



Southern Gateway to the Barossa

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

Issue 547

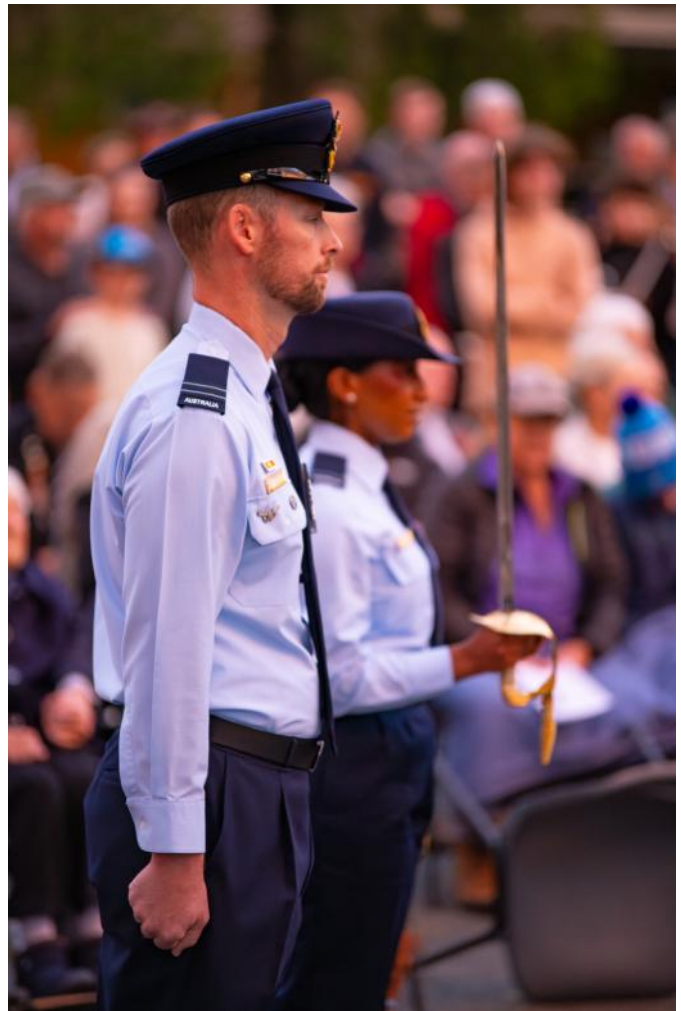
May

2026

*Happy Mother's
Day*



Anzac Day 2026



Images of the 2026 Anzac Day Ceremony held in Williamstown
Provided by
Robyn Dennard

Thankyou to all those who contributed to and attended this years Service.

“Lest we forget”



Anzac Day 2026

This year the weather turned on its best as the community came together to honour our Anzacs. We focused this service on Families and Women in service. Emma Shields and Ava Dudek from Williamstown Primary recounted Melva Guyatt's (nee Fromm) life story, while St Jakobi students — Charlotte Bell, Olivia Harris, and Austen Gent—read aloud letters from World War I. Their presentation was marked by both pride and precision. Southern Barossa Scouts contributed by presenting wreaths to be laid by family members of lost and respected servicemen and women. Craig MacDonald piped to start the service, Leading Seaman Joanne Barton shared the ODE, CFS Captain Chris Balche raised the flag, as the RAAF catafalque party stood tall.

Appreciation goes out to everyone who assisted with early preparations—these commemorations truly depend on community involvement. Both local schools are keen to be actively involved in Remembrance Day also, helping to preserve respect for service personnel and their families for future generations.

Women in the Defence Force: WW1 saw 3000 women in Service most of these served O/S, WW2 70,000 Women served mostly on Australian shores taking on the roles of the 1 million men that went O/S, today over 22% of service personnel are women. [Lieutenant General Susan Coyle](#) is the highest ranking woman in the Australian Defence Force, appointed in April 2026 as the first female Chief of Army. She will take command in July 2026, becoming the first woman to lead any service branch in the Australian military's 125-year history.

