



Southern Gateway to the Barossa

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

Issue 549 July 2026

The Williamstown and District Historical Society need your help. Back in 2018 we asked the community to Knit or Crochet Poppy's for 100th Anniversary of WW1.

The Board and Net are looking very tired and the Poppy's need to be replaced. If you can help us it would be very much appreciated. We would like them in Red or Purple. Patterns are available. We are looking for about 1,200 Poppy's all up. We need them by the 1st October 2026. Please contact the Society if you can help. Thank you.



Pick a Poppy Pattern

One ball of red 8 ply wool will make a number of poppies. 1 pair 4mm needles (or 3.75mm for a tighter poppy). For the stamen, a scrap of black or green wool (eyelash yarn makes a nice fluffy stamen), or a button will do.

Pattern 1

Poppy of Ryde Easy Plain Knitting

This is the easiest of pattern for absolute beginners.

Easy plain knitting

1 ball Red 8ply wool

1 pair 4mm needles

Optional: 1 ball black fluffy wool for stamen or black button.

Body Cast on 60 stitches

Rows 1-10: Knit

Row 11: knit 2 together across the row (30)

Row 12: To cast off. slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slip stitch over (10)

Leave long tail and thread back through remaining 10 stitches.

Sew it up

Poppy can be made bigger by knitting more than 10 rows.

Pattern 2

Lynn's Easy Ribbed Knit Poppy Pattern

This pattern gives a full ribbed knitted poppy and is an easy pattern for beginners. K = knit. P = purl.

Body Cast on 60 stitches using red wool

Rows 1 - 10: K2 P2

Row 11: K2 together across the row

Row 12: Slip 1, K2 together, pass the slip stitch over.

Break off yarn with long tail and thread back through remaining stitches and pull tight. Join edges with mattress stitch.

Centre Using black or green wool. Cast on 8 stitches and knit a square (approx. 8-10 rows) of stocking stitch (1st row plain, 2nd row purl). Cut yarn leaving a long tail and thread through live stitches as previously. The purl side is the right side. Run a line of running stitch around the outside of the knitted square and ease enough to pull the edges of the square into a round and tuck under.

Stitch the centre tucked side down to body of poppy and overstretch with black yarn.

Alternatively use a black or green button as the centre of your poppy.

Pattern 3

Lynn's Easy Frilly Knitted Poppy

Size 3.5 mm knitting needles (for tighter finish)

Body Cast on 120 stitches.

Rows 1-4: Knit

Row 5: Slip 1 Knit 2 together, pass slip stitch over across the row (40 stitches)

Rows 6-9: Knit

Row 10: Knit 2 together across the row (20 stitches)

Rows 11-14: Knit

Row 15: Knit 2 together across the row (10 stitches)

Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 15 cm.

Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight. Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch seam to an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

Centre Follow instructions for Ribbed Knit pattern.

Pattern 4

Lynn's Easy Crochet Pattern

This pattern gives a full crochet poppy using only one size stitch and is an easy pattern for beginners. Size 3.5 crochet hook (gives a tight finished flower). Ch = chain.

Body Make a slip ring from red wool.

1st round: Ch3, 10 treble crochet into ring. Pull the slip ring tight to close centre of ring and slip stitch in top ch of 3 ch.

2nd round: Ch 3, 1 treble crochet into first stitch 2 treble crochet into each stitch to last stitch, slip stitch in top ch of 3 ch.

3rd round: Ch 3, 2 treble crochet into each stitch, 3 treble crochet into each stitch to last stitch, slip stitch in top ch of 3 ch.

4th round: Ch 3, 1 treble into first stitch, 2 treble into each stitch to last stitch, slip stitch in top ch of 3 ch. Fasten off and sew in ends.

Centre Make slip ring in green wool. Ch 3, 10 treble crochet into ring. Pull end to close centre of ring and slip stitch in top ch of 3 ch. Fasten off and sew in ends. Fasten off leaving a long tail to attach centre to body of poppy.

Using black yarn: join yarn into edge of circle of RS and Ch 1 *1 double crochet into first stitch, 1 ch ... repeat from * to end of round and slip stitch to join. Fasten off leaving a long tail to attach centre to body of poppy.

Sew in ends for body of poppy. The ends for the centre can be sewn in if you wish or hide them behind when you sew on the centre. Using a wool needle thread black tail and invisibly attach the centre to the body of the poppy hiding ends.





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business.

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Hall or Institute

When is a Hall not an Institute or what is the difference between an Institute and a Hall? And why did Williamstown have two Institutes?

