



Southern Gateway to the Barossa

The Willy Wagtail published and distributed by the
volunteers of the WILLIAMSTOWN ACTION GROUP

Issue 543

December

2025

**Williamstown
School Hall
& Oval**

Williamstown Christmas Fair

Sunday Dec 7, 12 - 4pm

Food, Drinks, Stalls,

Entertainment,

Circus Elements,

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Lewis Johnston – Second owner of the Victoria Creek Hotel

Born 1817 in Dunnottar Scotland, he immigrated to Sydney on October 6, 1841 on the ship James Moran. He was 24 years old, and a single blacksmith. He had been sponsored by Messes Robert Howe and Co and received a bounty of £19. In 1846 he was living in South Australia, but it is not known how he arrived in the state. Soon after he was living in Gawler and one thing is clear, he was an opportunist and speculator and had fingers in many pies, including property, hotels, horse trading and dealing in wrought iron. It is hard to keep pace with all his activities. However, on December 13 1847 he married Eliza Hawkins in Gawler and the couple had six children.

In 1850 Lewis Johnston announced he was retiring from the business of blacksmithing and was now a dealer in wrought iron and he always had Scottish iron ploughs. In 1854 he appears to have had shops in Gawler for his wrought iron business, and as a blacksmith he would be well suited to this business. He seemed also to have a passion for horses and was involved in horse breeding and horse dealing, but in 1852 he was granted a publican license for the Old Bushman Hotel in Gawler. Just another thing to keep him occupied at home.

Lewis Johnston certainly kept the newspapers busy recording all his activities by getting himself fined for not closing his bar-room door on Lord's Day, to getting himself stabbed in the leg by Cranky Jack.

On Tuesday January 1857 there appeared in The Adelaide Observer a sale notice by George Warren on behalf of Thomas Adams for the sale of his property at Victoria Creek, consisting of good land and the Victoria Hotel, with the terms being part cash. This was too much for Lewis Johnston to resist and he bought the property.

Did he ever live there? Probably not, as most of his interests were in Gawler, and George Snellgrove had a seven-year lease on the property and hotel. He obviously had grand plans for the land and employed a surveyor to subdivide the land into allotments (see plan). He named his new property Williamstown. It is quite reasonable to presume it was named after his new son. He also named other streets, Eliza, Margaret, George and Queen Street.

He certainly was interested in Mt Crawford Council's plan to build a bridge over Victoria Creek at the bottom of Queen Street, and on his property. No doubt he recognized the value to his hotel. In 1858 he was also a member of a committee of trustees for a piece of land to build a school. Just a week later he announced he was leaving the town, and by 1858 he had acquired the Miner's Arms Hotel in Kapunda.

On October 9, 1858, an advertisement in the South Australian Weekly Chronicle announced an "import sale of property" and amongst the numerous properties was the Victoria Hotel and land. Lewis Johnston was cash strapped and "owing to the pressure of the times, and his entering a new business Mr. Lewis Johnston had instructed George Warren to sell the whole of his freehold property". Had he had been sailing too close to the wind?

So, what went wrong for Lewis Johnston? His wife claims he had a bad fall from a horse five years previously and had never been quite the same since. Whether it was the fall or money problems, sometime after August 18, 1862, Lewis Johnston took his life by hanging, a very sad and lonely ending to an energetic and productive life.

His influence on the developing township of Williamstown cannot be underestimated, as he laid the foundation for what the town looks like today. Although he probably never lived there, he took an interest in establishing the first school building, and new Council projects, such as the Victoria Creek Bridge and the Mt Crawford Road development.

Had he not had the land subdivided and the town laid out, Victoria Creek may have remained just a pub on a road through to Gawler and Adelaide. It is more than likely Thomas Adams and Lewis Johnston were known to each other as a newspaper article showed that Thomas Adams frequented the Old Bushman Hotel.

Lewis Johnston – Second owner of the Victoria Creek Hotel

And what about that mob of horses? Well, you can draw your own conclusion. For me, and given that Tom Adams was a butcher, I'd be very worried if he was buying mobs of horses!



Kindly supplied by the Williamstown & Districts Historical Society

The Bunyip

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Anne and Simon Taylor

It is with a certain sadness that I record the loss of two stalwart volunteers from the Williamstown Community. Anne and Simon Taylor are moving to the city to downsize and to be closer to their growing family. Simon joined the navy as a 15-year-old in 1968 and met Anne at the University of NSW, in Sydney, in 1971 when he was studying Electrical Engineering and Anne Physiotherapy. They married in 1977 and then received naval postings every two years, including overseas, for training and postgraduate study. For Simon's last sea posting in Sydney, Anne spent a great deal of time on her own bringing up the couple's two children, Amanda and Michael, whilst also working part-time as a physiotherapist at the Prince Alfred Hospital. In 1988 Simon secured a posting to DSTO (WRE), in Salisbury, to work on the Jindalee Radar Project. As both Simon and Anne wanted a country lifestyle for their children, one similar to their own - Simon's on Kangaroo Island and Anne's on a farm in Canowindra, NSW - a property on Needles Road, Williamstown was chosen and the family lived there for 2 years. Having arrived in Williamstown with a 5-year-old and a 3-year-old Anne found herself quickly being introduced into the Community by Sue Guy, Helen Harvey and Jane Young. Then, in 1991 came work for Anne in Domiciliary Care at the Lyell McEwin Hospital, Simon resigned from the navy to work in sonar research in DSTO and the couple bought a beautiful house and property on Winkley Road, living there for the past 35 years. In 2001 Anne moved on to Barossa Health Services working in Angaston Domiciliary Care. She retired from this in 2016. Throughout her children's time at Williamstown Primary School Anne was an amazing volunteer, prepared to help wherever, and with whatever was needed. She joined the Parent Club, helped with the Canteen, Sports Days, Working Bees, listened to students read, helped with classroom activities, covered books in the library – the list is endless. Just as involved with the school was Simon, who served on the School's Governing Council as Chairperson as well as organizing many Grounds projects and working bees.

