

During the month of June my community meeting activities included the following attendances:

- Coromandel Valley Men’s Breakfast listening post.
- Meeting with staff regarding proposed Thalassa Park Master Plan.
- Elected members session on the City of Onkaparinga representation review.
- NAIDOC March Christies Beach.
- Local Government Emergency Management Winter Webinbar.
- Represented the mayor at the Pilgrim School Aberfoyle Park musical evening.
- Department of Infrastructure and Transport Have Your Say Session on public transport road networks arranged by the Member for Davenport.
- Member for Davenport Chat and Colour community engagement Hub Shopping Centre.
- Listening post at the National Trust Coromandel Valley and Districts Saturday morning tea.
- Cherry Gardens Garden Club.
- Elected members session on The Open Space Strategic Plan.
- Healthy Cities Onkaparinga monthly meeting at Christies Beach.
- Coromandel Community Centre board meeting.
- Site visit at the Paul Murray Recreation Centre upgrade.
- Aberfoyle Park Happy Valley Neighbourhood Watch area meeting.
- Monthly Council meeting.
- Aberfoyle Park Men’s breakfast listening post.
- Member for Davenport “Chat and Colour event” Hub Shopping Centre.
- Listening post with mayor and councillor Themeliotis at Clarendon.
- Special CEO Performance Committee.
- Kangarilla Progress Association “Get Storm Ready” information session.
- Hurds Hill Reserve Coromandel Valley Regeneration Group planting session.
- South Adelaide Port Adelaide football match at Alberton Oval representing the mayor.
- Citizenship Ceremony at the Port Noarlunga Arts Centre.
- Flagstaff Hill Primary School One Tree Per Child planting event.
- Elected members session on Council licensing and leasing policy.
- Site visit at the Flagstaff Hill Golf Course Living Choice development.
- Operation Flinders participants presentation event Noarlunga Centre.
- Renewal SA drop-in session regarding the Noarlunga Master Plan Development at Port Noarlunga Arts Centre.
- Civic reception for Green Civic Leaders at Noarlunga Centre.
- Elected members session relating to Impact of Social Media, Records Management and Waste Strategic Management Plan.
- Office for Sports, Recreation and Racing Grants Forum Aberfoyle Park Community Centre.
- Flagstaff Oval board meeting.

Due to time clashes I had to miss the following engagements opportunities:

- Clarendon Agriculture Bureau community meeting.

City of Onkaparinga's Draft Community Vision

We have released a draft Community Vision and would like the community's feedback. This vision will guide our direction for the next 10 years until 2034. More than 5,000 community members helped shape a shared vision through surveys, workshops and feedback at council events.

That feedback has been taken on board to create a draft vision that tackles current and future challenges and opportunities, reflecting our community's aspirations and choosing the right criteria for making tough decisions when necessary. The community also told us that in 10 years' time they want this place to be as beautiful, liveable and unique as it is today. This vision is your vision.

Open for feedback until Sunday 11 August, the Community Vision is based on four key themes – community, environment, liveability and leadership – supported by 32 ambitious goals.

The draft Community Vision 2034 is high-level and aspirational and will require collective effort to deliver. We understand this vision might not align with the current reality of your rates notice or other cost pressures. But this is just the first step in setting a new direction. We must start now, and we have much work to do.

This Community Vision becomes the compass that guides those decisions – not just for the council but for the community and anyone and everyone who can help bring it to life.

Elected members and the mayor have made a series of commitments to you about the things we will consider when we are making decisions in the chamber based on what you told us. Those commitments, shown on page 22 of the draft vision, reflect both financial and social principles.

This is not just about what the council will do. We will work with industry partners, other levels of government, service providers, not-for-profits and you to achieve this collective and evolving vision. This is about everyone working together and turning ideas into action.

To read and provide feedback on the draft Community Vision by Sunday 11 August, visit the council's Your Say page at onkaparingacity.com/vision.

SALA Festival Down South

South Australian Living Artists (SALA) Festival began on Thursday 1 August with dozens of exhibitions and events scheduled across the City of Onkaparinga throughout August. Our galleries, libraries, community centres, schools, cellar doors, eateries, businesses, breweries and clubs will come alive with visual arts, highlighting the region's many talented artists.

