

My activities during January included:

- Southern Districts Baseball Club board meeting.
- Happy Valley Sports Park board meeting – Australia Day Breakfast.
- City of Onkaparinga Food Security Collaborative and Health Cities Onkaparinga committee meetings – online.
- Attended funeral service for Trevor Conlon OAM.
- Assisted at BBQ Tour Down Under site Weymouth Oval Coromandel Valley.
- Cherry Chatter Volunteers afternoon tea – Ironbank Cherry Gardens Recreation Ground.
- Aberfoyle Park Happy Valley Neighbour Watch community meeting – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- January Council meeting – all elected members present.
- Attended Member for Davenport community meeting Glenthorne National Park adventure playground.
- Opening night Brighton Jetty Sculptures representing the mayor – Brighton Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms.
- Assisted at the Happy Valley Oval Australia Day breakfast with Crs Themeliotis and Davis.
- Attended Admandiyya Muslim Association Australia Day event with Crs Platten and Davis – Noor Mosque Morphett Vale.
- City of Onkaparinga Australia Day Awards presentations, Citizenship Ceremony and Onkaparinga Australia Day Fair with federal and state local members of parliament and the mayor and Crs Jew, Platten, Yoemans and Bell – Noarlunga.
- Local RSLs engagement session regarding Anzac Day Remembrance Day evens with Crs Jew, Yoemans, Themeliotis - On Line.
- Piggott Range Road Closure community engagement meeting with Cr Bell and staff – Punchbowl Lookout Onkaparinga Hills.

It is always a little quieter each year over this period.

Noarlunga Aquatic Centre

It has been a scorcher of a start to the year in Onkaparinga, and one of the best ways to keep cool is by visiting the Noarlunga Aquatic Centre. Whether you are keen to do some laps, have a leisurely splash, join an exercise class, hit the gym or sauna, or get some swimming lessons, the centre has you covered seven days a week.

Last year's announcement that we will be doing a major refurbishment of the centre starting later this year has seen some confusion about when the centre is closing. I can say the centre will remain open every day until at least July, which is the earliest the refurbishment could begin.

Don't miss out – you can still come in for casual visits or become a new member, including with short-term memberships. Stay active, connect with friends, and make the most of our facilities. Head to onkaparingacity.com/narc for all the details.

The \$10.8 million refurbishment of the centre – funded by the council and through the Australian Government's Thriving Suburbs Program – will ensure the facility continues to meet the needs of our community for years to come.

It will include replacing the existing roof and ceiling, painting, the installation of a 99kW solar power system, a new pool liner, a modern water filtration system, the separation of the lagoon pool from the main pool, and an accessible ramp to enhance inclusivity.

We anticipate the centre will be closed for up to 12 months. We will provide plenty of notice and aim to minimise disruption as much as possible. We're also investigating the nearest alternative swimming facilities people can use during the closure.

Have your say – Open Space Strategic Management Plan Review

We want to hear from you community about how we manage the region's playgrounds and open spaces! We have extended our community engagement so you can have your say until Sunday 23 February.

We provide 250 playgrounds and more than 800 reserves. While that is a huge number, we have found that some smaller playgrounds are not being used as much as larger ones, and some of these are getting old. Research and engagement with the community has told us many people would prefer to walk a little further to a bigger, better-maintained playground with more to offer.

That is why we are recommending that smaller playgrounds in less-used reserves are not replaced but they will not disappear overnight! We will keep maintaining them until it is no longer practical, removing equipment only when it can no longer be safely repaired.

Budget saved from not replacing smaller local parks will be reallocated to enhancing larger parks – creating vibrant, well-equipped neighbourhood, district, and regional spaces for our growing community.

This means:

- More trees and natural play elements, like logs and grassy spaces.
- Boosted funding for bigger parks in these categories:
 - Neighbourhood parks: \$200K → \$350K
 - District parks: \$400K → \$800K
 - Regional parks: \$1M → \$2M.

This plan reflects previous engagement, but it is still important for the community to tell us what you think by completing the survey. Your feedback will help shape our final Open Space Strategic Management Plan.

Please go to onkapingacity.com/yoursay to learn more, watch a video that explains our proposed approach, and to have your say by Sunday 23 February.

Transparency and Integrity Portal

The City of Onkaparinga has an online Transparency and Integrity Portal. The City of Onkaparinga is committed to openness and transparency, and the proactive disclosure of information is a key foundational principle in assisting the community to better understand Council decisions, activities and operations.