Robyn Dennard

“Lest we forget”

Sandy Creek Uniting Church

MAY

3rd 9.30am Dr David Taplin HC

10th 9.30am Mr Darrel Schutz
Mother's Day

17th 9.30am Rev Geoff Graetz

24th 9.30am Pentecost
Dr David Taplin

31st 9.30am To Be Confirmed

sandycreekuca@gmail.com

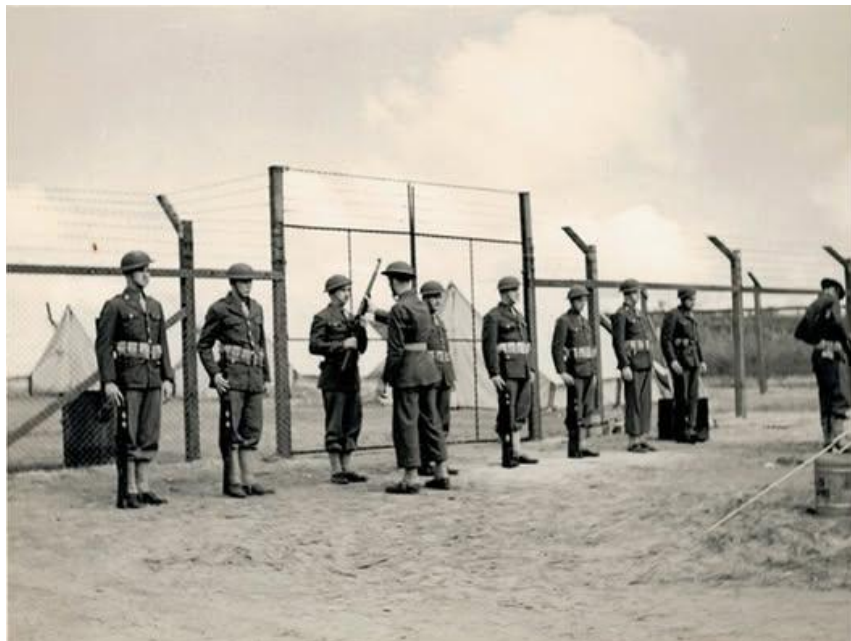
Sandy Creek Uniting Church

162 Williamstown Rd, Cockatoo Valley,
Regular Sunday Services are held at the Church at 9.30am
Followed by a time of fellowship and morning tea
All welcome to attend.

Sandy Creek Uniting Church

Bush Chapel

Situated alongside the Church and is available
To all for private, quiet contemplation,
Or can be booked for Function, Weddings,
Baptisms, Funerals and other celebrations



WW2 US Army Camp at Sandy Creek, housing up to as many as 10,000 servicemen, and dances being held 7 days a week in Gawler. Located 1 kilometre from Sandy Creek Hotel. In 1944 the camp held Italian POW's captured in North Africa. Pic from Gawler History Team.

stellar

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📍 Southern Barossa

Kate Thorsteinsen - Hypnotherapy

My name is Kate, and I'm a local from Mt Crawford where I've lived most of my life.

In 2018, as an adjunct to my nursing career, I did a year-long course in Clinical Hypnotherapy through the South Australian Society of Hypnosis. Best thing I've ever done!

Hypnotherapy has proven to help with many health issues including anxiety, sleep, pain and phobias to name only a few.

If there's something you'd like to try hypnotherapy for, give me a call to book an appointment.

Consulting in Williamstown at the Physio rooms.

Kate: 0402 046 370





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Progress

For over five hundred years a pair of gum trees stood together, very old but still in their prime. They heard the soft footsteps of the native man on the dusty ground below and much later the crack of the Overlander's whip. Later the slow plodding of the teamster's bullocks and creaking drays making their way along the track, the sharp tap of the stone mason's chisel as Thomas Adam's Hotel was built, the ringing hammer on iron from Samuel Hattam's blacksmith forge and the swish of horses' tails as they waited patiently in the shade for the blacksmith's attention, the lusty singing of the Foresters on parade along the dirt road through the town. They heard the chugging of the early jalopy as it bumped its way uneasily along the early road. Then the sound of excited young men as they prepared themselves for adventure on the other side of the world in a war, they didn't understand, and later some of them came home. The old trees witnessed the opening of a magnificent building to commemorate their service, and the jalopies went faster and the track got wider and then another lot of young men and women left for another war that was not of their making and again, some of them came home.