You can find all the exhibitions on show within the City of Onkaparinga by visiting the interactive map on the SALA website, but we have pulled out a few highlights to get you started, which you can see at onkaparinganow.com

Port Noarlunga's historic Sauerbier House will again be a hive of activity with four exhibitions, an open studio and a DIY painting session. The works are from previous artists-in-residence and range from painting, print making, craft, installation, textiles, mixed media, moving image, sculpture performance, photography, sound and video. The artists explore diverse themes and topics such as surfing, skateboarding, Onkaparinga River and Adelaide Hills landscapes, and a fallen tree that "predates the invasion of Kurna country".

The inaugural winners of the City of Onkaparinga SALA Artist Residency, Jackie Saunders and Laura Wills, have begun their 12-week stint at Sauerbier for their "Riverside Studio" residency, and you can experience two events with them during SALA Festival. On Thursday 15 from 11am to 2:30pm you can join Jackie and Laura for a casual drop-in opportunity to paint with them, while on Saturday 24 August (1–4pm) you can pop into the Riverside Studio to see what they have been up to halfway through their artist residence.

Jackie, a First Nations Australian, and Laura, a first-generation Australian with English heritage, come together to support each other in the development of collective practice, and their Rivertime exhibition will follow SALA Festival from 28 September until 2 November. Sharing a love of drawing and painting, and by working intuitively from the heart, they are creating new works inspired by the unique landscape around Sauerbier House, particularly the coastal environment – the river estuary, sand dunes and beach.

Nearby at the Port Noarlunga Arts Centre, Monika Morgenstern's exhibition – The Radiant Now – delves deeply into the idea of the numinous in an ethereal and atmospheric abstract manner through mixed media and painting, and she invites you to an encounter with the unknown.

In McLaren Vale, the Good Bank Gallery will host an exhibition featuring the artwork of five young artists through our Onkaparinga Youth SALA Mentorship Program from 8–31 August.

Portal is an exhibition by Ruby Berry, Delilah Childs, Garlic Flakelar, Seb Hurrell and Sarina Jayne, with the mentorship program seeking to nurture and support young emerging artists within the City of Onkaparinga to present an exhibition. The program is in its fifth year and has supported 16 young artists to exhibit their artwork and develop their practice. A launch will be held on Thursday 8 August from 5–7pm.

Go to onkaparinganow.com for the full list of highlights and a link to SALA's interactive map to see what other exhibitions are on near you. Many of the exhibitions have been supported by the City of Onkaparinga with a SALA Artist Registration Fee Subsidy.

Take Charge – Recycle Your Batteries

Did you know batteries cause two-to-three fires in local recycling collection trucks every year – and the risk is growing?

Nationally, there were around 1,000 fires directly related to lithium-ion batteries in the waste and recycling sector last year. That is around three a day. Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are contained in common household items, including most mobile phones, laptops, tablets, e-scooters, e-bikes and power tools.

Batteries can cause fires when they overheat or explode if they are disposed of incorrectly or if they are damaged. Fires caused by batteries can be hard and even dangerous to put out. With a projected growth in the number of batteries dumped in waste or recycling bins, battery-related fires are expected to rise.

Batteries are being incorrectly placed in kerbside bins, either loose or concealed in disposable products such as vapes, and they contain harmful substances such as zinc, manganese, lithium-ion and nickel-cadmium.

We have had two recent fires in recycling trucks related to batteries. Because these trucks carry dry, combustible loads, the risk of fire is significant. There is a monetary cost to ratepayers and the community – as well as environmental impacts from fire emissions. Repair and labour costs for the two trucks involved in the recent incidents totalled around \$20,000. A further \$10,500 was lost in associated downtime.

Also, there is a serious risk to workers operating across the waste and recycling chain, from drivers through to landfill workers and those sorting goods in facilities such as the multimillion-dollar Southern Materials Recovery Facility in Seaford Heights. Thankfully, reducing the risk to workers, equipment and property is easy. Don't put batteries in kerbside bins. Instead, use one of the many free drop-off points available. Most battery retailers, such as hardware stores and supermarkets like Aldi, Coles and Woolworths, accept old batteries. Businesses can order recycling containers for the collection of commercial batteries from several organisations.

Many materials in batteries, like metals and chemicals, can be recovered and reused in new products. Recycling batteries not only reduces our reliance on raw materials but also keeps them out of landfill and removes the risk of dangerous stockpiles at home.