Our online Transparency and Integrity Portal is one way we share information with our community, in particular information that supports and reflects our governance framework.

Information you can find at the site includes Council agendas, minutes and videos; expense reporting; allowances and benefits; elected member and employee gifts and benefits; elected member register of interests; and our register of salaries.

You can also find a list of newly released confidential items. There are times when a Council or Council committee may order the public be excluded from attendance during an agenda item when it is considered necessary and appropriate to discuss or consider any information or matter in confidence.

The Local Government Act sets out 14 instances that allow Council to consider matters in confidence. Examples include the personal affairs of a person, legal advice, information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, and commercial advantage.

We recently held our annual review of confidential Council meeting items that have had a confidential order for more than 12 months. As a result of the review, 17 items were released, and five items partly released. 143 confidential orders remain in confidence.

In addition to the annual review, an ongoing summary of all items held in confidence and items released is presented to Council via quarterly reports.

You can find a link to the Confidential Reports Register and the newly released items at the Transparency and Integrity Portal, onkapingacity.com/transparencyportal

Beachside Food and Wine Festival

Do not forget the popular Beachside Food and Wine Festival is back on Saturday 15 February at Rotary Park, Christies Beach from 4pm to 9.30pm. Choose from a diverse range of local wine, beer and spirits from across our region, while indulging in the variety of food on offer with stunning coastal views.

But there is more to the festival than just food, wine and a good vibe. There will be live entertainment and market stalls bursting with unique treasures that showcase the exceptional talents of our local artists and artisans.

We have updated our website with the full list of market, food and alcohol stallholders, as well as live entertainment, parking and traffic restriction information.

Go to onkaparingacity.com/beachside for all the details.

Onkaparinga Now - Summer Edition

The summer print edition of quarterly magazine, *Onkaparinga Now*, has just been released, and it's packed with stories about projects, programs, places, events and people in the City of Onkaparinga. Stories in this edition include pieces on new playgrounds, the Witton Bluff Base Trail boardwalk, the upcoming Beachside Food and Wine Festival, a pair of award-winning local radio presenters, ideas for local staycations and a feature on the council's prolific Sign Shop team.

Keep an eye out for your print copy in your quarterly rates notice if you receive them by mail, or you can obtain a copy at council facilities and select local businesses across the city. Do not forget that in between print editions, you can find weekly stories and subscribe to receive free monthly email newsletters direct to your inbox at onkaparinganow.com.

Port Noarlunga Arts Precinct 2025 Program

The Port Noarlunga Arts Precinct's 2025 program starts this week, offering arts lovers First Nations arts exhibitions, site-responsive artworks, a Taylor Swift tribute act, and everything in between. The program is available in print copy from various places around Onkaparinga, including the Arts Centre, Sauerbier House, libraries, community centres, council offices, cafes, galleries and wineries, and also online at onkaparingacity.com/arts

Arts Centre

The historic Gawler Street southern arts hub offers another exciting annual program of exhibitions, events, art workshops and performances in 2025, blending support for local artists with a mix of entertainers and performances from outside the region.

These signature annual events include the winter Beanies to Berets exhibition (20 June to 4 August) and associated Textile Market (21 June), and the Surf 2025 exhibition (12 December to 2 February 2026) and accompanying Christmas market (14 December).

There are a range of other exhibitions scheduled throughout the year at the centre's Onkaparinga and Red Rover Galleries, including during SALA Festival (August), with Onkaparinga Youth presenting the SALA Mentorship Program, which seeks to nurture and support young emerging Onkaparinga artists.

Two exhibitions and a story and truth-telling session from First Nations artists and women are also being held at the centre, including an exhibition that will showcase the artworks of First Nations students living in the City of Onkaparinga.

A range of matinee and evening performances, and an Adelaide Fringe Comedy Gala featuring top international comedians, are also on the calendar.

Music tributes to acts, eras and styles include celebrations of Taylor Swift, David Bowie, Peter Allen, John Denver, The Beatles, ABBA, Elton John, Aussie rock, the 1980s, country music royalty and iconic duets, while a performance from Australia's finest classical guitarists is another musical highlight.

Do not forget to check out the Art Shop in the centre's foyer during your visit to see the works of talented local artists. Works for sale include jewellery, prints, paintings, glassware, ceramics, textiles and more.

Sauerbier House

Sauerbier House's contemporary art and cultural space will again present a rolling calendar of diverse and accessible exhibitions developed onsite through the Artist in Residence program or offsite as an independent exhibition.

