

GEOFF EATON – THALASSA WARD COUNCILLOR – DECEMBER 2025 -NEWSLETTER

My community activities during November included:

- Southern District Showcase with Deputy Mayor Jew and Cr. Davis.
- Mayor's Garden Competition awards presentations with Crs Pritchard, Themeliotis, Fisher and Davis- Woodcroft Morphett Vale Community Centre.
- Morphett Vale RSL monthly committee meeting and AGM.
- Southern Districts Baseball Club committee – Christie Downs.
- Coromandel Men's Breakfast – Coromandel Valley Community Centre.
- Aberfoyle Park and Districts Lions Club – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- Clarendon Community Association with Cr Themeliotis.- Hazel McKenzie Hall.
- Launch of SunSmart partnership program with Cancer Council SA and City of Onkaparinga – Christie Downs.
- Meeting with staff and residents regarding unauthorised BMX tracks in reserve – Aberfoyle Park.
- Member for Davenport community catch-up – Hui Hui Reserve Happy Valley.
- Aberfoyle Repair Café monthly event – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- Opening of refurbished women's changerooms South Adelaide Football Club with Crs. Fisher, Davis and Wilkes and local MPs – Magain Oval Noarlunga.
- Happy Valley Sport and Recreation Ground monthly board of management meeting with Cr. Themeliotis – Happy Valley Oval.
- Morphett Vale Reembrace Day service and reception with Cr. Stafford – Morphett Vale.
- National Trust Coromandel Valley and Districts monthly committee meeting – Watchman House Coromandel Valley.
- November Council meeting – Noarlunga Centre.
- Reconciliation in the South with Deputy Mayor Jew – Ramsay Place, Noarlunga.
- Healthy Cities Onkaparinga/Onkaparinga Food Security Collaborative monthly meeting – Seaford Meadows.
- Local Government Association Bush Fire Readiness – online session.
- Coromandel Valley Community Centre monthly board meeting with Cr. Themeliotis.
- City of Onkaparinga Town Hall meeting, only elected member present, Hopgood Theatre Noarlunga.
- Member for Davenport Aging Well session with Deputy Mayor Jew– Seeds Church Aberfoyle Park,
- Aberfoyle Christmas Market – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- Flagstaff Hill Football Club Christmas Market – Flagstaff Hill Oval.
- Meeting with Coromandel Valley Community Centre, Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club and council staff regarding proposed upgrades to the community centre - Weymouth Oval.
- Member for Davenport community catchup – Flagstaff Hill Shopping Centre.
- Aberfoyle Park Happy Valley Neighbourhood Watch area meeting – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- Clarendon Over 50s Club committee – Hazel McKenzie Hall Clarendon.
- Elected Member's session leasing Morphett Vale Basketball Stadium and Noarlunga Aquatic Centre upgrades – Noarlunga Centre.
- Aberfoyle Men's Breakfast – Aberfoyle Community Centre.

- City of Onkaparinga Annual Business Awards presentations, with Mayor Were and Crs. Davis and Bell – McLaren Vale.
- Cherry Gardens Ironbank Recreation Ground committee meeting.
- Clarendon Agriculture Bureau monthly meeting – Hazel McKenzie Hall Clarendon.
- Meeting with business owner and Cr. Themeliotis and staff regarding development approval – Clarendon.
- Local Government Association AGM with Mayor Were and Cr. Wilkes – Adelaide Convention Centre.
- South Australia Neighbourhood Watch 40th anniversary, annual awards presentations and AGMs – where Woodcroft NHW Area and area coordinators Flagstaff Hill and O'Halloran Hill Happy Valley received awards.
- National Trust Coromandel Valley and Districts AGM with Cr Karen Hockley (City of Mitcham) – Watchman House Coromandel Valley.
- CEO Selection Committee meeting with Mayor Were, Deputy Mayor Jew and Crs Fisher, Bell, Davis. – Adelaide.
- Southern Volunteering AGM – Aberfoyle Community Centre.
- RSL/City of Onkaparinga update meeting with Crs. Fisher and Stafford – Noarlunga Centre.
- Ray Gilbert Excellence Awards presentation – McLaren Vale with Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Crs. Jew, Wilkes, Davis, Fisher and Yoemans.
- Aberfoyle High School Graduation representing the mayor with Erin Thompson MP – Adelaide Town Hall.
- Headstone Project unmarked graves memorial service representing the mayor – Coromandel Valley Cemetery.
- Member for Davenport Happy Valley Reservoir weekly walk and speaking to the Minister of Environment regarding the need for urban waterway monitoring and discharges into the sea.
- Official opening of the MV2 Cup Morton Park Skate Park – Christie Downs.
- Neporendi Aboriginal Forum AGM with Deputy Mayor Jew – Wardii Centre Christie Downs.
- Southern Singers – Onkaparinga City Choral Society- Making Music event with Mayor Were – Morphet Vale.
- Men's March Against Domestic Violence with Deputy Mayor Jew and Crs Fisher and Davis.

