Cat Management Board of SA."

If you'd like to find more information on keeping your dog safe visit [dogandcatboard.com.au](http://dogandcatboard.com.au) or if you need to update your dog's details visit: [www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au](http://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au) or contact Council.

There are a few quick steps you can follow to help keep your dog safe.

- Make sure your dog is properly fenced in and gates are shut or effectively contained at home.
- Use a leash when you are out in public places.
- Train them not to bark excessively.
- Stop them from roaming.
- Make sure your dog is registered, microchipped and wears a collar so they can be returned if lost.
- Have your details on a tag on your dog's collar



# Prevent unwanted kitten litters with subsidised cat desexing

COUNCIL has partnered with the National Desexing Network to offer concession and pension card holders the opportunity to access affordable cat desexing.

The National Desexing Network (NDN) is an Australia-wide referral system giving pet owners in financial need access to low-cost cat desexing.

Thanks to the subsidised program Wakefield Regional Council concession or pension card holders can have their cat desexed for \$50 or micro chipped for \$5. Eligible residents can access a desexing voucher directly online or by calling the NDN team to access the

council cooperative desexing program.

By making cat desexing easily accessible and affordable the NDN hopes to put an end to overpopulation of cats from unwanted litters.

Pet health can also improve once your cat is desexed, saving you from costly pet bills associated with not desexing your pet.

Dr Joy Verrinder, Strategic Director of the National Desexing Network, urges residents to get their male and female cats desexed between 2 and 4 months of age, as male cats are less likely to fight, roam and spray, and female cats can

become pregnant from just 4 months old and can breed continuously after that.

This initiative helps the whole community to keep cats at bay and also reduces costs to Council that may come from holding and re-homing unwanted litters while also reducing predation on native wildlife.

Subsidies are available while Council funds last, to find out if you're eligible for you can phone the National Desexing Network on 1300 368 992.

**Vets participating in the program for Wakefield Regional Council are below.**

## Local participating vets include:

- YP Vets (Kadina)
- Barossa Veterinary Service (Nuriootpa)
- Adelaide Plains Veterinary Surgery (Two Wells)
- Seaside Vet Surgery (Wallaroo)

## Can't afford to desex your cat?

National Desexing Network, Wakefield Regional Council and participating vets are here to help those in need.

**\$50 DESEXING FOR ALL CATS**

**\$5 MICROCHIPPING**

Cats should be desexed around three months of age as they can become pregnant from four months old.

**Call: 1300 368 992**

Wakefield Regional Council residents only. Conditions apply. Available while funds last.



Government of South Australia  
Dog and Cat Management Board





Downer's road milling machine makes its way along First Street in Owen.



## Owen Main Street works rejuvenate local hub

OWEN'S Main Street has seen major footpath works undertaken to create a safer walking surface on the corner of Main Street and Railway Terrace.

This corner has seen over 370 sqm<sup>2</sup> of pavers laid to reform the footpath and create a safer surface around the memorial, town hall, post office and shops.

Previously the footpath's surrounding the area had several different levels adjacent to businesses.

This has now been

levelled to create a smooth entry to the buildings in the precinct.

70 metres of concrete kerbing around the corner has also been renewed with new accessibility ramps installed at the intersection to create a safer experience when crossing both roads to access local facilities.

Key areas on the corner such as the memorial and café eating space have been highlighted by using charcoal pavers to make these areas stand out from the path.

## First street ripped and ready for a resurface

FIRST Street, Owen is also in the midst of civil works to reconstruct the road's surface and water table.

Trees growing through the surface and stormwater damage over the years has gradually deteriorated the road's surface.

To replace the road in its current state a significant number of the trees along the street would've needed removing or to be heavily trimmed to avoid impacting machinery while resealing the road.

These trees would've contributed to future damage to the new kerbing as they continued growing, before eventually breaking through the surface of the renewed road.

To combat both tree

growth and damage from machinery First Street has been reduced in width by 3.5m so the trees can remain while the road is reconstructed.

New kerbing will also be laid from Railway Terrace to Fourth Street creating improved drainage, while also replacing existing damaged kerbing.

Additional kerb ramps will be installed with a total of 11 ramps constructed along the street, aligning the project with Council's three-year region-wide program to upgrade non-compliant kerb ramps.

Spray sealing will complete the road's new profile creating a better driving surface for the Street with existing footpaths also widened for foot traffic.