Seventeen individual artists or collectives will present exhibitions of new work at Sauerbier House in 2025 – including during the Fringe and SALA Festival – spanning a broad range of conceptual approaches, innovative processes, and unique material investigations. These encompass painting participatory art, jewellery, sculpture, soundscapes, ceramics, video, collected materials, interactive works, weaving, printmaking, scenography and more.

Interactions with locals and visitors are fostered and creative relationships are developed through regular exhibition launches, open-studio sessions, artist talks, gallery tours and interactive skill-sharing workshops. These unique and sometimes spontaneous offerings provide visitors with a rare glimpse into the practice and process of a working artist.

You can keep up to date with events and interactive opportunities throughout the year at onkaparingacity.com/sauerbierhouse

2025 7 NEWS South Australian Young Achieve Award

The 2025 SA Young Achiever Awards nominations close at **midnight Wednesday 5th March**, and your support is invited in spreading the word. This is an opportunity for you to amplify the stories of these extraordinary individuals, showcasing their dedication and impact on our community.

Your platform can play a pivotal role in highlighting the achievements of these young trailblazers. Your coverage and support will not only provide well-deserved recognition but also encourage others to nominate deserving individuals or share their stories.

Please find attached a media release outlining this year's awards - this includes all the available award categories for SA, or you can visit our website here: <https://awardsaustralia.com/young-achiever-awards/sa/>

Please use this [dropbox link](#) to download any collateral for sharing on your social media, don't forget to tag us! Our socials are here: <https://linktr.ee/youngachieverawards>.

If you require any further information about the Awards, please reply to this email or call the Awards office on 03 9720 1638 for further information.

Christies Beach O'Sullivan Beach Public Art works

Background information

In 2022, Council received funding through state government election commitments to deliver artwork and murals for Christies Beach and O'Sullivan Beach. Council sought to pursue opportunities to deliver these outcomes in conjunction with other high profile public projects in the area, including the Witton Bluff Base Trail and Beach Road Streetscape.

Location 2 – Christies Beach Esplanade will enhance the existing shared path along the coastal side of the Esplanade. The path along the Esplanade and O'Sullivan Beach Coast Park between Christies Beach and O'Sullivan Beach provides opportunity for a variety of small public art elements to tell a story as people journey along the coastline. This will be created with a series of footpath inlay designs to highlight native flora and fauna, local beach culture and to build on the local narrative of the area.

This work was completed in December 2024 by Wills Projects and is a series of three ceramic tile inlays portraying different aspects of coastal life. The works, *Pave the Way*, are hand-made bespoke ceramic tiles, embedded into the

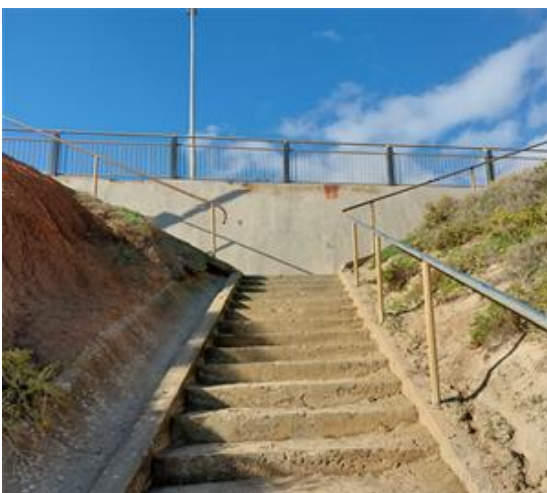
paving along the coast path from Christies Creek to

Sydney Road, Christies Beach.



Location 3 – Y Steps wall – Stairway from the Esplanade to Christies Beach will similarly be an opportunity to showcase native flora and fauna and is a highly frequented entry and exit to the foreshore at Christies Beach.

This work was completed in December 2024 and was created and installed by Gerry Wedd who was one of the original Oceanboard Riders who used this break in the 1970s.



Location 4 - Galloway Road court area (corner of Winnerah and Galloway Roads). This project was identified as an opportunity to improve the existing urban fabric by creating increased visual interest and placemaking opportunities.

Galloway Road court area commonly known as the Gravel Pit has been a point of interest for a committed local group (Gravel Pit to Garden group) to beautify and enhance the community engagement with the park and the surrounding unused old courts. They have been working since 2022 and have identified three projects, one of which is to create a ground mural on the disused southern court. They have also completed Eli's Garden on Brodie Crescent.