But then the blacksmith's forge became a shop, and the hotel grew bigger and the Foresters ceased to sing on parade, and the cars got faster and the road got wider and the powers-that-be said, "This will never do, those old trees have got to go". So, it was decided that the two old red gum trees, one big and the other very big, that were a menace to traffic, had to be removed. No one heard their silence screams as the saw bit into their timber, and they were felled with pinpoint precision, chopped up and carted away, their great stumps removed, the ground smoothed over and nothing remained.

They are gone now. Like the soft sound of the black man's feet and the crack of the Overlander's whip, and the plodding bullocks and creaking drays, the mason's chisel and the ring of the blacksmith's hammer and the chugging jalopy and the young men's voices. Gone. All gone forever.

Denise Patterson

Member of the Williamstown History Society – Celebrating History Month



Anzac Day 2026 (cont)



Rotating Top R to L : Corporal Craig Tanti, Natalie Tanti and boys (L) Dustin and (R) Casey.
FLTLT Clarence Harre
Williamstown Primary School Students
Nate LeBrun, Rory Cameron, Emma Shields and Ava Dudek.
St Jakobi School Students -
Charlotte Bell, Olivia Harris, Austen Gent and Owain Stephenson.
Val. Paul and Pam Grigg.
Members of the RAAF Catafalque Party

Local Native Plant Sale

Saturday 6th
& Sunday 7th

June
10am-2pm

Bursaria spinosa
Christmas Bush

Most tube stock plants \$2.50

250 plant species

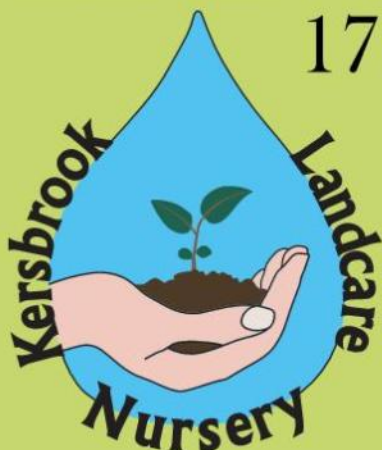
176 South Para Road, Williamstown

More info and species list @

kersbrook.landcaregroup.org.au

Email: klg.nursery@landcaregroup.org.au

Phone: 0431 989 397



Editor's Note

The Williamstown Action Group are at a serious and real turning point. We are a small group of volunteers who invest their time and energy in providing Community events and projects within the community. The youngest member is nearing 50 and the majority in their 60's or older. We seriously need to reconsider if keeping the WAG's (as affectionately known), is viable to keep operating.

Our next meeting is May 4th, upstairs in the Soldier's Memorial Hall at 7pm. Please come along and volunteer or send in an apology to wwwagtail@gmail.com

Maybe there is another group in the community who would like to take over the Christmas Fair, The Christmas Carols, The Town Garage Sale etc.

Hi, I'm Kristal, a local resident of 40 years (yikes!) and a photographer and storyteller with a love for capturing the people and moments that make Williamstown so special.

Recently, I've been creating short community story videos that shine a light on the quieter, meaningful things happening around us. From local initiatives and small businesses, to individuals making a genuine impact.

These are the stories that bring people together, spark connection, and remind us of the good that exists right here in our community.

I offer a small number of these features free of charge for people or projects that are giving back or creating positive change. You may have seen some posted in the community Facebook page.

Alongside this, I also work with local businesses, creatives, and families to capture thoughtful, natural photo and video content, whether for branding, storytelling, or preserving a moment in time.

If you have a story to share, know someone doing something special, or feel called to create something meaningful of your own, I'd love to connect.

Email: hello@makersdaughter.com.au

Instagram: [@makersdaughter_](https://www.instagram.com/makersdaughter_)

website: www.makersdaughter.com.au

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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
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

**Order's taken NOW for
Mother's Day
Sunday 10th May**



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B A
L A
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FOR THE
T FOR MUM?

