Adelaide Plains Council

COMMUNICATOR

SPRING 2026



Investing your landscape levy into our local environment

We are embarking on a 12-month environmental rehabilitation project at the Camel Reserve in Lewiston.

Spanning 8.27 hectares, the project will address critical environmental maintenance through a collaborative effort by both Council staff and contractors.

This project is supported by a $10,000 Grassroots Grant from the Northern & Yorke Landscape Board. This is the landscape levy, collected through your council rates, funneled directly back into protecting our local area.

By addressing these immediate pest and land issues, this funded work directly safeguards the ecological health, land value, and native biodiversity of the Lewiston community space.

Key works scheduled over the next 12 months include:

- Pest eradication through targeted pest control.
- Biodiversity enhancement using local seed propagation and strategic revegetation.
- Infrastructure preservation via structural fencing repairs.

Inside this edition...

H5 bird flu in South Australia **03**

Six new by-laws adopted **04**

Christmas holiday closures **05**

Prepare for fire danger season **07**

INTRODUCTION

Message from Mayor Mark Wasley

Happy Spring everyone. The fields in our region have become a colourful and abundant display of wildflowers, crops and indeed some weeds. This winter the conditions have been remarkable for plant life to flourish and with that comes the heightened need for weed and grass control. I, like my farming neighbours, have been busy on the tractors slashing our roadside verges and forming fire breaks around the paddocks as we move into the high fire danger season. Please ensure you do what you can to minimise the risks whether you are in a rural, semi-rural or even township location.

The long anticipated Two Wells Town Centre project that has been thwarted by insufficient water to begin construction, will be moving forward. Leyton Property Group, the developer, has made an announcement which is now available on our website.

The same water issue that prevented construction for many months has been overcome by the developer finding their own solution through negotiations with SA Water. Mallala also will soon see residents moving into the Gracewood development as housing begins construction there.

The southern part of our Council area is identified by the State Government as being important to the housing targets being set. This brings new families to our area who want to become involved and be part of their new community. Employment opportunities, goods and services, volunteering opportunities and local recreational activities are increasing to build and strengthen our community. Government grant funding has been received and is ready to finance improvements and sealing to the Esplanades at Thompson Beach and Port Parham.

I finish off this issue of the Communicator with my usual shoutout to the volunteers and people who do so much across our region. The quiet achievers who apply their skills, knowledge and time to make this a better place for everyone. To our first responders who keep us safe and help us in times of need, the service groups, the support groups of many shapes and sizes, the volunteers who plant and nurture shrubs and trees at the Two Wells nursery, all play an important role in shaping Adelaide Plains as the great place to live.

Until next time, all the best.

Get in touch

Mallala Principal Office
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am to 5pm.
2A Wasleys Road, Mallala

Two Wells Service Centre
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9am to 5pm.
69 Old Port Wakefield Road, Two Wells

Closed public holidays.

Post PO Box 18, Mallala SA 5502
Ph 08 8527 0200 **E** info@apc.sa.gov.au

@adelaideplainscouncil apc.sa.gov.au

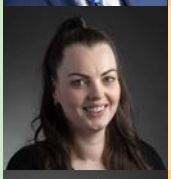
Adelaide Plains Council acknowledges that we are located on the Traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and we acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

Council Members

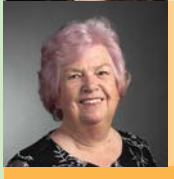
Contact a Council Member directly, or send an email to all Council Members as a group: councilmembers@apc.sa.gov.au



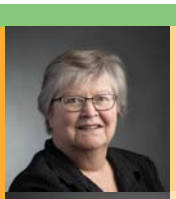
Mayor Mark Wasley
0456 939 376
markw@apc.sa.gov.au



Cr Alana Bombardieri
0466 447 011
alanab@apc.sa.gov.au



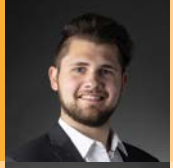
Cr Kay Boon
0421 163 920
kayb@apc.sa.gov.au



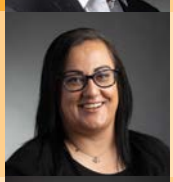
Cr Terry-Anne Keen
0407 971 022
terry-annek@apc.sa.gov.au



Cr Mel Lawrence
0432 939 446
melvillel@apc.sa.gov.au



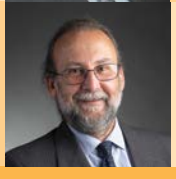
Cr Dante Mazzeo
0447 087 265
dantem@apc.sa.gov.au



Cr Margherita Panella
0416 020 777
margheritap@apc.sa.gov.au



Cr Brian Parker
Deputy Mayor
0417 724 223
brianp@apc.sa.gov.au



Cr Marcus Strudwicke
0407 392 191
marcuss@apc.sa.gov.au

COMMUNITY

H5 bird flu

The SA and Australian governments are coordinating the response to H5 bird flu.