And then there was Sport! Anne played competitive tennis and netball - keeping their records for over 8 years; with Amanda, Anne played softball for the Barossa Bears and Simon coached. Michael played basketball and cricket for Lyndoch – and Anne, the passionate cricket fan and member of SACA, scored. But Michael played football too, starting in the Modifieds with Dad, Simon as Team Manager before moving on to play for Central Districts then the Uni. Blacks. Meanwhile, Simon was in the thick of the football culture, contributing as Junior Football President, as a Trainer, as the President of the Football and Netball Club for 4 years. Simon also enjoys sailing and his stepfather, Les, who lived with Simon's mother in the Granny Flat attached to Simon and Anne's house for 25 years, had a 30-foot yacht moored at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron at Outer Harbour. For over 10 years Les, Simon, Gen Thompson, Paul Guy and Tim Andrews would go sailing together. Nowadays, Simon, Gen and Tim take Les, now in a rental unit at Wirraminna, to the RSAYS' Old Salt's BBQ every Wednesday. Anne was on the Board of Abbeyfield (the forerunner to Wirraminna), volunteering there from 2012, while Simon was Chair of the Board for 4 years, assisting in the transfer from Abbeyfield to Wirraminna. Anne still volunteers at Wirraminna and plans to continue to keep in touch. Since 2015 Simon has been involved with a small group of people who have helped transform a business group into the Southern Barossa Community Alliance which, includes in its aims, advocating on behalf of the Southern Barossa Community –

- providing 'a voice' for Community Groups to have their say promoting events and tourism
- brought the first Tour Down Under to the Barossa
- set up a Community Health/Well-Being Group
- piloted many projects including, during Covid, the providing of emergency relief meals (which are still being run now by the Barossa Kiwanis)
- established the Barossa Drug Action Team and the Drug Support Group

Anne and Simon Taylor (cont)

- helped establish the South Para Park Run
- helped the ROAR
- facilitated an initial Dementia Support Group in Williamstown
- facilitated a Youth Expo in Williamstown
- assisted the Barossa Wildlife Rescue to become an independent corporation and charity supported by a properly qualified team.

Although this sounds like a saga of the SBA it is important to remember that without volunteers like Simon, who give up so much time and put in so much effort and are passionate about their community and its needs – these wonderful things just might not happen!

Simon, who was awarded the Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award in 2022, worries that not enough people are putting up their hands to take on volunteer work these days, particularly in the Health a Well Being areas.

In their 'spare time' Anne and Simon enjoy travelling, particularly with friends, and share a sporting pastime – skiing! They have skied in Australia, Canada, Europe, New Zealand and Japan. They have also hosted 3 exchange students from Japan during the time their children were studying at Faith Lutheran School, whilst their daughter Amanda was herself an exchange student to Japan.

Amanda went on to gain a Degree in Psychology, then her Masters, worked for a while in the AP Lands at Alice Springs in Child Protection, returned to do her PHD in 'Sleep' and is now Senior Lecturer in Psychology at Adelaide Uni. Michael is a Physiotherapist and has worked in various Practices, including a snow season in Japan, but currently he is a Team Leader for a company called 'Striker' which looks after the theatre Robotics used in hip and knee surgery.

Anne and Simon both agree they will miss Williamstown, but they plan to visit frequently as they have made so many real friends here. They have always appreciated the land on which they have lived and the opportunity to be part of a great community life. They in turn, have been greatly appreciated by

Snippets. By L.L.

Wirraminna Strawberry Fete.

Despite the rain on Wirraminna's Strawberry Fete held on Saturday 22nd of November, many townsfolk and visitors turned out to indulge their tummies with strawberry foods and BBQ meats, a good chat with friends and a generous browse around the lovely stalls inside and outside the old RSL Hall. Congratulations to all the amazing volunteers who laboured on before, during and after the successful event.

Our Williamstown Supermarket.

The 'Word on the Street' is that the walls of our new supermarket will be up before Christmas and the roof will be on once work resumes after Christmas! After January, we may not see very much happening from the Street, as most of the action will then be inside the building! Very Exciting!

Farewell and Good Luck to Liz and Michael Slocombe

who have lived in Williamstown for many years and have now moved on to be near family in Aldgate. We thank them for their contribution to our Community.

A **HUGE Thank you** to the Willy Wagtail intrepid reporter who is finding articles and snippets to add to the Willy Wagtail each month. It's a very time consuming effort and it continues to add content, information and interest to the Willy Wagtail each month.

A **VERY VERY Big Thank you** to our kind sponsors submitting ads that keeps us able to print the Willy Wagtail each month and distribute 450 hard copies free to readers and over 60 emailed full colour copies monthly. **Thank you all, Thankyou, Thankyou.** EDITOR.

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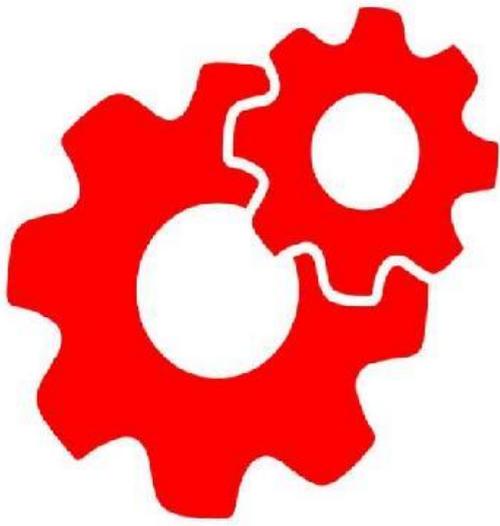
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Stall Application

Williamstown Christmas Fair December 7th, 2025

Market Open from 12pm to 4pm at the Williamstown School Oval and School Hall, Williamstown 5351
APPLICATION FORM

Trading Name: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Own Insurance: Yes____No____ If yes, Please attach your Public Liability Certificate of Currency
Insurance is Required – Insurance can be organised for an extra \$20, if arranged with us by Thursday 30th Nov.
Food handling details and Food Ref Number: (if applicable) _____ to be attached

Postal Address: _____

_____ P/C _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

email: _____

What will you be selling:

Other requirements: _____

While every care will be given to allocate you your preferred site, it cannot be guaranteed. However, those who have their applications in first with payment in full will have priority preference. Sites will be allocated as applications come in with payment. If you need more space, please hire 2 sites

- Number of Outside stalls required: _____ 3 m x 3m Non-Powered Site \$25 per site plus raffle donation
- Number of Inside Hall stalls required: _____ 3m x 3m Non-Powered Site \$25 per site plus a raffle donation
- Inside Hall stalls ONLY: _____ 3m x 3m Powered Site \$30 per site plus a raffle donation
- Trestle Hire (number required) _____ Trestles are available to hire for \$5 extra each trestle.