The artists for this work art Mike Maka and Harley Ngrakani and they are in the process of installing this week, weather permitting.

The work has motifs from Kaurna iconography and the natural environment taking in the life along Christies Creek. The images below are the site for the work and the final design. They hope to have complete by the end of next week.



The City of Onkaparinga has a policy that enables organisation/groups to nominate an elected member to undertake a liaison role for organisations with the City of Onkaparinga. An email was sent to organisations in January seeking them to submit their nomination/s by 10 February and many organisations have not done so to date. These roles are undertaken for a two-year period, and it is intended that the nominations will be approved by Council at our March meeting and will commence on 1 April for the remainder of this current term of Council.

Elected Member Liaisons can observe and participate in discussions at a meeting of the external organisation, to provide updates on local items of interest and share insights on council matters. Liaisons cannot be appointed as members representing Council on the external organisation Board/Committee and are not a voting member of the external organisation. Nominations require the following:

- The completed selection form.
- A copy of their Constitution, Registration or Terms of Reference.

Please check your emails to determine whether your group received the requests, otherwise you can contact me and I can forward the nomination form to you, otherwise contact Katrina French with any queries, Katrina.french@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au Phone 8384 0612.

Aberfoyle Community Centre Extension Official Opening

We are excited about the planned completion of the new Aberfoyle Community Centre expansion and are hosting an open day and family event celebration on Saturday 15 February 2025 from 11am to 2pm. The expansion is located at the rear of the building and includes a new flexible room suitable for new types of activities, a youth pod and an art studio space. Adjoining the new space is a centralised outdoor area with landscaping connected by large stacking doors for informal gatherings. These new spaces are tailored for a wide range of programs, such as arts, crafts, dance, exhibitions, social activities, and youth and family programs. With the support of Erin Thompson MP, Member for Davenport and Nat Cook MP Member for Hurtle Vale, the state government has contributed \$1,540,000 to this exciting project.

We have several things planned for the opening celebration, including:

- Face painting
- A magician
- Live music
- VR experiences
- Children's craft tables
- Pottery demonstrations

Refreshments and a free sausage sizzle will be provided, supported by members of the Aberfoyle Lions Club.

Please join us for this opening along with Nat Cook and Erin Thompson.

Sturt Gorge & Surrounds Redi Communities Workshop

If you live in the suburbs adjacent to the Sturt Gorge this is a must for you to attend so that you are prepared should an emergency event occur. A workshop was held on the evening of Wednesday 5 February for the first of this current round of sessions, with the next one scheduled to occur on Wednesday 19 February at the Coromandel Valley Community Centre starting at 6.45 pm.

Start Gorge & surrounds

Flagstaff Hill, Coromandel Valley, Craigburn

RediCommunities

COMMUNITY LED DISASTER RESILIENCE

Workshop 2

Be part of a community led disaster action plan that contains actions to increase your community's disaster resilience

Date: Wednesday 19 February, 2025
Time: 6:45-9pm
Location: Coromandel Community Centre, 442b Main Rd

Registration free
Eventbrite
Priah Griffin or Lesley-Anne Lyle
City of Onkaparinga 8384 0666



This project received grant funding from the Australian Federal Government.



COMMUNITY LED DISASTER RESILIENCE PROJECT

The project aims to bring communities together, to identify and take local actions which are owned by communities themselves.

What's involved?

Five (5) disaster resilience Workshops which include:

- Meeting other community members and organisations and learn more about each other.
- Understanding more about local risks in your community and their potential impact.
- Discussing the knowledge, skills and resources in your community that can help strengthen your disaster resilience.
- Measuring your community's current disaster resilience and use this as a baseline to measure your activities against
- Creating a community led disaster action plan that contains actions to increase the community's disaster resilience
- Inviting and involving others to take actions and ensure your ongoing plans are sustained into the future

Work together with your community:

Work alongside members of your community to implement your disaster resilience action plan.

Receive ongoing support:

Community members will be provided ongoing support to implement their actions. Participants will also be invited to join the Community Led Disaster Resilience Network, which brings together communities from across the state to share ideas and resources.

We invite you to be a part of this local project, working with community members around the vicinity of Sturt Gorge, the Australian Red Cross and City of Onkaparinga Council.