Community Activities Unable to Attend:

- National Trust Coromandel Valley and Districts Saturday morning tea.
- City of Onkaparinga Christmas Pageant due to State Neighbourhood Watch AGM.
- Cherry Chatter committee meeting due to EM Session.
- Cherry Gardens Garden Club.
- Cherry Chatter Newsletter and residents meeting tree removal at Soldiers Memorial with staff due to RSL meeting. Cr Themeliotis attended in my place.
- Clarendon Historic Hall December meeting due to Aberfoyle High graduation ceremony.

As you will see November has been a very busy month for me. I am a person who prefers to get out physically in our community and personally engage with our residents. To everyone have an enjoyable festive season and new year break as it is a great time to catch up with family and friends. When enjoying yourself please drive safely and if need be get a lift to your events and either a taxi or public transport home.

Are You Prepared for Summer

Getting bushfire ready

A hot and dry fire danger season (which started on Monday, 1 December) is expected for SA, so all South Australians are encouraged to know your risks, and plan and prepare for the worst.

The Country Fire Service's key message this summer is **"Bushfires don't wait – do your 5 Minute Bushfire Plan before it's too late"**, acknowledging that if you live, work or travel in bushfire risk areas, you need to prepare, plan and be ready.

Many at-risk residents feel their bushfire danger is low and believe that making a decision on what to do/having a plan in place is not a high priority, which is something the CFS says really needs to change.

The CFS website's Bushfire Ready webpage is the perfect place to start, linking you with key information on how to prepare your property, packing your emergency kit, creating bushfire plans (including for when you're holidaying or travelling through bushfire areas), staying informed via multiple sources of information, and more – cfs.sa.gov.au/bushfireready

We also have our own Prepare, Respond, Recover webpage, which includes a range of resources such as detailed guides from the CFS and Australian Red Cross – onkaparingacity.com/disaster-ready

Another fantastic way to prepare for bushfire season is to connect with a local community-led disaster resilience (CDR) group, which bring residents together to better support each other and prepare their community for emergencies.

There are currently 6 established CDR groups in Onkaparinga – Clarendon, Cherry Gardens/Ironbank, Kangarilla, Seaford/Moana, Sturt Gorge (Coromandel Valley/Craigburn/Flagstaff Hill), and Willunga – all of which welcome new members. Head to our website for more info.

CDR groups are supported by a City of Onkaparinga community connections officer, with Australian Red Cross providing workshops for groups to map strengths and local knowledge to help them develop resilience plans.

Beat the heat

Heatwaves have caused more deaths in Australia than any other natural hazard, so it's also paramount not to be complacent when it comes to the effects of soaring summer temperatures.

The South Australian State Emergency Service and SA Health have a range of tips to care for ourselves and vulnerable family members, friends and neighbours during heatwaves, and to prepare.

Onkaparinga's libraries and community centres provide safe and welcoming spaces where you can shelter if you don't have air conditioning.

The SA Housing Authority can activate a Code Red due to heatwaves to reduce the harmful effects on rough sleepers. They do this by connecting people with support services; and providing additional services including extended operating hours for services, increased shelter options, additional food services, sunscreen, etc. We share this information on our Facebook page.