Stall Set up from 10.30am

Vehicle access will be available until 11.30am then gates will be closed and no vehicles will be able to move in or out until after 4.30pm for safety reasons (unless the event finishes earlier).

Payment required in full upon confirmation from Debbie and is non-refundable. Receipt will be issued via email (preferred) or posted when received, if requested. Raffle prize is required when booking and prior to the day.

Enquiries and Bookings: Please contact: Debbie - 0417 851 061 (Please leave a message and I will get back to you if unavailable) or email wwwagtail@gmail.com

Send payment & form to Williamstown Action Group, P.O. Box 880, Williamstown SA 5351.
BSB 015 560 Acct 522354914 ref Wtown Xmas Fair

I accept responsibility for my booking

_____ Signature

Print Name.....

What's on in Williamstown

If you would like details of your group added or updated send us your details

Amateur Players	Every Tuesday 9.30 am – 3pm (March – October) Williamstown Soldiers Memorial Hall Contact: Suzanne 0422 353 898 or Sue 85 246 502
Barossa Writers	2nd Wednesday of each month at 10am in the Lyndoch Library (except January) Contact: Doug 0418 855 066
Barossa 4WD Club	2nd Wednesday of each month at 8pm in the Lyndoch Meeting Room Contact: Barry Brinkley 0402 312 674
Church of Christ	Sunday Service 10am 8 Margaret Street, Williamstown Contact Trev: 0426 977 292
Kersbrook Landcare	Volunteers Wednesday 8.30am—4pm. Public Plant Sales first weekend of each winter month
Nursery (Williamstown)	Contact: Heidi klg.nursery@landcaregroup.org.au 0431 989 397
Williamstown & Districts Historical Society	Williamstown Soldiers Memorial Hall by appointment . Contacts: Jodie: jvrandall4@hotmail.com.au Denise: ppa19495@bigpond.net.au
Knit & Natter	Every Thursday 1.30 pm-4pm Contact Prue 85 246 437
Williamstown & Lyndoch Landcare	Meetings 4th Wed of every month in Library Rooms Lyndoch., 7.30pm Working bees Thursdays 9-12pm (except over 30 degrees). Contact: Chairperson— Angus Atkinson 0498 649 766
Patchers	Every 2nd & 4th Monday (If Monday is a public holiday, then Tuesday instead). Contact: Lexley 0411315166
Playgym & Playgroup	Contact: Williamstown Primary School 85 246 280
Williamstown Community Social Group	Every Tuesday 1pm till 4pm St Peter's Anglican Church Hall Contact: Pam 0427 246 382
Southern Barossa Men's Shed	Tuesdays 9am—1pm & Wednesdays 9am 1-2pm Contact Glen: 0409 675 937
Uniting Church	SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 am followed by morning tea . Contact: Peter 0458 202 004
Williamstown Action Group	7.30pm 1st Monday monthly in Meeting Room upstairs in Williamstown Soldiers Memorial Hall Contact: Graeme: 0499 881 008

Happy 10th Birthday Southern Barossa Mens Shed!

On December 14th, 2014, well-known local identity Glen Venning called a meeting to consider if there was enough interest for establishing a Mens Shed in Williamstown. The meeting was held in the small front lounge of Wirraminna (or Abbeyfield as it was then). As the interest was there, a more formal meeting was held in the January of 2015, again at Wirraminna, with an attendance of 9 interested persons who decided to pursue the project. Assisted throughout its 10 years by Wirraminna, the Mens Shed began in a little 20 by 20-foot garage in the grounds of Wirraminna. It was opened officially by the then State Member for Shubert, Stephan Knoll, in the December of 2015. Generous support by the local community and Banksia Park TAFE set them up with lots of materials and equipment. This wonderful support and donating continues to this day! November the 14th 2020, saw the move to their bespoke 40 by 30-foot New Shed behind the Little Shop of Treasures, with whom they have a similar close relationship as they do with Wirraminna. Local lad Alex Gill donated his labour in the levelling of the ground for this shed, while local electrician, Peter Keelan, sorted out all the electrical work for free also. When the keys were handed over in May, the Mens Shed Members all busied themselves with the interior work, creating closed off Meeting Room and toilet areas, and installing their donated equipment. Along the way they have been helped with Grants from the Barossa Council and The Australian Mens Shed Association. In 2024 a second shed, 20 by 20-foot was donated by Klose's Foodland as they cleared the site for our soon to be Supermarket! This shed was quickly deconstructed and marched across the road by Shed Members to be rebuilt on their site as a metal workshop! The Group has grown from the original 8 members to 27 and now includes adult males in the southern Barossa area, including those employed, retired or on Benefits. I quote from a Mens Shed article – "Coffee Time is the best time! Sometimes with all the banter you need your rubber boots to get through all the you know what!" But the Mens Shed has 'got it so right'! Their Morning Tea Time/Coffee Time is their Meeting Time/Decision Making Time! No long-drawn-out meetings for them! So envious – especially when I think of the hours and hours wasted in boring meetings around the country! The other thing I love about the Mens Shed is the absolute refuting of the 'fact' that 'men don't gossip'!! Don't they just!! The Mens Shed's great strength lies in its ability to make all members feel welcome. There is a sincere spirit of camaraderie and a sense of personal worth amongst the men. You do not have to come to The Shed with anything but yourself, nor do you need to do anything – just have a coffee and a natter! Once there, you can undertake your own projects if you wish or you'll find heaps of interesting activities going on and, if you choose to do so, you can develop skills in many practical areas in a supportive and helpful environment. Lots of 'sharing' goes on! On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, the members can be found doing tasks for the School, the History Society, Wirraminna, the Op. Shop, Barossa Wildlife ('nesting boxes') and for many locals as well as themselves. They are the BBQ experts and fundraise for various organizations as well as for themselves, including, in September this year, raising \$526 towards Tony Pasin's Prostrate Cancer Awareness Fund. When asked of their hopes and plans for the future, three projects surfaced – renovating the old jail next to their Shed, pursuing, in conjunction with our Historical Society, the possibility of creating a forge for Blacksmithing and thirdly, extending the use of their Metal Shed. However, the main plan is to simply keep on enjoying each other's company and welcoming new members. I doubt they will have any trouble doing this! (And, I should point out, that many womenfolk applaud this opportunity to have the two mornings a week free for themselves!!)