Before disposal, tape over battery terminals with clear sticky tape to prevent fires, keep them in a cool, dry place – preferably a glass jar – and store different battery types separately to avoid chemical reactions.

If a battery is leaking or swollen, handle it with gloves, put it in a plastic bag, and dispose of it at a designated drop-off point immediately, as swollen batteries can spontaneously combust.

Not all drop-off points accept every type of battery, so check before you head in. Lead-acid batteries, like those found in cars and boats, should be taken to your local scrap metal recycler.

By staying informed and using local resources, you can protect the environment and ensure public safety. A complete battery recycling guide is available on our website at onkaparingacity.com/batteries

Mayor's Garden Competition

For the green thumbs, entries open Monday 5 August for the 2024 Mayor's Garden Competition. This year's categories are Community, School, Urban Residential, Native, Rural and Memorial Garden, and the competition is open to all Onkaparinga residents, community groups, businesses, schools, and budding young gardeners. Prizes are on offer.

The awards encourage community interest in gardens that enhance the presentation and liveability of our city. Head to onkaparingacity.com/gardencomp for all the details from Monday 5 August.

Vale Helen Oxenham OAM

I would like to pay tribute to Helen Oxenham OAM, who passed away last week. Helen was a trailblazer and dedicated advocate for women and children affected by family and domestic violence. She founded the first women's shelter in Christies Beach in 1977 and tirelessly worked to raise funds and donations, providing a safe-haven for countless women. Earlier this year, she was awarded the Key to the City of Onkaparinga, the council's most prestigious honour, for her lifetime of service.

Helen also founded not-for-profit Spirit of Woman, whose Place of Courage public artworks in Rotary Park at Christies Beach, Beechwood Grove at Seaford, and other South Australian locations, serve as a legacy, offering a space for reflection, commemoration, and community gathering.

The community has lost an extraordinary woman, and our thoughts are with all who loved her. Vale Helen Oxenham OAM. Her funeral service was held on Friday 2 August at the Flinders University Oval at Noarlunga and the City of Onkaparinga flew our flags at half-mast in recognition of Helen's commitment.

Australia Day Breakfasts Expressions of Interest

The City of Onkaparinga holds four Australia Day Breakfasts events annually across the City. The breakfasts have traditionally been delivered by community groups at each location under an agreement with Council. Council is now calling for Expressions of Interest for the next four years (2025-2028) from community groups to deliver a City of Onkaparinga Australia Day Breakfast event.

If your community group may be interested in undertaking the delivery of one or more of the City of Onkaparinga's Australia Day Breakfasts, an Expression of Interest document, which includes further detail, can be downloaded from our website www.onkaparingacity.com. Council encourages community groups to achieve financial benefit for their organisation from the delivery of these events.

Closing Date: Friday 6 September 2024.

Every Generation Onkaparinga Awards

For the past 18 years, Every Generation Onkaparinga (EGO) awards have celebrated the amazing work and valuable contributions people of all ages, cultures, and abilities make to 'positive ageing' in the City of Onkaparinga. In this time, we have honoured 147 individuals and 69 groups. If you know of an individual or group supporting our community to age well, please put them forward as nominations close **5pm, Monday 9 August 2024**.

These might include the unsung heroes and quiet achievers in our community who are:

- making a significant voluntary contribution to positive ageing which benefits local communities
- being inspirational role models that instil pride in local communities
- reaching an outstanding level of achievement in any field
- bringing older and younger people together in purposeful ways, known as intergenerational activities.

Awards are presented in the following categories:

- Individuals (aged 50 years and above)
- Groups (including individuals aged 50 years and above)
- Intergenerational (may be of any age).

We are keen to receive nominations from the Mid Coast, Knox, Pimpala, and Thalassa Council Wards due to recent low nominations from these areas.

All nominees will be presented with a certificate of recognition as well as winners being announced at an exclusive presentation dinner at South Adelaide Football Club on 23 October 2024.

Nomination forms and guidelines are available via our [website](#).

ENCORE Winter Activations

The 2024 Winter Activation series is designed to ignite vibrant destinations with unique experiences, and fire up economic benefit for the region.

