

THE LOCAL RAG

RIVERTON COMMUNITY

JUNE 2023

Riverton District Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Centenary

Riverton and the wider community are lucky to have a hospital facility still operational with a resident doctor managing patients in both the hospital and the senior citizens' home, as well as seeing many patients through the consulting rooms located on the hospital grounds.

This year the hospital will celebrate its' centenary event at the Riverton Community Hall on Sunday 9th of July.

The first sod of soil for the Riverton Hospital was turned on July 18 1922 and later that year the Foundation Stone was laid. The contractors made good headway and the hospital was officially opened by Lady Bridges, wife of the Governor of South Australia on June 21 1923.

Additions to the original 12 bed facility over the last 100 years have been many.

1928 - A Maternity Wing with 8 beds

1930 - An all weather sleepout attached to the Nurses Home

1938 - An extension on the eastern end to house the Xray unit

1956 – A nurses Home, built as a memorial to the men & women who made the supreme sacrifice during World War II

1960's – Men's & Ladies' Wards extended & private rooms refurbished

1972 – Major additions & refurbishments were carried out. These included six private rooms with shared ensuites, both major & minor Operating Theatres, Xray unit,

Recovery Room, Labour Ward & Nursery, Kitchen, enlarged Staff Dining Room and Lecture Room for the nurses. These additions brought the bed capacity to 39.

1978 – Front steps removed to make Ambulance patient access much easier

1980 – Administration Block & Board room

1983 – Plans drawn up for a Day Care Centre & amenities for visiting physiotherapist & dentist. Facilities opened in 1986.

Doctor's Consulting Room built

2023 – Today the hospital has 29 beds, 8 acute care, 21 residents and accident & emergency.

Thanks to Vicki Nurse, volunteer at Riverton History Centre for researching this information.



Dr George Mutze, Matron Carmel McInerney & Dr Brian McNamara

RIVERTON & DISTRICTS SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



The Riverton Hospital is celebrating it's Centenary
on

Sunday 9th July from 1.30 – 3.30 pm
in the Riverton Community Hall.

Photographic memorabilia will be on display
during the afternoon and afternoon tea, tea and
coffee will be provided.

Past and present staff members and the general public
are invited to attend to acknowledge and celebrate the
100-year anniversary of our Hospital.

Limited tours of the Hospital will be available between
3 and 4pm.



COMMUNITY HALL UPGRADE



Rate payers will be pleased to learn that the cost of the planned upgrade of the Riverton Community Hall will be less than anticipated. The original costing for repairs of \$1 000 000 is now estimated to be just over \$400 000, following engineering reports by Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council.

The scaffolding will remain in place due to the front façade being in danger of collapsing onto the footpath and road. Riverton Community Hall Committee chair, Gary Davis, said that,

although the scaffolding is both an eyesore and inconvenience due to the footpath being blocked off, safety is paramount.

GET BEHIND THE WHEEL

We are committed to serving our community and wider districts, but are always looking for new recruits to expand our team of volunteers. With the ability to commit to volunteer hours that suit your lifestyle, regular training opportunities and a friendly and supportive crew, this is the ideal volunteer role to give back to your community.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
Duane Dutton - Riverton VTL - 0409 430 044

JOIN US!

RIVERTON COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE

The Riverton Community Hall Options Report was presented to Council at its meeting on Wednesday 15 March 2023. Council have received the Report and have requested 2 things:

- Costing estimates are developed for Options A and C of the Report.
- Cost estimates are developed for the structural works that need to be undertaken to shore up the building.

Council do not want to move further with the project until they have a better understanding on how much it will cost to fix the building as well as refurbish it as proposed. Once they have the costs, they'll determine what they want to do with the building.

OPTION A PROPOSED

- Fully enclosing the veranda to connect the Main Hall, Supper Room / Kitchen and exterior toilets
- Refurbishing the exterior toilets
- Replacing the interior toilets adjacent to the bar with an access WC and shower.

It involves refurbishing the existing internal and external WCs, while retaining their current locations, and maintaining the existing footprint of the Main Hall.

OPTION C PROPOSED

- Partially enclosing the veranda to connect the Main Hall and the Supper Room / Kitchen
 - Converting the existing toilets adjacent to the Bar into three new unisex ambulant toilets
 - Converting the existing store adjacent to the bar into an access toilet and shower
 - Refurbishing the existing unisex ambulant toilets adjacent to the Kitchen
- This option retains the Main Hall footprint and the existing toilet locations but involves a more extensive refurbishment of the internal toilets than Option A, and proposes that the existing storeroom adjacent to the Bar is converted to an access toilet.

For more information and updates view the CGVC Meeting Agendas available on the council website
www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au

Hats off to the ANZACs ... and a town.

You could easily pass through Riverton, a picturesque settlement about 100km north of Adelaide, nestled next to the Gilbert River and the once thriving railway line to the copper mines at Burra, without taking much notice. Like many South Australian towns, there are some historic buildings parked behind lines of exotic trees, a pretty oval, and golf course, but also a feeling that this town has seen better days. However, if you take a closer look, you will notice that this country town is as neat as a pin, all street gardens are well-tended, and there are annuals in 'Holy Acre' inscribed plant boxes up and down the concourse. There is something happening here. A community. People with love and civic pride working co-operatively. And doing it for others to enjoy.