U'LL BE SURPRISED
HAVE IN STORE!

LITTLE TREASURES
TRULY SPECIAL

G HERE SHE'LL LOVE.

R O S S A
N D S C A P E
P P L I E S

Fuel Crisis Exposes PM's Lack of Leadership

Make no mistake, Australia is in the grip of a fuel crisis.

And in a crisis Australians expect leadership.

Instead, what they have seen over recent weeks is delay, confusion and a Prime Minister slow to act.

I am hearing it firsthand, at field days and local shows, in my day-to-day work across the electorate, on the phone and in the hundreds of emails that are sent to me daily.

Farmers are struggling to get the fuel they need and the number of petrol stations running dry remains high. But supply is only half of the problem. As fuel prices surge, profit margins disappear for businesses and families are under even more pressure as they try to make ends meet.

Thankfully, Australian families and small businesses will now pay less for fuel than they otherwise would have because the Prime Minister was forced to adopt the opposition's proposal to cut fuel

taxes and the heavy vehicle road user charge.

That is overdue relief, but I am concerned that without proper management any savings will be evaporated away by yet higher prices.

This situation has been made worse by a Prime Minister who spent the first two weeks of this crisis denying its existence and the last four weeks confusing Australians by sending them mixed messages.

Then last week spending \$20 million of your money for an advertising campaign telling you to take the roof racks off your car to save fuel, while he burned 300,000 litres of fuel jetting across Asia for meetings he could have had via Zoom.

I had hoped that the Prime Minister's address to the nation would act as a circuit breaker, a reset if you like. But instead, the Prime Minister merely repeated his stale talking points.

Weeks on, the fundamental questions remain unanswered.

If supply has improved, as the government suggests, why are hundreds of service stations still out of fuel?

What is the plan to ensure fuel gets to where it is needed?

What supports will be available to households and businesses unable to cope with the fuel price shock?



And will the government rule out heavy handed mandates?

In the absence of clear answers to these important questions, mixed messages about how Australians should go about their daily lives serves only to add to the sense of anxiety and concerns being experienced by Australians.

Six weeks into this crisis and I am no clearer on how it will be managed but it has reinforced something I have always believed namely, that as a nation we must unlock the full potential of our natural resources. We need to fast-track exploration and resource projects across the country.

We need to drill and dig to ensure a nation as energy rich as ours never faces another energy crisis like this again.

That course of action will require strong and decisive leadership but if the last six weeks is anything to go by, we'll probably need a change of government first.



TONY PASIN MP

LIBERAL MEMBER FOR BARKER

📍 Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253

☎ 85311 2466 ✉ tony.pasin.mp@aph.gov.au

📘 TonyPasinMP

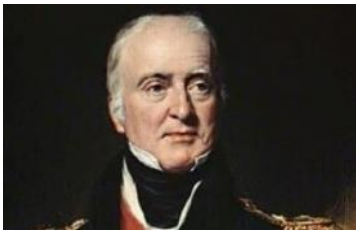
Authorised by Tony Pasin MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Shop 5, Murray Bridge Green, Riverview Road, Murray Bridge SA 5253



History Month – May 2026

Ingrid from Red Gum Retreat at 68 Queen St will have 5 Red Gum Series presentations - each starting at 10:00am. Bookings are strictly limited and can be made through Eventbrite

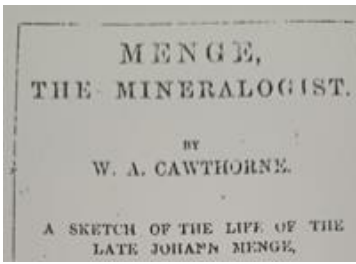
1 May - **Pulteney, Bellerophon, George Pulteney Malcolm, Borders**



Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm (1768-1838) By Samuel Lane, National Galleries of Scotland, Ref. PG2050

This particular set is in the period before colonisation and does have a strong connection – through Malcolm Creek, and the development of the wool industry at Mount Crawford

8 May - **Menge, Mengetown and mineral wealth around Williamstown**



Johannes Menge had identified Cornflower Hill (near Mount Crawford) in his early explorations, perhaps as early as 1839, and he ended up having a scratching around for "diamonds"

15 May - **Joint Stock Cattle Company and a Tribute to Robert Rankine**



State Records

The Joint Stock Cattle Company was formed in 1838 as a very early enterprise in the infant colony - Mt Barker, Bull Creek with some stock later at Mt Crawford. Robert Rankine was employed by the Joint Stock Cattle Company, and after he left the company pursued his pastoral ventures at Mount Crawford, not long after James Coutts Crawford had a camp for his recently overlanded sheep.