Happy Birthday Mens Shed Members!! L.L.



Wirraminna
care

The third Tuesday every month

December 16th 2025

10 – 11.30am RSL HALL

'Scone Time'

\$5.00



Time for a scone,
(with jam and cream or savoury)

Plus..an endless cuppa tea or coffee

"Christmas Chaos"

Loads of fun, laughter and sharing

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* Information – you may like to know –

- Contact My Aged Care?
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- Help with something else?

** or just some one to share a cuppa with
or meet new people in the town?*



Lucky door prize

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The Saviour of our Souls

Williamstown Church of Christ

Sunday 21st Dec.

5.30 p.m. for Tea - Carols 7 pm

Church Hall, Margaret Street

Speaker : Nat Mills

All Food supplied

RSVP to Dianne 0407619324 by Sun. 14th Dec

All Welcome – invite your friends



Sandy Creek Uniting Church

In the Bush Chapel

OUTDOOR CAROL SERVICE & NATIVITY PLAY

(unrehearsed)

Sunday 14h December 2025 at 7:30pm



Costumes are supplied. Children may be angels or shepherds & become part of the play (optional)

Supper to follow

ALL WELCOME

For more information contact Leslee Carle: 0417863325

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7.30pm

**Williamstown
Church of Christ**

Worship - 10:00am Sunday's

**All are welcome to come and join
us**

**Contact - Trevor Venning
0426977292**

**You can view our weekly message
on our YouTube page**

**YouTube Search - Williamstown
Church of Christ SA**



Hello everyone. I would like to introduce ourselves to you. Chad and I own Johns Print Centre (JPC) in Glynde. We are SA's largest Wide Format Specialist Printing & Signage Company. We have lived here in our beautiful town, Williamstown, for the past 15 years, Chad's family have lived here since 1960. Chad's nanna Beryl Knott have Knotts Road named after them. Our children Yanek and Yohama attended Williamstown Primary School and later Yanek attended Birdwood High while Yahoma attended Trinity College.

Beryl and Mrs Groverman, (the towns original postmistress) were best friends. We have beautiful memories of them both in their 70s going on driving holidays together, like Thelma and Louise, It was such a beautiful sight to see these two life long friends enjoying their time together and having so much fun. They both have passed on now but I'm sure they have met up again and going on their driving holidays together.

Chad and I have loved our community, you have probably seen some of our work around the town. We refreshed and donated the signs and supplied vinyl banners for the Strawberry farm held at Wirraminna Aged Care. It was a very successful event and we are happy to be apart of that. We have also just printed and donated the signs for the Williamstown Christmas Fair, We printed and installed the new signage for the Barossa Bakehouse Bistro and the Williamstown Hotel, A & E Body Bar, The Gravel Yard, Barossa Landscapes, Barossa Earthworks and Williamstown Primary School. A few years back we also provided new signage/letters for the Williamstown RSL, in time for the Anzac Dawn Service.

If you travel into Tanunda and know the Barossa Brewery site you will see a new black sign for Vintage Chef Co—Watch this space, we did that too. We have also had the pleasure of being involved in some of the state's biggest events. We wrapped one of the Barossa Gather Round buses that drove Gather Round fans around the Barossa, printed signage and installed on the Tanunda archway out in front of The 50's Diner, Gather Round, Tasting Australia, British and Irish Lions Rugby event, Liv Gold, Royal Adelaide Show and most recently, the beach Volleyball World Championships 2025. Our installers have been busy this week 24/11 installing all the signage that we have printed for the BP Adelaide Grand Final V8 race.

If you require any kind of signage, printing, wedding/birthday/event signage or point, sale, display items or anything, we are very happy to help. Check out our socials on Facebook and Instagram—Johnsprintcentre to see what we have been up to and have produced. Check out our website and if you would like a quote there is a quote form you can fill out.

It was lovely to introduce ourselves to you, might bump into you somewhere in this beautiful town! Chad and Melanie Rachwal.

A huge thankyou to Chad and Melanie and their team at JBC (John's Print Centre) for supplying and printing the Willy Wagtail this month and saving the day!!





LADIES ROSE BOWL DAY

The Lyndoch and District Bowling Club hosted the annual Ladies Rose Bowl Day on Monday 10 November in honour of the late Diane Jones at Lyndoch. The day was sponsored by Taylor and Forgie and Knight's Roses. Fourteen teams nominated from around the Barossa, Gawler and as far as Semaphore. Thank you for your support, ladies.



Roses were donated by Knight's Roses and provided a spectacular vision on the day as table centrepieces and were raffled off along with many other prizes. There were lots of happy faces at the end of the day with prizes going to ladies from all clubs.

It was fabulous to see ladies catching up with friends, and games were played in great spirit of camaraderie although winning places were hotly contested. The winners are here receiving their prizes from Claire Forgie from Taylor and Forgie.