# Apply now for council's 2023 Community Grants

COUNCIL'S Community Grants program has returned for 2023, with applications now being accepted for projects aimed at activating our region.

Minor Grants are capped at \$2,000 and Major Grants are funded up to \$25,000, community groups can also access event sponsorships up to \$2,000.

Mayor Rodney Reid said last year's program contributed over \$100,000 in funding across 19 community projects in Wakefield, enabling not-for-profit community groups

to start or complete their projects.

"Each year we're able to help fund projects our community groups hold close to their hearts," Mayor Reid said.

"Whether it's funding big ticket items like Owen Golf Club's new lawn mower, which was granted \$25,000 in last year's round of funding or smaller projects like the Snowtown Primary School's seed library – these funding opportunities all support activating Wakefield."

"We're continuing to look for projects that align with our Wakefield 2030 themes of Liveable Communities, Thriving Region and Sustainable Future.

- Community groups looking to apply for the funding must be based within the Wakefield region and the grants are subject to Council approving the 2023/24 budget.
- All of the grant application details can be found on Council's website at [www.wrc.sa.gov.au](http://www.wrc.sa.gov.au)

- Guidelines for applying to each funding category can also be found on Council's website and should be read carefully before applying.
- Applications for the Community Grants program close Friday 26 May 2023 and applicants will be notified if their project has been chosen by the Community Grants Assessment Committee in July 2023.
- For any further questions or queries please contact Community Events Officer Larissa McPharlin on 8862 0800.



Lochiel Hall keeps cool thanks to community grants

Lochiel Progress Association members Leonie Thomas and Bob Carter keep cool under one of the three new air conditioners in the Lochiel Town Hall.

LOCHIEL'S Community Hall is now more comfortable than ever following the installation of three new split system air conditioners, supported by Council's Minor and Major Community grants.

Accessing \$8,545 of funding from the 2021/22 round of community grant funding, the Progress Association was

able to complete its project, which aimed to heat and cool the hall.

Secretary of the Lochiel Progress Association, Bob Carter, explained before the new heating system, members of the committee would bring blankets to the hall for their winter progress association meetings.

"We had nothing in the way of heating the hall before these new split systems," Bob said.

"So far they've been working extremely well to warm and cool the hall."

"They came in handy for last year's elections when we had people walking in and out

of the hall, they noticed the difference.

"We were so glad we got the funding to get the project up and running in the hall, it's been great for our community."

To submit your application for funding visit Council's website for more details.



Regular rider on the Community Bus Dulcie Williams with volunteer bus driver Jerry Nicholson

## Get out and about in Council's Community Bus

WHETHER you're keen to volunteer or simply need a lift around our region Council's Community Bus is a great way to get out about.

Thanks to local volunteers who drive the Community Bus, we are able to offer various trips around and out of our region.

We offer regular door-to-door shopping trips for those located in Owen, Balaklava, Hamley Bridge and Port Wakefield.

There are also fortnightly, monthly and bi-monthly trips to metro areas

including Salisbury, Munno Para and Elizabeth.

These trips enable people to access out of town facilities such as banking, shopping and other facilities that aren't readily available within their own towns.

The bus is wheelchair accessible with all volunteers trained to help you get on and off the bus safely.

If you're looking to book your spot on the bus or you're keen to volunteer your time contact Council on 8862 0800.

# Can you save on rates as a Single Farm Enterprise?

ANSWER yes to these questions and you may be eligible:

- Are you a farmer?
- Do you own two or more parcels of rateable land in Wakefield that are not adjoining?
- Are these pieces of land all used as farm land/primary production?
- Are these pieces of land owned or occupied by the same person/s?

If so, this means you may need to pay only one fixed charge against all of your land.

If a single farm enterprise application has previously been approved and all of the above points are still the case a new application is not necessary. However, if you have subdivided, purchased or sold land this financial year a new application will be required.

Applications will need to be received by 31 May 2023 to be considered for inclusion in Council's 2023/24 rating. The single farm enterprise provision only applies if you have made an application which has been approved by Council. If you believe you are eligible or have any queries, please contact Rates Officer Ros Jarvis at the Council office on 8862 0800.

Application forms are available from Council's website or can be requested by phoning the Council office on 8862 0800.

## 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

APRIL						
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						
MAY						
Su	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
JUNE						
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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	

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, 106 Hancock Rd.  
Tuesday 9am - 11am  
Saturday 9am - 11am  
Sunday 9am - 11am