Running until 31 August, Encore winter is delivering its second year of winter activations growing from four (4) offerings in 2023 to eleven (11) in 2024. The Encore Activation Program supports new concepts and business collaborations, attracting visitors to our main streets and tourism precincts during winter.

This year's winter activations include:

CLARENDON

Paint and High Tea at Maison de Moon

Maison de Moon, 98 Turners Gully Road

4 and 18 August. Learn the art of painting from the talented Di Lamont while you indulge in a high tea experience set amongst the enchanting gardens of the picturesque Maison de Moon's French inspired farmhouse.

McLAREN VALE & FLEURIEU COAST

Fleurieu Food Festival

Various locations (program to be launched soon)

1–31 August

Ignite your taste buds at the Fleurieu Food Festival, a month-long celebration of gastronomic delights set against the stunning backdrop of the Fleurieu Peninsula. Unfolding at multiple venues, this epicurean adventure promises to captivate foodies.

OLD NOARLUNGA

Varney Wines x Giro Di Pasta

Varney Wines, 62 Victor Harbor Road

25 August, 22 September

A series of Italian-style pasta luncheons celebrating the different seasons and regions by Silver Sand Beach Club, paired with award-winning Varney Wines. Guests will meet the winemaker and hear their stories on winemaking philosophy.

SELICKS BEACH

Berg's Backyard Sessions

Berg Herring Wines, Lot 21 Sellicks Beach Road

3–4 August and 31 August–1 September

Experience delicious food by Little Acre Foods, plus other local food delights', cocktails by Tiny Friday, local wine, beer, live music and ocean views. Keep cosy by the fire pits or slip under the heated marquee.

Don't let the cold keep you in! Enjoy the magic of this winter – there is something for everyone.

Details and ticket information will be updated here: www.valeandcoast.com.au/encore.

Neighbourhood Watch Meetings Schedule

The Neighbourhood Watch program is run by the South Australia Police (SAPOL) and works towards achieving connected, safe and resilient communities by keeping residents informed of crime and other safety issues in their area and how they can reduce their potential from becoming victims. It relies strongly on volunteers to distribute newsletters and to manage their meetings. I encourage our residents to become involved in this program and attend your local Zone meetings detailed below. It is also a great opportunity to meet local residents.

Flagstaff Hill Neighbourhood Watch Area 453

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- Wednesday 14 August
- Wednesday 9 October
- Wednesday 11 December.

Meetings commence at 6.30 pm at the Flagstaff Hill Golf Club (temporary restaurant) where a light supper is provided.

Aberfoyle Park Happy Valley Neighbourhood Watch Area 491

- Monday September 16
- Monday November 18.

Meetings commence at 7.30pm at Aberfoyle Park Community Centre where a light supper is provided.

Happy Valley O'Halloran Hill Neighbourhood Watch Area 461

Meetings are scheduled for to be held on the following dates:

- Monday 12 August
- Monday 4 November

Meetings commence at 7.30 pm at the Scout Hall Candy Road O'Halloran Hill

Reynella Neighbourhood Watch Area 048/146

Meetings are scheduled to be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday 18 September
- Wednesday 18 December.

Meetings commence at 7.00 pm at the Reynella Football Club 1 Oval Road, Old Reynella

Woodcroft Neighbourhood Watch Area 406

Meetings are scheduled to be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday 13 August (AGM)
- Tuesday 12 November

Meetings commence at 7.30 pm at the Woodcroft Heights Children Centre, 25 Investigator Drive Woodcroft.

YOURSAY*Open Engagements*

- Forsyth Reserve Hackham upgrade (opens 5 August, closes 26 August)
- Love where you live – draft Community Vision 2034 (closes 11 August)
- Greengate Grove Park upgrade Hackham (closes 12 August)
- Proposed land revocation Liguria Crescent Noarlunga Downs (closes 9 August)
- Temporary relocation of the SandBAR pop up Summer activation 2024/25 (closes 4 August)
- Seaford Amenities Block memorial mural (closes 4 August)
- Urban Creek Resilience and Recovery Project (inform only)
- Noarlunga master planning housing project – State Government project closes 18 August)

Go to www.onkaparingacity.com/yoursay for more information.

Grant Opportunities

Please refer to the attachment.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of Council.

Geoff Eaton

Councillor

Thalassa Ward

City of Onkaparinga

Email: geoff.eaton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Mobile: 0416 637 351