How the council prepares for bushfire season

We maintain more than 1,900 hectares of open space and 1,200 kilometres of rural roadside reserves on a rotational basis all year-round. It is currently the busiest time of year for grass cutting as our field staff tackle the peak growth season. Increased rain and warmer weather leads to abundant growth.

Our tractor slashing and mowing programs will remain extra busy with the preparation period as the green grass dries out, so staff appreciate your patience.

You can find out more about the council's mowing schedules – and learn the difference between council roads and those that are maintained by the state government instead – at our website.

Delivering for the Community - Planning for the Future

If you have ever wondered about exactly what the council delivers, there is an easy way to find out! Check out our annual report. We released our 2024–25 Annual Report last month, showcasing a year of strong community outcomes, major project delivery, and improved financial sustainability.

The report reflects our commitment to delivering on the Community Vision 2034, shaped by more than 5,000 residents.

This past year we have seen the power of collective action. From planting thousands of trees to opening new community facilities, we've been focused on building a city that's connected, resilient and future focused.

Key highlights include:

- 3 major multi-million-dollar projects commenced – Hopgood Theatre redevelopment, Noarlunga Aquatic Centre upgrade and the Witton Bluff Base Trail (with the theatre and base trail now open to the public)
- Over 8,000 trees planted, and 36,878 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill
- 44,275 youth program attendances and 410,868 visits to council-run recreation centres
- \$22.3 million secured in competitive grants for infrastructure and services
- 44,275 youth program attendances
- 410,868 visits to our recreation and aquatic centres.

The council's financial position has strengthened significantly. We delivered our first operating surplus following 7 years of budget deficits.

Borrowings are lower than forecast, and we had one of the lowest rates increases in the state for 2025-26 in line with CPI. The review of our Long-Term Financial Plan under the current chamber sets us on a path to reduce debt while continuing to deliver essential services.

Contrary to recent public commentary, council debt is under control. An apparent drop in debt at the time of the 2022 election was due to \$30 million in advance funding from state and federal governments, which temporarily offset borrowings. As projects are delivered, debt levels naturally adjust.

The updated forecast for June 2026 shows a reduced debt position of \$112.4 million – \$23.5 million lower than originally projected.

A moderate level of debt can be beneficial for funding infrastructure and services, particularly in a growth council like such as Onkaparinga – as long as it's managed properly.

We are managing debt responsibly, investing in infrastructure for a growing city, and maintaining services without compromising financial sustainability. See the full annual report at onkaparingacity.com

South Australian Neighbourhood Watch Awards 2025

Please see below re NHW AGM award winner citations for Southern District members, located in the City of Onkaparinga.

Senior Constable First Class Nancy Johns...

Senior Constable First Class Nancy Johns has been Police Coordinator of Happy Valley/O'Halloran Hill Neighbourhood Watch since 2005. During her time in the role Nancy has attended most meetings to speak about topical crime issues in the area and provide crime prevention advice. Nancy has arranged guest speakers, collated the crime report for the Area's newsletters and written articles. Nancy was Police Coordinator of O'Halloran Hill Neighbourhood Watch and oversaw the merger with Happy Valley. Sergeant First Class Sophie Hodge accepted Nancy's award on her behalf.

Matthew Curnow

Area Coordinator of Flagstaff Hill Neighbourhood Watch, Matt is a highly valued and long-standing member who has volunteered his time across different levels of the program. Matt was elected as Chairperson of the re-established Southern District group following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. He has managed this position with professionalism, ensuring all volunteers attending the Southern District Neighbourhood Watch meetings maintain an appropriate level of behaviour, in accordance with the South Australia Police Volunteers Code of Conduct. Matt has a passion to invigorate volunteering in South Australia. He communicates well with Area Coordinators and SAPOL members alike and strives to improve the Neighbourhood Watch program.

Sergeant First Class Sophie Hodge accepted Matt's award on his behalf.