Early detection is critical and South Australians are encouraged to remain vigilant. If you see a sick or dead bird or other wildlife, do not touch it, keep children and pets away, avoid contact with bird droppings or feathers, and wash your hands.

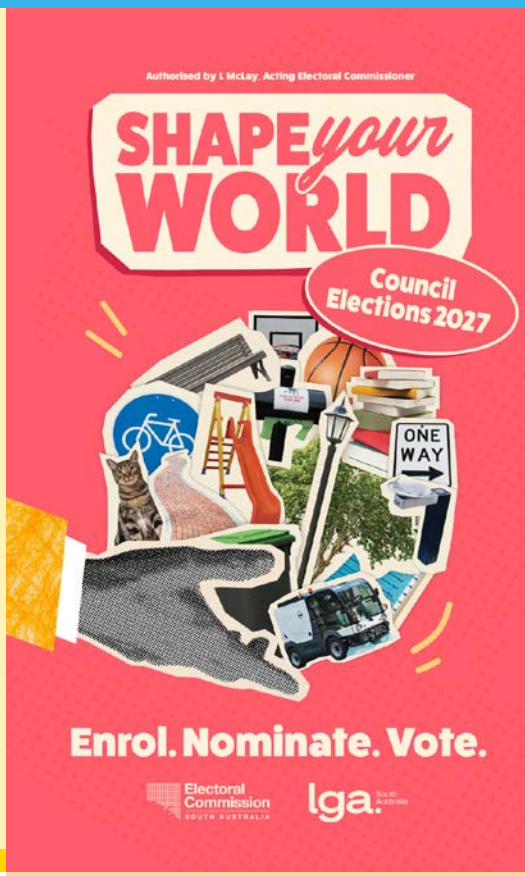
Avoid contact. **Record** what you see. **Report** it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888

We all can do our part to help keep ahead of this disease. Possible signs of bird flu in birds include:

- difficulty standing, walking or flying
- droopy or puffed-up appearance
- breathing problems, including panting or sneezing
- unusual head or neck posture
- sudden death, especially in large numbers.



This information is from the SA Government. For the most up to date information, visit birdflu.sa.gov.au



Cultural heritage

Adelaide Plains history and sense of identity is formed by both First and Second Nations culture and heritage. The Kaurna People have a continuing deep and spiritual connection with the land and waters of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara and are the recognised Traditional Owners of the Adelaide Plains. Our Second Nations heritage identifies the region's agricultural worth, the boom of our country towns, and relics of coastal and land defence preparations during the Second World War.



To plan, identify and properly protect our cultural heritage, especially as a growing population brings change, we are undertaking specialised investigations to identify those special places and buildings that contribute to our council region's distinct history. There are 34 properties proposed in the Adelaide Plains Local Heritage Code Amendment, with no local heritage places currently listed in our council area. For comparison, there are 135 local heritage places in Wakefield Regional Council, and 237 in Light Regional Council.

Architects reviewed known sites and buildings while flagging it was likely that extensive properties of heritage value have possibly not been identified or assessed for their heritage value.

To better acknowledge our region's cultural heritage, Council received matching grant funding from the Minister for Planning in 2025 for further investigations. A comprehensive heritage survey commenced this year.