1st Lyndoch (60)



2nd Angaston (59)



3rd Gawler (58)



Best Lead, Second, Third and Skip



NIGHT EAGLES:

Social Night Eagles bowls is on Tuesday nights. Players start arriving around 6:00 pm and games commence at 7:00 pm. We have a barbeque dinner and draw some great raffle prizes at the halfway mark. The main prizes are a meat tray, a roast chicken tray and a breakfast tray. There are a few varying other prizes also won each Tuesday and because it's a social night everyone has a lot of fun.

HOME ROUND:

On Saturday 15 November all our teams had a home game. First and second division played Tanunda, and fourth division played Angaston. It was a very busy day and culminated with a barbeque and meat tray raffle.

SOCIAL NIGHTS:

Friday night is social night at the club. The club is open most Friday nights (from 3:00 pm for practice and from 5:00 pm for the social aspect). The bar is open and amazing dinners are prepared by our wonderful chef and his very capable offsider. Each week the menu is published on Facebook, and if for some reason the club is closed, members will also be notified by Facebook. The cost of meals is very reasonable, usually \$10 per person. Now, you can't buy a dinner meal anywhere else for that price, and the company is always great. There is a core group of people who attend most weeks, and we would love to see more people attending. We always have a good night and hope to see you there soon.

SPONSORS:

A big thank you to those businesses currently sponsoring us:

Lyndoch Hotel	Platinum	Gawler River Brewing	Silver	Taylor and Forgie	Bronze
Ray White Gawler	Platinum	Creative Auditing	Silver	Country Mowing and Gardening	Bronze
Extreme Concrete	Platinum	Lyndoch Motors	Silver	Gervase Mallen Painting	Bronze
Ministry of Beer	Gold	Barossa Fresh	Silver	The Table Café and Wine Bar	Bronze
		Liebichwein	Bronze	Knights Roses	Bronze

We are always seeking more sponsors to remain viable and improve our club, so we're interested in hearing from any businesses (or individuals) that would be willing to sponsor our social community club. The Lyndoch and District Bowling Club has developed a sponsorship prospectus which is available on request from any committee member.

LYNDOCH AND DISTRICT BOWLING CLUB HIRE:

The Lyndoch and District Bowling Club is available for hire (clubhouse and greens) for corporate or private events. Contact Club President Darren Green at lyndochbowlingclub@gmail.com. Hire fee is \$250 (50% discount for members and sponsors), but is flexible depending on numbers and whether the bar, catering and/or greens are required. Enquire now!

Visit our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/LyndochEagles>) for more information on club activities, pennant teams and results.



BAROSSA WINE GIFT HAMPERS

Bello Lugar

B A R O S S A



What's included:

- Woven wicker hamper basket / [@ewicka.australia](https://www.instagram.com/ewicka.australia)
- Small batch wine (your choice of Grenache, Shiraz, Pink Moscato or G&S Blend) / Bello Lugar Barossa
- 300g Garlic Sauce (gluten free) / Barossa Valley
Sauces
- 100ml Extra virgin olive oil / [@atathrahomestead](https://www.instagram.com/atathrahomestead)
- 90g Caramel & Murray River Salt Fudge / [@barossavalleygourmetfudge](https://www.instagram.com/barossavalleygourmetfudge)

- Wine glass iced sugar cookie / [@ecakecreations.by.alanna](https://www.instagram.com/ecakecreations.by.alanna)

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Tony Pasin MP
Member for Barker

TONY PASIN

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **BARKER**

MEDIA RELEASE

Time to hit the brakes on migration

Australia is an immigration success story.

Over generations, cultures from the four corners of the earth have been woven delicately into the fabric of our nation.

This success wasn't accidental it was curated by careful and considered government policy. Historically the Australian Government has developed and managed immigration policies that responded to the needs of Australian society.

Take the influx of European immigrants at the conclusion of World War II. Post war Australia was rapidly growing but the first and second world wars had seen 103,000 Australian men lost (and many more maimed), fathers and sons who would, but for giving up their futures for ours, have returned to Australia as a labour force ready to build modern Australia.

Desperately short on labour the Australian Government turned to Europe, offering young men and their families, including my own, the prospect of a better life.

It was an immigration policy centred on the needs of the Australian people, a policy in the national interest that put Australians first.

Between 1945 and 1995, a period spanning 50 years, Australia settled 5.3 million migrants, a little over 100,000 per annum. The first twenty years of this century saw net overseas migration of 4.4 million, or an annual intake of 220,000.

Fast forward to today, an Australia facing an unprecedented housing crisis, made worse by the relaxation of our immigration settings. Indeed, over the past three years Australia has welcomed close to 1.2 million new arrivals and in the twelve months to 30 September 2025 net permanent and long-term arrivals reached 468,390. That rate is accelerating and can fairly be described as unprecedented, unsustainable and contrary to the national interest. Little wonder that Australians want their Government to hit the brakes on migration, at least until the supply of housing and the delivery of critical infrastructure like roads, hospitals and schools catches up.

Having dumped Net Zero the Coalition urgently needs to develop an immigration strategy that ends this era of mass migration and in so doing puts Australians first.

 Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253  8531 2466

 tony.pasin.mp@aph.gov.au  tonypasin.com  [TonyPasinMP](https://www.facebook.com/TonyPasinMP)

Authorised by T. Pasin MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Rd, Murray Bridge SA 5253.

TOWN GARAGE SALE DAY & MARKET

Saturday 7th February 2026

From 7:30am to 3:00pm

SELLERS REGISTRATION & INFORMATION

Please read this Information carefully and complete your details on page 2.

* Please return Registration & Payment via the Post Office for Debbie Boehm or in person

Registration closes on **Tuesday 3rd February 2026.**

- **Who organizes the Town Garage Sale Day?**
The Event is coordinated by Williamstown Action Group.
To register please phone Debbie 0417 851 061

Why Participate?

- Holding lots of garage sales in close proximity makes it worthwhile for buyers to travel from further afield especially when the event lasts the whole day.
- As a collective group your **\$10 registration fee** will buy more advertising.
- Your garage sale can be advertised more widely to increase the number of buyers on the day. Encourage others to do the right thing and register with us.
- Because the day can be so BIG, it has become a family day out for some, without costing the earth.
- Buyers really are having fun with this event - It's bringing people to Williamstown who have never visited before.
- All the registered garage sale sites and addresses are listed on the official map.
- Buyers select sites randomly at their own discretion.