James Phillips

Jim has been involved with several Neighbourhood Watch groups across more than 30 years. Jim started in 1993 as a Zone Representative for Banksia Park Neighbourhood Watch and went on to become Area Coordinator with Windsor Gardens and Happy Valley and O'Halloran Hill. Jim was integral in relaunching the Clovelly Park and O'Halloran Hill groups and has spent time on numerous committees, including five years on the Neighbourhood Watch Executive Committee. He has been both Secretary and Chair of Neighbourhood Watch for South Coast Local Service Area and played a key role in the merger of Happy Valley and O'Halloran Hill Neighbourhood Watch. Over 32 years, Jim has delivered almost 400,000 newsletters.

Area 406 Woodcroft

The award is for an Area. Woodcroft Neighbourhood Watch received approval in 2024 to have a Facebook page to complement face-to-face meetings and newsletter deliveries. The page has since become a frontrunner by displaying regular and relevant crime prevention material, advertising meetings, celebrating anniversaries and promoting community events.

The page provides information on a wide range of security and safety issues, and follower numbers are consistently growing. This is an excellent example of expanding the Neighbourhood Watch brand and creating an opportunity for community members to access information online.



ENCORE Summer 2025-26

Get ready for fun in the sun with the return of ENCORE Summer!

Our ENCORE Summer Activation Program, back for the 2025–26 season, is set to transform some of our most loved public spaces into vibrant destinations and deliver strong economic and social benefits for our region. This year's line-up includes returning favourites alongside exciting new experiences that will activate our coastline and key tourism precincts.

The 2025–26 calendar includes:

Christies Beach Twilight Markets

Rotary Park, Christies Beach

7 November to 27 February

Fortnightly Fridays, 5pm to 9pm

Vibrant market featuring stalls, kids' entertainment and food options. Enjoy community vibes and seaside sunsets.

The SandBAR

Corner of Beach Road and The Esplanade, Christies Beach

(Returning to its original location following the completion of the Witton Bluff Base Trail)

4 December to 1 March

Thursdays from 3pm, Friday to Sunday from 12 midday

(Extended trade between Christmas and New Year, and on Australia Day)

Sunsets and ocean views create the perfect backdrop for drinks, live music, and a selection of local food offerings.

New Activation: Kohko Greek Island Beach Bar

End of Norman Road, Aldinga Beach

11 December to 8 February

Thursday and Friday from 4pm, Saturday to Sunday from 12 noon

(Extended trade 29, 30 & 31 December and Australia Day)

A Greek-inspired beach bar featuring live music, delicious Greek cuisine and refreshing summer drinks, creating a vibrant new coastal destination for locals and visitors.

New Activation: Port Noarlunga Reef Shack

Adjacent Port Noarlunga Jetty

12 December to 1 March

Daily from 11am

(Extended trade New Years Eve)

Following strong community support, this new beachside activation will offer cocktails in coconuts, live music, food and wellness sessions. Due to current algal bloom conditions affecting the foreshore, the operator will not proceed with the daybed beach component this summer, with plans to introduce it in the 2026–27 season.

New Activation: Salt Yoga on the Green

The Esplanade, north of the Christies Beach Surf Club

26 December 2025 to 4 January 2026

Sessions available Sunday to Friday 8am, Saturdays 9:30am

These beachfront yoga sessions offer a grounding way to start the day, surrounded by ocean views and the relaxed summer atmosphere.

Please note the following activation and site will not be going forward for 2025–26 but will return for 2026–27:

Pizzateca Beach (Aldinga Beach) – This activation will not proceed for the 2025–26 summer season. The operators have chosen to pause due to concerns about the algal bloom and the potential impact on trade. Setting up the pop-up requires significant time and financial investment, and they want to ensure conditions are favourable to support a successful season. They plan to return for the 2026–27 season.

Nashwauk Reserve, Moana – Kohko Greek Island Beach Bar was originally approved through the Expression of Interest process to activate this site for 2025–26. However, as Pizzateca Beach will not be operating at Aldinga this season, Kohko will instead activate the Aldinga site for 2025–26 and return to Moana for the 2026–27 season.