2027 dates

ENROL	
Close of voters roll	4 January
NOMINATE	
Nominations open	26 January
Nominations close	9 February
VOTING	
Ballot packs mail-out	11 to 17 March
Polling day (voting closes)	7 April



COMMUNITY

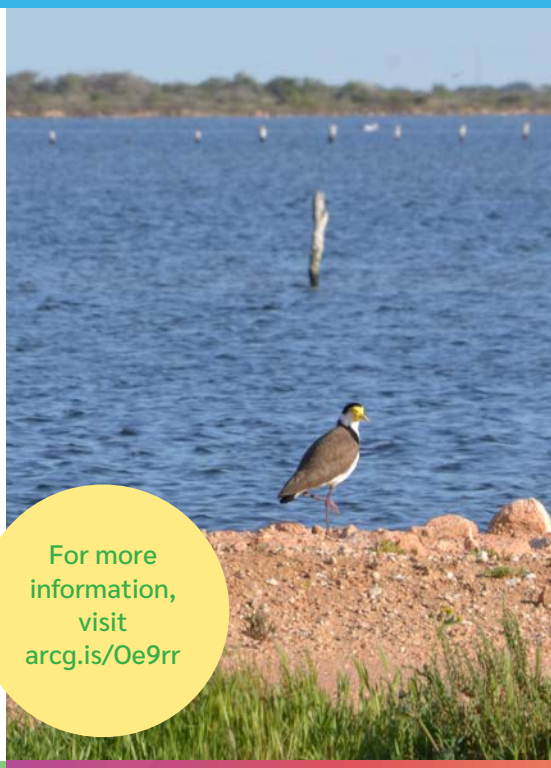
Shifting Salts

Reimagining the Salt fields near Middle Beach

Northern Adelaide has expanded exponentially in urban development over recent years and will continue to do so into the future.

For the Dry Creek Saltfields, this means more people will be living near this historic salt mining area. The Dry Creek Saltfields started using sea water for salt extraction in 1936 until 2013. Since then, the site provided a possible salt industry opportunity and an unlikely ecological haven for shorebirds from across the country and globe.

As our community grows, questions are raised about how the salt fields can be approached for our community, economy, marine ecosystems and coastal resilience. There are multiple scenarios for possible uses for this land as well as challenges. A team of scientists from Adelaide University are working on possibilities that could positively impact the social, environmental and economic future of Northern Adelaide. This work is funded by Green Adelaide, under the Blue Carbon Futures Grant Program.



For more information, visit arcg.is/0e9rr

By-laws adopted

By-laws are made by councils under the *Local Government Act 1999* to effectively govern an area and assist councils in creating safe, convenient and comfortable community spaces.

Council has passed the following by-laws:

1. **Permits and Penalties By-law 2026:** the permit system for our by-laws, fixes maximum and continuing penalties for offences, provides for certain matters pertaining to liability and evidence, and clarifies the construction of our by-laws.
2. **Local Government Land By-law 2026:** manages and regulates access to and use of local government land and certain public places.
3. **Roads By-law 2026:** management, control and regulation of activities on roads and other land in our area.
4. **Dogs By-law 2026:** limits the number of dogs kept on premises and for the management and control of dogs in our area.
5. **Moveable Signs By-law 2026:** sets standards for moveable signs on roads and to provide conditions for the placement of such signs for the purpose of protecting visual amenity and public safety in our area.
6. **Animal Management By-law 2026:** requiring Council permission to keep a prescribed animal (rooster or unconfined pigeon) in a township or within 100 metres of the boundary of neighbouring residential premises outside of a township.

These by-laws replace the current by-laws adopted in 2019, and take effect from 3 January 2027.



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Nominate Now!
www.citizenoftheyear.com.au

Who makes a difference in our community? Nominations are open for:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Community Group of the Year
- Community Project of the Year

Nominations close 20 November 2026

Australia Day | South Australia

COUNCIL NEWS

Council hours over Christmas/New Year's

Our offices, and some of our services, will close for the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays.

OFFICE OR SERVICE	CLOSES (2026)	OPENS (2027)
Mallala Principal Office	5pm Tuesday 22 December	9am Tuesday 5 January
Two Wells Service Centre	5pm Wednesday 23 December	9am Monday 4 January
Two Wells Library	5pm Wednesday 23 December	9am Tuesday 5 January
Mallala Library	12pm Wednesday 23 December	10am Wednesday 6 January
Resource Recovery Centre	12pm Wednesday 16 December	9am Saturday 2 January

Phone, email and social media enquiries will reopen at 9am on Monday 4 January 2027.

Contact us

You can request a service or report a non-urgent issue by email, online form, or click 'report it' in the My Local Services app and we will action it when we reopen in 2027.

Bin collection

Collections in the weeks of Christmas or New Year's Day: There will be no change to the dates of residential bin collections these holidays.

Lost or found pets and Council emergencies

Our office phone will divert your call for lost or found pets and Council emergencies while we're closed.