Also included in this presentation will be the connections with William Coulthard and other Scottish entities and a Tribute to Robert Rankine.

22 May - **Beautiful Lyndoch Valley - Beau Ideal 1837 - 1857**



State Records

The southern and western portions of the Lyndoch Valley are a mystery, come along and discover interesting aspects of this area including the location of Yatta and a story of a ride in the country to Yatta in 1842

29 May - **Lost Barossa - Barossa Special Survey and Williamstown**



Land Titles Office

The Barossa Special Survey has been long overlooked and almost forgotten. Come along and discover this important part of the State's pastoral history and how Williamstown is connected. Included in this topic will be a session on William Oliver Malcolm and the introduction of sheep into South Australia

If you want to have a private session for your group, call Ingrid on 0408 406 370



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
or contact Norma 0408 834 450
or Peter 0458 202 004.

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



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Sunday mornings weekly - Join us at 10am for our inspiring church service.

First Steps Playgroup Monday 9:30-11am
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St. Peter's Anglican Church

MAY is the month dedicated to Chaplaincy

1st Friday 9.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday 10am Holy Communion

8th Friday 9.30am Holy Communion

10th Sunday 10am Holy Communion

17th Sunday 10am Holy Communion

24th Sunday 10am Holy Communion

24th Friday 9.30am Holy Communion

at Holy Trinity Church, Lyndoch

31st Sunday 10am Patronal Festival,

At Holy Trinity Church, Lyndoch

All are welcome to join us

Priest Steven de Kleer 85642087

Or Church Warden Pam 0427 246 382



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FIRST STEPS PLAYGROUP
 WILLIAMSTOWN
 TERM 2 THEMES

27/4 - WEEK 1



Sports

Move, play & have fun!

4/5 - WEEK 2



Mother's Day

Celebrating love, kindness & special people

11/5 - WEEK 3



Reptiles

Slither, crawl & explore the wild!

18/5 - WEEK 4



All Things Red

Bright, bold & full of energy!

25/5 - WEEK 5



SpongeBob

Under the sea fun & imagination!

1/6 - WEEK 6



At The Movies

Lights, camera, action!

8/6 - WEEK 7



Craft Mashup

Create, build & get messy!

15/6 - WEEK 8



At The Beach

Sun, sand & seaside vibes

22/6 - WEEK 9



In The Clouds

Dream big & float away

29/6 - WEEK 10



In The Forest

Nature adventures await!



**FIGJAM
 EXCAVATIONS**

PHONE ASH :0437395757

Booking Date:

Booking Time:

Trenching

Small Earth Moving

Post hole

Landscape Preparation

Site Clean Up

Tight-access

Barossa Valley and surrounding Area

We are pleased to share that **The Nest Tutoring** agency is open for clients in Williamstown! With many years of experience guiding students across all levels, including right through SACE and IB, we bring both expertise and insight to support learners of all ages and abilities. We understand curriculum expectations, assessment demands, and the strategies that help students achieve their best outcomes. Our tutors are dedicated to creating a supportive, engaging environment where learners feel encouraged to ask questions, think critically, and develop lifelong academic skills.

At **The Nest Tutoring**, we believe that everyone learns differently, which is why we provide truly personalised tutoring designed to meet the unique needs of each learner. Our approach focuses on building not only skills, but also deep knowledge and understanding in both Maths and English. Whether a student needs support to keep up, aims to excel, or simply wants to grow in confidence, our tailored sessions adapt to their pace, goals, and learning style. We, unlike other agencies, base our learning on face-to-face interaction rather than formulaic worksheets or digital programmes.