For more information on the Citywide Place and Business Activation Program visit [here](#)

Noarlunga Aquatic Centre Upgrade

The Noarlunga Aquatic Centre is taking shape as one of the region's most exciting community upgrades, with major works progressing to deliver a more modern, sustainable and enjoyable space

for everyone. Demolition and equipment removal are complete, the roof replacement is well advanced, and new pool systems and acoustic features are being installed.

The project has also grown beyond its original scope to include major sustainability and amenity upgrades, thanks to a competitive tender and additional funding.

These improvements will make the centre more energy-efficient and comfortable, while reducing long-term running costs. Highlights include new electric pool heating systems, double-glazed windows, upgraded insulation, refurbished spa and sauna areas, improved Wi-Fi, a refreshed café and reception area, and new landscaping.

The expansion reflects the council's commitment to building a healthy and sustainable community. This upgrade is about creating a future-ready aquatic centre that supports healthy lifestyles, reduces emissions, and provides a space our community can be proud of.

We have taken the opportunity to go beyond the basics, investing in modern systems and design improvements that will make the centre more comfortable, energy-efficient and enjoyable for everyone.

We have also applied for state government funding for an exciting new outdoor splash pad to further enhance the centre's family appeal.

While these exciting additions mean the reopening is now expected at the beginning of summer 2026–27, the outcome will be a high-quality, welcoming facility that will serve the community for decades to come. The Noarlunga Aquatic Centre refurbishment is proudly supported by the City of Onkaparinga and the Australian Government's Thriving Suburbs Program. Stay updated at onkaparingacity.com/yourstory

Go South Buy Local for Christmas Gifts

Looking for locally sourced gift ideas this Christmas? We've rounded up some of the best gifts, experiences and stocking stuffers from right here in the City of Onkaparinga.

This year's [Go South Go Local Christmas Gift Guide](#) celebrates the creativity and heart of our small and micro businesses – the makers, creators and local legends who bring something special to every corner of our community.

From handmade treasures and delicious treats to unforgettable experiences and quirky delights, you'll find thoughtful ideas that support the people behind the business and not just the product on the shelf.

So, grab a cuppa, settle in, and discover just how easy it is to shop south and gift local this Christmas. Explore the guide at gosouthgolocal.com.au/christmas

See the Christmas lights Displays (or share yours with the community)

Our annual [Christmas Lights Display Map](#) is now live at onkaparingacity.com so we're inviting the community to put their fantastic displays on the map. As the map starts to fill up, you'll be able to bundle the family in the car and hit the road to see the festive spirit in action on Onkaparinga's streets.

Join a Christmas-Themed Event or Workshop at Your Local Centre

There are a range of Christmas-themed events happening across Onkaparinga in the lead-up to 25 December, including craft workshops, movie matinees and kids' Story Times at Onkaparinga's libraries; concerts at Port Noarlunga's Arts Centre; and carols including at [Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall](#).

Head to onkaparingacity.com/christmas for details on all of these events and more, as well as the council's Christmas opening hours, a festive season waste and recycling guide, and information on free and low-cost Christmas meals and emergency food relief.

Surf 2025 Exhibition



Surf 2025 celebrates the region's surfing culture, lifestyle, history, and stunning coastal environment. Marking the beginning of summer, the annual exhibition has carved a place in the hearts and souls of the southern arts calendar and has become one of the pivotal features of the Arts Centre's program. The Surf 2025 art exhibition is open to all Australian artists celebrating the ocean, the coastal environment and the culture of all things related to surfing. Scenes of the local coastal environment, or people enjoying the sun, sand and surf of the region's beautiful coastline are staples in the exhibition.

Surf 2025 will be showcased in the Onkaparinga Gallery and Red Rover Gallery at the Arts Centre from 12 December 2025 to 2 February 2026 with a special opening **from 6pm on Friday 12 December at the Arts Centre.**

Light refreshments will be provided for the opening, as well as paid bar facilities being available.