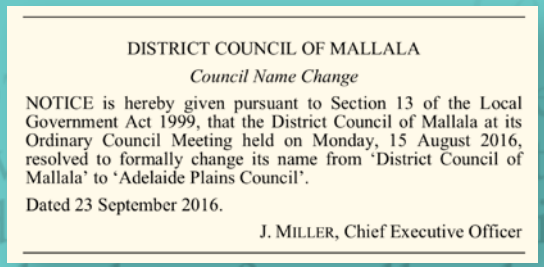
10 years of APC

This year is the 10 year anniversary of Council's name change from District Council of Mallala to Adelaide Plains Council.

Reflecting on the landmark, CEO James Miller recalls the events well in the lead up to the decision. "I recall my first meeting of Council in 2015 when I broached with Members the importance of embarking on a rebranding exercise. I wasn't necessarily suggesting a name change at the time, particularly given it was my first meeting, but I am glad my message gathered momentum and people started to think and talk region-wide rebranding of our Council.

A name change quickly gained universal support and following a comprehensive consultation process, Council resolved to amend its name for the first time since 1937 from District Council of Light to District Council of Mallala."

10 years on, Adelaide Plains Council reflects on our strong heritage and community strength with pride - from the amalgamations of the Districts of Port Gawler, Dublin and Grace Plains in 1935 to Adelaide Plains Council in 2016.



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MALLALA

Council Name Change

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 13 of the Local Government Act 1999, that the District Council of Mallala at its Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday, 15 August 2016, resolved to formally change its name from 'District Council of Mallala' to 'Adelaide Plains Council'.

Dated 23 September 2016.

J. MILLER, Chief Executive Officer

Council meetings

5:30pm, Mallala Chamber, Redbanks Road

OCT
Wednesday
21

NOV
Wednesday
18

DEC
Wednesday
16

Attend meetings in person, or watch them live online. apc.sa.gov.au/meetings

Information sessions are typically scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month, and the topics are published in advance on our website.

PROJECT UPDATES







Capital works

2026/27 program completed so far

Road resheeting

- Fidge Road, Barabba
  Hawes Rd to Collins Rd
- Wasleys Road, Mallala
  Barabba Rd to Collins Rd
- Wasleys Road, Mallala
  Davies Rd to Barabba Rd
- Barabba Road, Barabba
  Collins Rd to Marshman Rd

Works in progress

Road sealing

- Hart Road, Lower Light
  Port Wakefield Hwy to Devon Rd

Open spaces and environment

- Grassroots Grant,
  Camel Reserve, Lewiston

Site improvements

- Landscaping,
  Lewiston Playground,
  Softfall and shade sail

A plan for the Two Wells Recreation & Sport Precinct

We have a new plan for the area around the Two Wells Oval!

Our vision for the Two Wells Oval precinct is one with a wide variety of recreation, sport and community uses for our growing and changing Adelaide Plains community.

A master plan shows how the precinct can look in the future and allows us to prepare more detailed designs that we can use to apply for external funding. It also gives clubs some certainty and guidance in planning for the future.

This plan features new and upgraded community sporting facilities that could be built in stages. A series of draft plans have been developed over time and informed by discussions with clubs, peak sporting bodies and community feedback.

View the full plan on our website.



ENVIRONMENT

Hello spring!

Spring is welcomed by all! With recent rain events quenching our region followed by beautiful sunshine, our creatures, critters and community all have something to be happy about.



Eremophila porosa



Bearded dragon



Native apricot, *Pittosporum angustfolium*



Bee on blossoms, *Prunus nigra*



Golden everlasting, *Xerochyrsum bracteatum*



Mallee box, *Eucalyptus porosa*

Vegetation management and slashing

Fire prevention is considered in many aspects of our vegetation management. We focus on specific weeds to control, revegetate select areas with fire resistant species, encourage native grasses and specifically time our slashing program all in preparation for fire danger season.

We maintain many kilometres of roadside vegetation and over 50 reserves to help prevent bushfires spreading. Before fire danger season, we conduct fuel load reduction slashing and brushcutting of Council areas including reserves, roadsides (townships and populated areas), and road intersections. Areas are prioritised according to the Mid North & Yorke Bushfire Management Committee's Bushfire Management Area Plan, and repeat slashing is undertaken as required.