Based in lovely Williamstown in the beautiful Barossa, **The Nest Tutoring** operates from its own welcoming premises, providing a calm and focused space for learning. Here, students can step away from distractions and fully engage with their studies in a professional yet friendly setting.

At **The Nest Tutoring**, we are committed to helping every student reach their potential through high-quality, individualised support that makes a lasting difference. If you would like more information as to how we can support your learning, then please email thenesttutoring4@gmail.com or call 0426285160.





Pioneers Mens Chat

Thursday 14th May 2026

2.00pm - \$5.00 per person

Topic

"Cars we drove in our youth"

John W-0466 346 215 or John K 0417 405 080

Venue - RSL/Senior Citizen Hall@Williamstown

Memorial Drive, Williamstown



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. It's a happy place.

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 skillset of the members

We encourage anyone who wants 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 skillset of the members.

We emphasise that the workshop is not the thing for all men, some may simply want a cuppa and a chat in our meeting room (with kitchen) and we encourage that. In fact, when that bell rings its coffee/tea/bikky break which is one of our most important functions but just be warned of all the high-minded banter that takes place (not). By the way, the bell ringer has the most onerous task in the place.

Projects and activities are also undertaken which benefit the community.

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.



Glen: "Did it move or was that you Mike ?"



**Happy
Mother's Day!**

*to the dad who stepped in
with love and care, showing
what it truly means to be a
parent.*

Happy Mothers Day

**to ALL the MOTHERS out
there whether you are a
Past, Present or
Soon To be Moms.
May your day be filled
with love,
joy and laughter..**






Mount Pleasant Chatty Café

You're invited!

Join us every **Friday*** for a chat, bite to eat and a variety of fun activities. Bring your friends or come along and make new ones.

Location: Mount Pleasant Library (130-132 Melrose St, Mount Pleasant SA 5235)

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm **Phone:** 08 8562 8688

Website: lutherancare.org.au/community-connections/

*This program runs during the school term.

Brought to you by:




Wirraminna care

The third Tuesday every month

May 19th 2026
10 – 11.30am RSL HALL
Williamstown

'Scone Time'
\$5.00



Time for a scone, (with jam and cream or savoury)
Plus..an endless cuppa tea or coffee

Thank you Lucy for your journey into Floristry. We wish you all the very best for whatever the future has in store for you

This month Lyn presents
"Our journey into New Zealand"



- *Information – you may like to know –*
- *Contact My Aged Care?*
 - *Help with something else?*
 - * or just some one to share a cuppa with or meet new people in the town?**

Door prize
EVERYONE WELCOME

Sponsored by Wirraminna Care Inc

Car Boot Sale

SANDY CREEK UNITING CHURCH

Saturday May 2nd 2026 Starts 8:00 a.m.

**Adjacent to the Church,
 162 Williamstown Road,
 Cockatoo Valley.**

Pre book your spot for \$10,
 by contacting:-Leslee
 0417863325 Email
sandycreekuca@gmail.com
 Cash Only



Sausage Sizzle



Cool Drinks

DEVONSHIRE MORNING TEA
 proceeds for FRONTIER SERVICES

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 Stall

Proceeds from **CAKE STALL**
 will go to assist the Pastoral Care
 Worker at Sandy Creek Primary School

Buskers The Gawler Two & Friends
 Will entertain on the day. Cash Only



If you would like to advertise, submit a letter or story to the Willy Wagtail
 Email us: wwwagtail@gmail.com or
 Ph Debbie 0417851061
 or write to us and place your entry in the cream Letter Box on the wall on
 the end of
 the Post Office Verandah, Queen Street,
 Williamstown

DEADLINE: 25th of each month
 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.

Barossa Home Maintenance

All home maintenance by a qualified carpenter with over 40 years' experience

Free quotes

Glenn Mostert
Mobile: 0499244718



Southern Barossa Coffee & Chat Mornings



The ladies enjoyed a lovely morning at The General in Williamstown for last month's get together.

Thank you again to the staff for their valuable support.

The May catch up will be at The Table Café in Lyndoch on Thursday 14th May at 10.30am

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

If you require further information, please contact Carolyn on 0411 410 453

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.

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