Surf 2025 Christmas Market

The Christmas Market will be presented for one day only at the **Arts Centre on Sunday 14 December 10am-4pm**, in conjunction with the annual Surf 2025 exhibition.

Local artists will be showcasing and selling their work ranging from paintings, prints, jewellery and homewares. It's the perfect place to pick up gifts for family, friends and even yourself.

Donate Your Old Phone & Save a Life

Do you have an old mobile phone that is no longer in use in your house. Did you know you can donate that phone and help create a new start for a victim of domestic violence. (DV)?

Donate your old phone today to the Rotary Club of Coromandel Valley who will send it on to *DV Safe Phone*

DV Safe Phone is a vital national program that provides **safe, repurposed mobile phones** to domestic violence and law enforcement agencies, helping victims of domestic violence reconnect with loved ones and critical services. These phones often become a lifeline especially when abusers destroy or confiscate devices to isolate victims.

Every phone collected by the Rotary Club of Coromandel Valley is sent to *DV Safe Phone* where they are safely and securely cleaned of any existing data, reformatted and fitted with a new SIM card.

Did You Know?

1 woman every four days is killed by a current or former partner in Australia.

1 in 6 women and 1 in 18 men have experienced violence from a partner.

The first thing an abuser takes is often the victim's phone leaving them unable to call for help.

Donate Your Old Phone Now

By depositing it in the specially marked box at either the
Coromandel Valley Community Centre, 442B Main Road Coromandel Valley
Waite Electoral Office, Shop 1, 7 Young St Blackwood



Rotary
Club Of Coromandel Valley

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BOX?



Onkaparinga Christmas Tree Appeal

Help make Christmas special for children in our community by donating to the Onkaparinga Christmas Tree Appeal. Unwrapped gifts for ages 0-18 can be donated under the Christmas trees located at:

- City of Onkaparinga Noarlunga Office
- Aberfoyle Hub Library
- Aldinga Library
- Woodcroft Community Centre

Donations can be made from Monday 17 November until Friday 12 December and gifts will be distributed with the assistance of:

- Anglicare outer southern hub
- Salvation Army Morphett Vale
- Southern Adelaide Domestic Violence Service
- Christian Care and Support Centre Aldinga Beach.

Weed Management

We are currently hearing a of discussion in the community regarding weed management. Council carries out weed control on unmaintained residential verges along main roads, such as Goldsmith Drive, 4 times per year, including treatment during November and December through our city-wide weed management schedule.

The Honeypot Rd/Goldsmith Dr intersection has raised some media interest. This intersection is under council care and control was mowed on Tuesday 2 December. This Noarlunga Centre urban location is not zoned as a high bushfire risk area. It is also worth noting the verge on the Colonnades side of Goldsmith Drive is privately owned.

For all other local urban roads, we conduct weed treatment on unmaintained verges 3 times annually, including a scheduled November and December treatment.

While our roadside weed control program is designed to reduce and manage weed growth, we can not guarantee all verges will remain completely weed-free between scheduled treatments.

Environmental factors such as rainfall, soil conditions and seasonal growth patterns can contribute to the re-emergence of weeds between maintenance cycles. This season's late and heavier rainfall, for example, has created excess growth between visits.

We receive many requests for maintenance work, including weed removal on DIT roads, which aren't maintained by the council. You can help by checking the [list of non-council roads in our city](#) before submitting a request.

How we prepare for bushfire season?

Council also undertakes fuel load reduction activities on our rural roadsides and open space areas, and our mowing program is based on a risk-management approach. Staff prioritise mowing in areas that begin drying (curing) first, and then progressively move into locations that typically retain moisture and remain greener for longer, such as the hills face.

This means we closely monitor curing rates and adjust schedules accordingly. Where grasses remain green, mowing may be temporarily held back – even if the fire danger season has formally begun – to avoid unnecessary repeat cuts and to ensure resources are deployed efficiently.

If curing occurs faster than expected, our program is adjusted to focus on higher-risk locations.

The introduction of [our high-tech, remote-controlled mower](#) has improved our ability to manage fuel loads in steep, difficult or previously inaccessible areas, enhancing fire-prevention outcomes.