Terms and Conditions

- Sale locations must be located within the existing town map area.
- All registered participants agree to be open for business from 7:30am to 3:00pm or until all items are sold.
- You will be issued with 2 balloons and 2 posters when you register your sale. Use these to advertise and identify yourself as a registered seller on the day.
We suggest you utilize your wheelie bin as the backdrop for this. Place your bin near the curb.
- Registration fees are used for advertising in the lead up to the event and non-refundable.

The Garage Sale Maps are available at Williamstown Soldiers Memorial Hall on the day for a gold coin donation from 7.30am. The Williamstown Soldiers Memorial Hall is located on Queen St, Williamstown.

□ Please note: The Southern Barossa Alliance, Barossa Council and the Williamstown Action Group accept no liability nor claim for damages to your property or public liability claims for the public entering your property.

*Please print your details clearly and return this page and payment required when registering by **Tuesday 3rd February 2026.**

I agree with the terms and Conditions:

NAME

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS OF SALE

.....

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS FOR SALE.....,

.....

.....

TELEPHONE.....

First Steps in Williamstown

Newly started in Williamstown and affiliated with the Transform Uniting Church, here and in Gawler, is a First Steps Playgroup. Kaitlyn Phillips is the Family Connections Pastor, but it was Em who ran me through the weekly Playgroup routine, which occurs at the W/T Uniting Church Hall every Wednesday between 9.30am and 11am during the school term. It is open to any child aged between 0 to 4 or 5 years old and not attending school. The Gawler Playgroup operates on a Thursday.

Briefly the session starts with Free Play for the children, which often incorporates sensory experiences and has a Theme for the day (Animals when I was there), with craft activities to do then and there, or to take home. 10am is fruit, snack time for the children and Barista made coffee, hot chocolate, etc. for the parents!

This 'domestic work' is done by local Uniting Church volunteers – Heather, Gloria, Debbie, Sue and David. From 10.40 -10.45am it is 'Parachute' time, followed by themed - singing, some awesome dancing, a story – finally their Goodbye song.

UCare Gawler has a table of donated goods which operates on a 'help yourself' basis, and there is a Clothes Swap Rack.

The first visit is free with, thereafter, a \$5 note covering a session for the whole family - including the snacks and coffees!! It is a safe place for children to play and for parents, mainly mothers, to meet and interact with others similarly placed, bringing up very young children, as well as helping with integration into the community.

I spoke with a few of the young mothers in attendance who were busy supporting their children's play, to find out what they thought of First Steps. Kim enjoys the 'Community feel' and engaging with other parents. She likes everything about the Playgroup and what it offers while young son Joel likes the fun and the snacks. Daughter, Eden, was almost too busy playing, singing and dancing creatively, to even consider the question for long! Jess and Jess, two young mothers who knew each other in Darwin and have, by sheer coincidence, met up again at Playgroup, agree that the Playgroup has been so welcoming. They love Williamstown and they love the Playgroup for its structure and routine for the children and feel it provides an alternative to the isolation of childcare at home which, in turn, is good for mental health. Little Emma just loves going to Playgroup. They would highly recommend the Playgroup to Everyone! Kayla, who attends both W/T and Gawler Playgroups, has two little ones in tow, a two-year-old and a four-year-old, both of whom love meeting up with their little friends at Playgroup. Kayla knows what it's like for people who 'Do it Tough' so appreciates the great support, the table of donated goods and its treats. She sees it as a great opportunity to meet the locals as everyone is friendly and welcoming. Quickly chatting to Rebekah outside as the children began to pack up and head in for parachute time, I discovered that her daughter loves playgroup and Rebekah appreciates the real coffee!! Chelsea's daughter also loves coming to Playgroup and Chelsea thinks the Community Table is a great idea and considers the Playgroup well run with friendly staff.

Following the 'outsiders' inside to watch the final minutes of the session, I discovered the parents waving the parachute up and down as the children scrambled about under it or ran in and out, giggling and having great fun. Then it was Em, out the front, music playing behind her on the big TV, bouncing up and down like a rabbit, as she led the young ones in the singing, dancing, percussion playing and finger plays.

Nostalgia bit deep! Such a special time with the Littlies!! L.L.

Snippets. By L.L.

Playgroup at Williamstown Primary School.

The Independent Playgroup held at the Williamstown Primary School on a Monday is closing down. The children, and their parents, have enjoyed their time together but with many of the children heading to Pre-school and no-one volunteering to lead the playgroup next year, its time is sadly over.

However, there is another Playgroup in the town at the Uniting Church Hall. Please read the article on **First Steps in Williamstown** in this Issue of the WillyWag. **However, Play-gym** will still be held in the School Hall on a Wednesday in 2026.

Congratulations to Williamstown Primary School Lego Champions.

WPS Year 6 students have proved, once again, in the Lego World, where they became State Champions in 2022, that they are still a force to be reckoned with! Competing, on Sunday November 16th, against 27 other teams at the First Lego League Tournament at Pultney Grammar School, our WPS group walked away with the overall Championship Award. To gain this award students were involved in - an Innovation Project (presenting an idea to solve a “real world problem”), teamwork, demonstrating the core values, robot design and playing the robot game. Awesome work by the 10 students involved and their coaches – Mrs. Nattrass and Mrs. Dudek.

‘Scone Time’.

On the 18th of November, ‘Scone Time’ attendees were treated to an excellent presentation of Lyn and Glen Venning’s recent caravan trip to Western Australia. As the beautiful photos appeared on the big screen Lyn took us across the Nullarbor and beyond, pointing out many outback oddities and icons, the amazing wildflowers - including the elusive wreath flowers, the massive gold mining Super Pit in Kalgoorlie, the flourishing crops along the roadsides, the Huge ‘Big Tractor’ at Carnamah, the Tall Trees at Walpole and many lovely towns – some big, some small and quaint! Peppered with personal anecdotes and her great sense of humour Lyn had her audience enchanted from the outset. Congratulations and Thanks to Lyn for taking us all on a lovely W.A. holiday on a cold November morning in Williamstown!