First, we must go back into the pages of history to understand what it was all about. In 1856 the South Australian Institutes Act was passed with the idea of promoting general study and learning, but in so many cases throughout the country it was to establish a local library.

This was the case in Williamstown and many of the older folk of the town will well remember the Library Room in the Institute. However, it is all a bit more complicated than that. As far back as 1864 a group of local men were looking for a suitable place to house a library. After Mt Crawford Council built its little Council Chambers it allowed this group to move their books into a limited space.

However, they were of serious intent, and they affiliated themselves with the South Australian Institutes with 15 enrolled members and a booklet of rules and instructions. These groups became known as the Mechanics Institutes Committees (mechanics meaning skilled person) and the buildings they occupied became known as Institutes. The Williamstown group were outgrowing the little Council Hall and looking for support to build their own establishment.

Mr. Alexander Murray stepped in and covered the cost of building premises for their occupation. With a lot of local help and support it became a reality. So, the building we know as Foresters Hall became the Mechanics Institute and Williamstown's first Institute.

However, world events overtook Australia with the First World War, and in 1924 the Mt Crawford Council Hall was transformed into the building we see today. The Institute Committee sold their little building and moved back to the building known today as the District Soldiers Memorial Institute. It then became Williamstown's second Institute, and the Mechanics Institute became the Foresters Hall.

In 1963 time and events brought change and the Group still calling themselves the Institute Committee were dissolved and their books donated to other bodies. The Williamstown Institute became Barossa Council property and was no longer an Institute. Today it still bears the engraved title of District Soldiers Memorial Institute. So even if correctly it is no longer an Institute it's nice to have its old title still up there.

Denise Patterson

Member of the Williamstown and District
History Society



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The cost of meals is subsidised by the government for people registered with My Aged Care, on a Home Care Package or NDIS Package where the provision of meals is approved.

For more information call - Client Services Barossa – 0455 872 267

OR call 1800 854 453, where one of the Meals on Wheels staff can assist you over the phone.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS & DELIVERERS

As our service has expanded, we are seeking volunteers to assist with the delivery of meals, Wednesday fortnightly, with pre-packed orders collected from Tanunda. Volunteers can choose to deliver either fortnightly or monthly on the roster.

If you are interested or require additional information, please contact us on 0455 872 267



Poppy knitting patterns

Patterns kindly provided by the Arnold & District Branch



Knitting pattern 2

Easy ribbed poppy pattern

Colour A - Red
Colour B - Black

Step 1: Body of poppy

- Using colour A cast on 60 stitches
- Rows 1-10 K2, P2 across whole row (for a slightly smaller poppy do 8 rows of rib).
- Row 11 knit 2 stitches together across the row (30 stitches).
- Row 12 slip 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together then pass the slip stitch over...repeat across the whole row (10 stitches).
- Break off yarn with a long tail and thread back through remaining stitches and pull tight. Join edges with mattress stitch.



Step 2: Centre of poppy

- Using colour B cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.
- Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use black button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.
- Add pin to rear of poppy.



Poppy knitting patterns

Patterns kindly provided by the Arnold & District Branch



Knitting pattern 1

Easy garter / knit stitch pattern

Colour A - Red (one ball will make a lot of poppies)
Colour B - Black - (either scrap of wool or black button)

Step 1: Body of poppy

- Using colour A cast on 120 stitches
- Rows 1-4 knit
- Row 5 knit 3 stitches together across the row (40 stitches)
- Rows 6-9 knit
- Row 10 knit 2 stitches together across the row (20 stitches)
- Rows 11-14 knit
- Row 15 knit 2 stitches together across the row (10 stitches)
- Cut yarn leaving a tail of about 20cm
- Thread tail through yarn needle and slip all the remaining live stitches onto the yarn tail and pull tight
- Pull around into a circle and then mattress stitch (or use whatever stitching you normally use) to seam for an invisible seam. Sew in ends.

Step 2: Centre of poppy

- Using colour B cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.
- Coil into a tight spiral and sew base to the centre. Or use black button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy
- Add pin to rear of poppy

Tips

- For the best yarn finish, knit with a Cotton Double Knit (DK yarn) as shown in the pictures.
- The size of needle you use will determine how big the poppy will be, but we recommend 3.5mm or 3.75mm (UK9). If you have different yarn available just use that and the appropriate needle size.
- If you have any problems with any of the techniques in the poppy patterns and you have access to the internet - you will find lots of tutorial videos on YouTube.