Further follow-up mowing is scheduled in areas where regrowth is evident because of the recent late-season rainfall, to ensure we maintain appropriate fuel-load reduction as conditions change.

As the largest council in SA, we maintain more than 1,900 hectares of open space and 1,200 kilometres of rural roadside reserves on a rotational basis all year-round.

This is the busiest time of year for grass cutting as our field staff tackles abundant growth, so we appreciate your patience.

Dumped trolleys, nuisance lighting and more



Amendments to the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act*, long advocated for by Council, passed parliament on the **29 October 2025**.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has provided the following update:

- New requirements relating to shopping trolley identification and collection.
- More efficient processes for the assessment and exemption of local nuisance.
- Inclusion of an offence for an installer who installs an air conditioner or external light in a place where it causes local nuisance.
- A general duty on business owners to prevent or minimise litter, including from stormwater management systems.
- Improved cost recovery mechanisms for Local Government.
- Registration of nuisance abatement notices in relation to land.
- Differentiated expiation amounts for a body corporate and an individual.
- Improved delineation for the regulation of nuisance occurring on premises licensed under the Liquor Licensing Act.

The amendments will come into effect in two tranches with the provisions relating to shopping trolleys planned to commence in the **first half of 2027**.

We are seeking further information about the planned commencement and continue to advocate for timely implementation of laws to manage dumped shopping trolleys.

More information on the reforms can be found on the [Neighbourhood nuisance and noise page](#) of the EPA website.

Onkaparinga Immunisation Team Named Finalist in Public Health Awards

The City of Onkaparinga's Immunisation Team has been named a finalist in the 2025 Excellence in Public Health Awards — in proud recognition of their outstanding increase to immunisation rates of students in the School Immunisation Program.

Operating one of South Australia's largest immunisation services, the team services Onkaparinga residents and neighbouring councils of Marion, Alexandrina, Victor Harbor, and Yankalilla.

Their award-nominated initiative focuses on boosting adolescent immunisation rates through tailored communication strategies across diverse school settings. Innovations include:

- Customised messaging via email, SMS, and school platforms
- A new online consent form approved for school use
- A tailored schedule that ensures every year level gets two opportunities to be vaccinated — by separating visits across Year 7 and Year 10, and using each of the three visits to deliver catchups for missed doses
- Screening for missed childhood vaccines in Years 7 and 10
- Support for parents to update records in the Australian Immunisation Register
- Follow-up reminders via our online booking system
- Specialised Catch up clinics specifically for missed school vaccines run at the end of the year, during school holidays, and at times and locations convenient for students and parents

A large part of the strategy is tailored text message and email nudges after the school program has finished to achieve full immunisation by the age of 20.

The results speak volumes:

Percentage of consenting students vaccinated

Year Level and Vaccine	Onkaparinga 2023	Onkaparinga 2024	SA State average
Year 7 – dTpa	91.3%	94.3%	90.9%
Year 7 – HPV	91.8%	94.4%	91.1%
Year 10 – MenACWY	92.4%	94.6%	93.9%

Year 10 – Men B (at least 1 dose)	92.6%	94.3%	92.5%
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Congratulations to the team for leading the way in public health and setting a shining example for immunisation excellence across the state.



Community Christmas Carols
(a free event)
presented by Cherry Gardens Uniting Church
at the Memorial Hall Cherry Gardens Road, Cherry Gardens
Tuesday 16th of December 2025 at 7.00 pm
Guest Musicians:
The Sherrahs, Rebekah Nelson
and musicians from Coro Baptist Church
supper to follow provided by the church.
Organised by:
Cherry Gardens Uniting Church Community
87, Hicks Hill Road, Cherry Gardens

All are welcome !!!