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Sandy Creek Uniting Church

DECEMBER

Dec 7th 9.30am Dr David Taplin HC

Dec 14th 7.30pm Rev Brian Polkinghorne

Carols & Nativity followed by supper

Dec 21st 9.30am Dr David Taplin

Wed Dec 24th 7.30pm Christmas Eve
Rev Geoff Graetz

Dec 28th 9.30am Dr David Taplin

JANUARY

Jan 4th 9.30am Rev Geoff Graetz HC

Jan 11th 9.30am Sandy Creek

Jan 17th 10am Williamstown

Jan 25th 9.30am Sandy Creek

We wish all the readers a very blessed Christmas as we celebrate Christ's Birthday with love, hope, peace and joy.

sandycreekuca@gmail.com



Are you finding it's tough in this world at the moment?
We invite you to find love and answers.

Join us at our Williamstown Uniting Church Family:

- Sundays 10am
- Mondays 7pm Life Group
- Tuesday 1pm Bible Study and more

Little Eve Street/Church Street
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Ph Debbie 0417851061

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Advertising Prices: Full Page \$50, Half page \$25, Quarter Page \$15. Colour extra \$20

Requests for free colour email version can be sent to above address

PLEASE NOTE: The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor or The Williamstown Action Group.

St. Peter's Anglican Church

Friday 5th 9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 7th 10am Holy Communion
Friday 12th 9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 14th 4pm Holy Trinity, Lyndoch
Or 10am St Aidan's Church, Tanunda
Wed 17th 7.30pm Lessons & Carols
Holy Trinity, Lyndoch
Friday 19th 9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 21st 10am Holy Communion
Christmas Eve 5.30pm Holy Communion

JANUARY—No Friday Services in January
Sunday 2nd 5.00pm Holy Trinity, Lyndoch
Sunday 11th 10.00am Holy Communion
Sunday 18th 10.00am Holy Trinity, Lyndoch
Sunday 25th 10.00am Holy Communion

All are welcome to join us

Priest Steven de Kleer 85642087
Or Church Warden Pam 0427 246 382



SOUTHERN BAROSSA MEN'S SHED

The Men's Shed is a concept which is growing in popularity and increasing in number in Australia and around the globe. It provides an outlet for men, much in the same way that the backyard shed has in Australian culture over many years.

The Southern Barossa Mens Shed extends a welcome to men from all walks of life to attend our Shed. Without a strict format we foster fellowship and emphasise the importance of men enjoying the activities, feeling a sense of belonging and being part of a relaxed non-pressured group.

We encourage anyone who simply wants to turn up for 'a cuppa' and socialise while others may want to tinker, mend or create in the well equipped workshop. If you are curious to try new things someone is always on hand to help out. Making or repairing furniture or homewares or toys, mending and fixing motors, renovating bicycles, arts and crafts, all examples (but certainly not the limits) of the activities that can be undertaken at the Shed depending on the knowledge and skill-set of the members. Projects and activities are also undertaken which benefit the community. September is Prostate Cancer Awareness month and Member for Barker Tony Pasin is holding the Big Aussie BBQ to raise awareness and funds for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. The Southern Barossa Mens Shed has raised \$526 to contribute to this very important cause. The S.B.M.S. shed is located at the rear of the Wirraminna Care Little Shop of Treasures on Queen Street, Williamstown. Any enquiries relating to the shed, membership or the hire of the meeting room (attached to the workshop) can be directed to Glen Venning on 0409 675 937.

Pioneers Mens Chat

*Thursday 11th December 2025
2.00pm - \$5.00 per person*



Topic

"Jobs we did during our working life"

John W-0466 346 215 or John K 0417 405 080
Venue - RSL/Senior Citizen Hall@Williamstown
Memorial Drive, Williamstown

Williamstown Town

GARAGE SALE

February 7th 2026

Johns' Print Centre Christmas Closure

Close of Business 5pm Monday 22 December 2025
Reopening Monday 5th January 2026

Johns' Print Centre would like to thank you for your continued support and business during the year and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and safe New Year.



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MERRY CHRISTMAS

& Happy New Year

From the Williamstown Action Group



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When Peace Feels Out of Reach

By the time late December rolls around in the Barossa and Gawler, most of us are running on a mix of happiness and fumes. The calendar is full, the weather is warming up, and there is that familiar Christmas rush in the shops and on the roads. It is a beautiful season, and it can also be a tiring one. In the middle of it, we keep hearing the same words. Peace on earth.

It is a line that makes something in us soften. And if we are honest, it can feel a bit out of reach. The world still feels loud and divided. Families can carry tension. Some of us are carrying grief, worry, money stress, or a relationship that feels thin. So maybe the real question is not, "Is peace possible?" but, "What kind of peace are we actually longing for?"

The first Christmas came into a world that knew those same pressures. People were anxious about the future. They were tired of conflict. They were waiting for things to change. And then, in Bethlehem, God did not arrive with force or fanfare. He arrived as a child, in a borrowed space, to an ordinary family, in the middle of human mess. The angels announced peace not because everything was suddenly easy, but because God had come close.

Christians call Jesus the Prince of Peace. Not a fake peace that pretends nothing hurts, but a deep peace that meets us inside what is real. Peace is not the absence of noise. It is the presence of someone trustworthy. Peace with God, so we are not alone. Peace in the heart, where fear does not get the final word.

Here is a small invitation for this week. Take a quiet moment, breathe, and if you are willing, pray simply, "God, please give me your peace." And if you are longing for that kind of peace this Christmas, consider joining a local Christmas gathering, whether on Sunday 21 December or on Christmas Eve/Day somewhere in our region. You do not need church experience. You do not need to have your life sorted. Come as you are. You will find service details in this edition, and every local church would love to welcome you.