Areas we slash include:

- Council reserves
- All Council roadsides within townships and populated areas
- Intersections on Category 1 to 6 roads

Our selective weed control, fire resistant species revegetation, native grasses and specifically timed slashing is part of our holistic approach to our fire prevention. Inspection of private properties to identify required hazard reduction work is also undertaken.

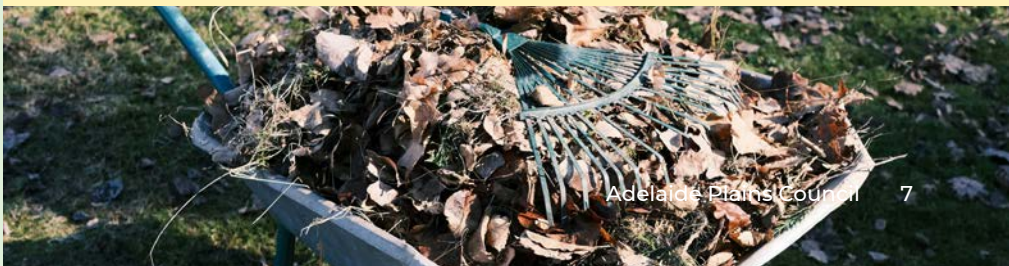
Notice an area that needs more attention? Let us know by phone or email, or click 'report it' in the My Local Services app.

Prepare now for fire danger season

Bushfire prevention and managing the risks is a community effort. By preparing, planning and staying informed you can keep yourself, your family, pets and livestock safe.

Update your household's bushfire plan before the season starts. Decide at what point you will leave, what you will take, where you will go, and what plans and precautions you will take for your animals. Learn about the fire danger ratings and monitor them through the season – it will explain how dangerous a bushfire would be if it broke out, not the likelihood of a fire starting.

To prepare your property, start now by reducing the amount of fuel by keeping grass cut low and removing any dead plants, while also removing any flammable materials around your house and exit areas. There are different fire prevention requirements for properties of different sizes - find out what your property needs, including if you require a firebreak. Fire Danger Season dates are declared by the SA Country Fire Service (CFS) before summer, and every day during the season they will publish the daily fire danger rating. Don't rely on a single source for your emergency information.



SERVICES

Instalment payments with Payble

It's easy to set up – scan the QR code on your rates notice, enter your mobile number and validate with a secure SMS code. Select a payment option that works for you. Need some help setting up your account? Visit your nearest Council office to speak with our team. Payble is an Australian company that helps local governments improve customer payment experiences. Payble is safe and secure with PCI-DSS, ISO27001 and SOC2 certifications.

Pay your rates in smaller, regular instalments using our new payment system.

Pay with card or bank transfer

Automatic payments for all major bank accounts, credit and debit cards

Smaller instalments

Manage your budget with weekly, fortnightly or monthly instalments

Helpful reminders

Receive SMS reminders before important rates due dates

Tips for bin day

Over 2,500 household wheelie bins are emptied across our region every week! To make sure bin day runs smoothly and your bin can be emptied, here are a few helpful tips:

- Place your Council wheelie bin on the verge the night before bin day
- Face the lid opening towards the road
- Space bins 1 metre apart
- Make sure your bin weighs less than 50kg
- Bring in your bin within 24 hours of being emptied

Only wheelie bins issued by Council and Solo Resource Recovery will be emptied. These wheelie bins have a 'Waste less. Recycle more.' image on the front, and a serial number on the side. If you're not sure if your bin is a Council bin, contact us by phone or email.

Thank you for helping out on bin day!

If you need to request a bin repair or report a missed bin collection, please call Solo Resource Recovery on 08 8159 5051.





Community bus

Our monthly bus service to Elizabeth City Centre travels through Mallala, Parham and Two Wells. Additional stops can be made at Dublin, Lower Light and Lewiston by request.

Third Friday of the month

$5 return trip

Children under 16 travel free, accompanied by an adult

Book your seat, call 08 8527 0200

Visit our libraries

Mallala

2a Wasleys Road, Mallala
Wednesday 10am to 12pm
Friday 3pm to 5pm

Two Wells

61 Old Port Wakefield Road, Two Wells
Tuesday 9am to 5pm
Wednesday 12pm to 7pm
Thursday 9am to 5pm
Friday 9am to 5pm
Saturday 9am to 11:30am

Closed public holidays

Justice of the Peace



Two Wells Library,
Saturdays 9am to 11am

Rates by email

Receive your rates notice and Communicator newsletter by email: apc.sa.gov.au/rates