Registration free through Eventbrite
Priah Griffin or Lesley-Anne Lyle
City of Onkaparinga 8384 0666
Priah.Griffin@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au



Audio tactile line marking (ATLM) is being installed along the recently upgraded section of Main Road, between Black Road and Chandlers Hill Road, Cherry Gardens. ATLM involves the installation of plastic ribs on the road surface in conjunction with edge and/or centre line marking and is an active warning device for road users which provides a noise (audio) and vibratory (tactile) warning to road users who may stray due to fatigue or poor visibility due to rain or fog. It is considered to be a highly effective countermeasure with a high benefit/cost ratio in most cases.

In accordance with DIT's [Operational Instruction 2.13](#), ALTM is not typically installed within 200m of a residential building due to the potential noise impacts of this treatment, unless the site is identified as having high risk factors.

To do this work safety Main Road will be reduced to a single lane under speed restrictions immediately surrounding the work area, which will operate between the hours of 7am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

The project is expected to be completed by late February 2025, weather permitting.

For any further queries regarding ALTM we recommend these be referred to DIT in the first instance via email DIT.Engagement@sa.gov.au or phone 1300 794 880.

City of Onkaparinga Northern Community Forum Meeting Dates

The meeting schedule for the 2025 Northern Community Forum's meetings is:

- Monday 17 February (guest speakers from Department of Infrastructure and Transport Majors Road Upgrades).
- Tuesday 22 April.
- Monday 16 June.
- Monday 18 August (AGM).
- Monday 20 October.
- Monday 8 December.

Meetings are held at the Aberfoyle Community Centre starting at 7.30 pm.

Neighbourhood Watch Awards/Meetings Schedule

Flagstaff Hill Neighbourhood Watch Area 453

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- Wednesday 12 March.
- Wednesday 11 June.
- Wednesday 10 September.
- Wednesday 10 December 2025– Christmas Dinner.

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 17 March.
- Monday 19 May.
- Monday 21 July.

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

Reynella Neighbourhood Watch Area 048/146

Meetings are scheduled to be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday 19 March.
- Wednesday 18 June.
- Wednesday 17 September.
- Wednesday 17 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 for 2025:

- Tuesday 11 February.
- Tuesday 13 May.
- Tuesday 12 August.
- Tuesday 11 November 2025 AGM.

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

Happy Valley O'Halloran Hill Neighbourhood Watch Area 461

A meeting has been scheduled to be held on the evening of Monday 10 February to determine the future of this area, commencing at 7.30 pm at the Scout Hall Candy Road O'Halloran Hill as at their AGM they were unable to form a full committee. Further details will be provided in a future newsletter.

Home Security Property Marking

The South Australia Police encourage owners to mark their valuable property and record all details of items. Identifiable property is more difficult for thieves to dispose of and if caught in possession of the stolen items the marking enables them to quickly establish the owner's details. The most effective way to mark your property is by engraving, but ultra-violet pen or other permanent marker can work where engraving is not suitable.

- Mark your valuables with your driver's license or Proof of Age Card number preceded with the letter 'S' for South Australia e.g. 'B23456' would be 'SB23456'.
- If your property is stolen, the chances of items being returned to you by the police are increased. Ensure address details on your driver's license or proof of age are current.
- Mark each item in a similar area e.g. power cord entry, adjacent to serial number.
- Some items are not suitable for engraving or marking. These include jewellery, special collections, silverware, stamps or coins, paintings and antiques. These items should be photographed.
- Use a good quality camera or digital camera and use full frame views, with a general photograph from two sides, place a ruler beside the item to give an indication of actual size.
- For jewellery, place the item on a strongly coloured background (e.g. red or dark blue).
- Take a close-up photograph, if possible, to identify unique features or serial numbers of the items.
- Try to photograph items of value in your home or business "in situ" to show where they belong.
- For objects with a flat side, try to take the picture on a slight angle to avoid the flash reflecting back and creating a 'hot-shot' (reflection) in the picture.
- Store the photographs with your other valuable documents.

If you have any further questions please contact your nearest police station or visit www.poolice.sa.gov.au.

YOURSAY

Open Engagements

- Local Heritage Code Amendment (closes 17 March)
- Motorised vessel exclusion zone Aldinga Beach/Sellicks Beach (closes 28 February)
- Naming of Park in Joplin Court, Woodcroft (closes 17 February)
- Draft Open Space Strategic Management Plan (extended - closes 23 February).

Closed Engagements

- Nil.

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

Grant Opportunities

Please refer to our website.

Disclaimer

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

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