May this Christmas bring you more than a moment of calm. May it bring you the peace of a God who has moved toward you in love. Rev. Joshua Scherer, Lead Pastor Transform Uniting Church

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Southern Barossa Coffee & Chat Mornings



A very enjoyable time was enjoyed by all at the Lyndoch Bakery for our catch up last month. Thank you again to the staff for their excellent service.

Our last catch up for the year will be our Christmas lunch at the Monkey Nut Café, Thursday 11th December at 12 noon.

I have to confirm numbers by the first week in December so if you are interested in joining us, please ph Judy on 0413 606 565.

We are always happy to see faces from the Southern Barossa towns which include Lyndoch, Rowland Flat, Williamstown, Rosedale, Sandy Creek and Cockatoo Valley. If you have an hour or two spare, we would love to have you join us.

If you require further information, please contact Judy on 0413 606 565.

LET'S GET SOCIALISING!



COME AND JOIN US AT THE WILLIAMSTOWN COMMUNITY SOCIAL CLUB!

IF YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN PLAYING TABLE TENNIS, PLAYING BOARD GAMES OR CARDS, DOING JIGSAW PUZZLES, SOCIALISING AND HAVING FUN, ENJOY TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS THEN COME AND JOIN US!

WHERE: St Peters Anglican Church Hall George St, Williamstown

WHEN: EACH TUESDAY
1PM TO 4PM COST: \$4.
Contact: Pam 0427 248 382



Barossa 4-Wheel Drive Club

The Barossa 4WD club is a small group of friendly individuals who enjoy exploring this beautiful country of ours together.

We organize both social and holiday trips of various duration where members are free to opt in to a variety of activities.

If you own a 4WD vehicle and are keen to share your time with other like-minded people, come along to one of our monthly meetings and say hello.

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at the Lyndoch Library meeting room at 7.30pm. or send us an email at barossa4wdclub@gmail.com You can also find us on Facebook. Barossa 4WD Club Inc.



Tony Pasin MP
Member for Barker
MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 25 November 2025

PASIN CLAIMS VICTORY AS LABOR FORCED TO DUMP SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION PLAN

Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin MP has declared a victory for regional Australians as the Albanese Labor Government's plan to slash speed limits on country roads collapses under the weight of public pressure.

Mr Pasin, who has led the public and parliamentary fight against the proposal, said the news that "no further work is being undertaken" on the plan is not an example of government leadership - it is a forced retreat.

"Make no mistake - this backdown wasn't voluntary," Mr Pasin said. "This is a victory earned by regional Australians who refused to be punished for Labor's policy failures. Labor didn't walk away because they saw sense; they walked away because we made it impossible for them not to."

Mr Pasin first exposed the proposal in late October, labelling it "lazy, outrageous and economically damaging," warning that cutting speed limits from 100km/h to as low as 70km/h would crush productivity while doing nothing to improve road safety. He repeated those arguments in Parliament highlighting that road conditions - not speed limits - are the true threat to safety on rural roads.

Mr Pasin also exposed what he described as the "backdoor Net Zero agenda" buried in Labor's own Regulatory Impact Analysis, showing that emissions reduction modelling formed a material part of the justification for reducing speed limits.

"Labor tried to dress this up as a road safety reform, but their own documents reveal the truth," Mr Pasin said. "This was about meeting their unrealistic emissions reduction targets on the backs of regional motorists, freight operators and farmers. They just hoped no one would read the fine print."

Mr Pasin said the turning point came when he publicly pressured the Government to extend its rushed consultation period - a demand Labor was ultimately forced to grant after widespread backlash across regional Australia.

Following that extension, South Australian Labor's Transport Minister publicly rejected the proposal, isolating the Federal Government and leaving the Prime Minister with nowhere to go.

"When their own state Labor governments refused to touch it, the writing was on the wall," Mr Pasin said. "Regional Australia stood up. State Labor backed down. And now the Federal Government has been forced to abandon the plan altogether."

Mr Pasin said while today's outcome is a win for regional Australia, it must also be a wake-up call.

Media Contact: Steve Perryman 0428 238 562 steve.perryman@aph.gov.au

Authorised by T Pasin, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green,

Riverview Road, Murray Bridge, South Australia



Tony Pasin MP
Member for Barker

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 25 November 2025 (cont)

“This proposal was being considered to distract from the state of our road network avoid the costs associated with repairing them,” Mr Pasin said. “South Australia alone is facing a \$2 billion road maintenance backlog. That is where the Prime Minister’s focus should be - not on slowing down regional Australians to meet ideological targets.”

Mr Pasin urged residents across Barker to stay alert, warning that “once Labor floats a policy like this, they rarely give up for good.”

“Regional Australians have won this round,” Mr Pasin said. “But I will keep fighting - because if Labor tries to resurrect this plan, or anything like it, they will find me and my community standing in their way.”

Media Contact: Steve Perryman 0428 238 562 steve.perryman@aph.gov.au

Authorised by T Pasin, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge, SA.

Another accolade for the Barossa District Football Club

To follow up with Ethan Gant winning the 2025 Schluter medal (The Association’s best and fairest award), the Club was so excited and proud to see Dyson Sharp drafted to Essendon at pick 13. 18-year-old Dyson is the son of BDFC multi premiership player Darren Sharp and came through our junior football program before being picked up by the Central District Football Club. Last Wednesday night Dyson, Darren and grandparents Rick and Penny attended the draft night in Melbourne. At the same time about a hundred people came together the Club to watch the draft and enjoy a meal and refreshments. It was a tense scene at every selection until pick 13 when the crowd erupted as Dyson was picked up by Essendon.

This was exactly what he was hoping for as he has been a staunch supporter of Essendon from when he was old enough to hold a footy! The Club congratulates Dyson on such a massive achievement and wishes him all the best in his future career.

Simon Carpenter

President,

Barossa District Football Club



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Christmas Carols!

Wednesday 17th December

6pm Sausage Sizzle & Drinks for sale

7pm Carols

**Williamstown Soldier's
Memorial Hall**

Queen St, Williamstown

Raffle from Christmas Fair to be drawn

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