GARDENING 101

Wednesdays • 12:00 - 2:00 pm

**Would you like to learn gardening basics to grow
your own food at home?
Join us for this hands-on and fun gardening course!**

Learn basic gardening skills:

- Understanding soil preparation
- Begin growing from seeds
- Water, Sun & Care
- Garden Friends and Foes
- Grow herbs in creative containers
- Vegetable gardening
- Take projects home for your own garden



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**Hackham West
Community Centre.**

Hackham West Community Centre

44 Glynville Drive
Hackham West, SA 5163
Ph: (08) 8384 1065

Cherry Gardens United Church Christmas Carols

You have mentioned being able to advertise any Community Events and Cherry Gardens Uniting Church would greatly appreciate if you could advertise our Community Carols Event.

The Cherry Gardens United Church Christmas Carols is being held on **Tuesday 16 December at Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall 312 Cherry Gardens Rd, Cherry Gardens at 7 p.m.**

The evening features local Country Gospel group 'The Sherrahs', a children's Christmas video, Carol singing, musical items and is followed by supper presented by Cherry Gardens Uniting Church.



Kiwanis®
Club of Reynella

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US !!

Reynella Kiwanis local projects include food distribution to disadvantaged families and creative ways to serve the needs of Children in our community. A recent major Service Project was the Kids Fun Day held at Noarlunga Centre Cinema with 200 children attending.

They assist the City of Onkaparinga with volunteers to marshal at the Christmas Pageant and provide support at other community events, such as the Beachside Food and Wine Festival at Christies Beach

Fundraising assists charities including Heart Kids, Childhood Cancer, and Riding for the Disabled and Kiwanis Camp Amity for girls with disabilities.

Meeting date	:	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday each month
Time	:	6pm for 6.30pm
Venue	:	Christies Beach Hotel Function Room
Contact	:	Bob Koster President 0408 838 875 Howard Humby Secretary 0419 502 332 email - reynella @kiwanis.org.au Club Facebook page: www.facebook.com/au/reynellakiwanis

Coromandel Valley and Districts National Trust Watchman House

On the first Saturday of the month from 9.00 am the Coromandel valley and Districts Branch of the National Trust volunteers will be on hand to guide families or groups through the Watchman House, sharing its stories as well as those of other local landmarks, including Winns Bakehouse, the Shepley House, Craiglee and the former Government Experimental Orchard.

Located adjacent to the Sturt River Linear Park and the Winns Road intersection, the Watchman House is a disability friendly venue. Delicious, homemade morning teas are on offer for \$5pp. The welcome mat and, for four legged visitors, a refreshing bowl of water will be on the veranda. Lovers of Coromandel Marmalade and Hills Honey are welcome to call in to restock their pantries.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

City of Onkaparinga Northern Community Forum Meeting Dates

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

- Monday 8 December.

Meetings are held at the Aberfoyle Community Centre starting at 7.30 pm. If you live in the Happy Valley, O'Halloran Hill, Aberfoyle Park, Chandlers Hill, Flagstaff Hill, Coromandel Valley, Cherry Gardens and Clarendon areas please make the time to attend as it is a great opportunity to hear about local issues and catch up with your local councillors and members of parliament (or their staff). Unfortunately the numbers of attendees has dropped significant in recent meetings so please attend.

Neighbourhood Watch Meetings Schedule

Flagstaff Hill Neighbourhood Watch Area 453

Meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- Wednesday 10 December 2025– Christmas Dinner Flagstaff Golf Course.
- Wednesday 11 March 2026.
- Wednesday 10 June.
- Wednesday 14 October (AGM).
- Wednesday 9 December (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 19 January 2026.
- Monday 16 March.
- Monday 18 May.

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 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 November 2025 AGM.
- Tuesday 10 February 2026
- Tuesday 12 May
- Tuesday 11 August
- Tuesday 10 November.

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



Engagements that are currently open for feedback can be viewed on [Your Say Onkaparinga](#).

On this page you will also find featured and active projects that are not open for feedback but share information to keep the community informed.

Grant Opportunities

Please refer to the attachment, or [Please refer to our website](#).

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of Council. Should you wish to discuss any issue regarding the City of Onkaparinga please either phone me or send me an email.

Geoff Eaton
Councillor
Thalassa Ward

City of Onkaparinga

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

Mobile: 0416 637 351