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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





The third Tuesday every month

Wirraminna care

July 21 st 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 John Kassebaum and local History group for the very informative presentation on the History of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Park

**This month :- Kate Thorsteinsen RN
Hypnotherapy?**

Understanding the how and why?

* 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

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Local Native Plant Sale

Sunday 5th July

10am-2pm



*Bursaria spinosa
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176 South Para Road, Williamstown

More info and species list @

kersbrook.landcaregroup.org.au

Email: klg.nursery@landcaregroup.org.au

Phone: 0431 989 397



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MEALS ON WHEELS - BAROSSA

**We are seeking volunteers to help with the delivery
of meals fortnightly in Lyndoch & Williamstown.**

If you have spare time, we'd love to have you join us.

CONTACT US: 0455 872 267





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THRIVE BAROSSA IS HOSTING A SERIES OF SAFE, RELAXED, AND JUDGMENT-FREE CONVERSATIONS.

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- SHAPE THE FUTURE 💡🚀 (YOUR IDEAS FUND FUTURE YOUTH EVENTS!)
- OPEN TO PARENTS AND CARERS

A

WILLIAMSTOWN CATCH-UP:

DATE: MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026

TIME: 4.30 TO 6 PM (AGES 10-25)

LOCATION: ST PETER'S CHURCH HALL,
CNR CHURCH
& GEORGE ST, WILLIAMSTOWN



Alcohol and Drug Foundation



CONTACT/INFO:

- PH BILL 0438083559 EMAIL BILLGRANSBURY1@GMAIL.COM
- YOUTH BAROSSA FACEBOOK

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Williamstown



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- 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



St. Peter's Anglican Church

Friday 3rd 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 5th 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 12th 10am Holy Communion

Friday 17th 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th 10am Morning Prayer
Holy Trinity, Lyndoch

Friday 24th 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th 10am Patronal Festival of St Peter
Followed by Morning Tea.
Bring a plate to share.

All are welcome to join us

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

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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 Arms & Ammo Collectors Club Inc SSAA | 1st Thurs monthly (except Jan) 7pm Williamstown RSL Hall Gold Coin Donation. Contact Jo: 0422 889 866 |
| 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 Nursery (Williamstown) | Volunteers Wednesday 8.30am—4pm. Public Plant Sales first weekend of each winter month 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 –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 |



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. 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). 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.

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.

Sandy Creek Uniting Church

5th 9.30am Rev Geoff Graetz HC
 12th 9.30am Mr Darrel Schutz
 19th 9.30am Dr David Taplin/
 Anna Wilson Disability Co-ordinator
 26th 9.30am Rev Geoff Graetz
 Aug 2nd 9.30 Rev Brian Polkinghorne HC

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



LET'S GET SOCIALISING!



**COME AND JOIN US AT THE WILLIAMSTOWN
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 IF YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN PLAYING
 TABLE TENNIS, PLAYING BOARD GAMES OR
 CARDS, DOING JIGSAW PUZZLES,
 SOCIALISING AND HAVING FUN, ENJOY
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 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



Southern Barossa Coffee & Chat Mornings

The ladies enjoyed a lovely morning at Violets Pantry in Williamstown in June.

They also celebrated dear Chris Fields 96th Birthday. Chris has been a regular since this monthly catch-up started many years ago. Chris is a truly remarkable lady who does much for charity. She takes her knitting to all our catch-ups so that she can continue making her dolls for the Children's Hospitals etc. You are a true legend Chirs!

The catch up for July will be at Monkey Nut Cafein Lyndoch at 10.30am Thurs 9th July.

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.

Please contact Carolyn on 0411 410 453 for further information



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.



Rocky Paddock Campground
Mt Crawford - SAFETY CLOSURE



Rocky Paddock Campground will be closed for the remainder of the 2026 camping season to enable urgent safety works.

The plantation pine trees are now over 95 years old and increasingly susceptible to severe weather, with recent failures creating an unpredictable risk to visitors. By comparison, most plantation pine in the Mount Lofty Ranges is under 40 years of age. ForestrySA will be removing these ageing trees and undertaking a full site renewal to ensure the campground can continue to be enjoyed safely into the future.

We recognise the strong community connection to Rocky Paddock and are committed to re-establishing it as a high-quality, family-friendly camping destination.

- ✓ All bookings will be contacted directly
- ✓ Refunds processed within 72 hours
- ✓ School groups will be rescheduled

Thank you for your understanding while we undertake these important works.

Further Information: <https://www.forestrysa.com.au/rocky-paddock-closure-faq>



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Booking Date:

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