If you had been driving through on Sunday April 23rd, you might have noticed clusters of people around tables and chairs and bikes in their lovely Scholz Park. A number of locals, together with the Riverton RSL, had organised a community event, combining a walk or cycle along the Rattler Trail - which starts (or ends) in this town - with a tribute to our ANZACs.

After event co-ordinator, Sid Wrangles, had paid tribute to the members of the Australian Cycling Corps, formed in Egypt in 1916 during World War I, there was a short commemoration ceremony and a minute's silence.

Following the 'Ride to Remember the ANZACs' there were games for the young ones, a smithy working the forges in their museum and a generous Community BBQ.



On a closer look you might have noticed quite a few of the attendees were wearing 'Sprocket Rocket' hi-vis jerseys. This social cycling and coffee-ing club was started in the Barossa Valley 3 years ago, and maybe surprisingly, and certainly most fortunately, Riverton locals, Sid and Cath Wrangles, were formative members. They make a weekly 45-minute car trip to Tanunda to cycle and coffee and join in.

It wasn't long before Cath and Sid enticed Riverton friends, Ross and Jill Kemp, Neil Rogers, Tracey and Brian Wostikow, Magda and Garry Davies (a little further away) and Leon and Di Schwarz to 'Sprocket Rocket' as well. Leon and Di were also a big part of the organisational team for this 'Ride to Remember' day.





I think it's probably now fair to say that for the Barossians in the Sprocket Rockets Club, Riverton feels like a second home. This little town, which was once just a chance to slow down along the Barrier Highway, has a beating heart. It's got great pubs, wonderful shops, and café - The Emporium. It has character and exudes friendliness.

Do yourself a favour and watch out for 'Ride to Remember the ANZACs' day in Scholz Park next year. And hats off to all the people who sacrificed lives to make this country free and great – and to people in small towns who put others first to create and stimulate friendship and love. We will be back!

Andy Thurlow (Tanunda) 24/4/23



Walara Gilbert Valley Significant Development Launched

The Walara Board met at Walara Gilbert Valley Thursday afternoon 25 May 2023 as part of their monthly meetings and connection with local community.

Chair, Malcolm May, said it was great to meet residents and staff at the Home and

pleasing to get positive feedback on the seamless integration of Gilbert Valley with Walara.

Malcolm said that he also observed a very positive feeling with all present which is testament to the great work of staff in supporting residents in their own home.

During the visit Malcolm was pleased to announce the \$3.53m redevelopment of the site funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. The funding was an increase on the \$1.894m previously announced in late 2021.

Board Member and local resident, Matthew Greenslade, said he was so proud of the work undertaken, lead by Rob Veitch, to secure the funding which will see the upgrading of existing rooms, expanding of 5 existing ensuites, widening of doorways and construction of 4 additional rooms.

Malcolm, Matthew and Walara Gilbert Valley Director of Care, Monica Ostigh, Hodgkinsons Architect, Dario Salvatore, and Juncken Builders, Jason Billing, participated in launching the redevelopment that afternoon.



Mud kitchen exploration

The kindy children have been exploring our fantastic mud kitchen areas, but with the increasing popularity, we are now looking for some more resources.

If anyone has any old saucepans, kitchen utensils, plates, bowls, spoons, baking trays that they would like to donate, we could provide them a lovely home here at Riverton Kindergarten.

The children benefit greatly from having some real-life equipment that they can bake and cook with in our mud kitchens.

All donations very welcome!

*Mel Sinkinson
Acting Preschool Director*



RPS Happenings

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT RPS - lots of things.

At the end of last term SRC held a McDonald's theme, wear red/yellow casual day, with the proceeds going to Ronald McDonald House. We contacted Ronald McDonald House to see what items they needed the most and made up a couple of gift boxes.



National Walk to School Day occurs every year and this year we had our very own 'walking school bus', complete with steering wheel/bus tyres and the school logo on the side. Students met at the corner of Moorhouse Terrace and Swinden Street, along with staff and some eager parents, to walk to school.



Biggest Morning Tea has been one of those yearly fundraisers that we hope brings the community together with the school.

On the Thursday students exchanged a gold coin donation for a cupcake (made by staff) but, due to the inclement weather, our friends, residents of Gilbert Valley Senior Citizens Homes, were unable to join us.

Friday saw our stall set up in the main street in front of Riverton Hardware. It is



always lovely for our students and staff to interact with the community on these mornings.

We set a target of \$1000, knowing the rise in the cost of living has affected many, but we are still blown away with the fact that we have surpassed that amount and at this stage have raised over \$1,600 for 2023. Thank you to all involved, especially the staff of RPS who always come up with the goodies for the day.



Another special tradition for our School Captains is to lay the wreath on behalf of RPS at the Riverton RSL ANZAC Dawn Service each year. Thank you to Ed Somerville and Georgia Dixon for doing this on our behalf.



R&DHS Happenings

Our School Leaders represented RDHS at the Dawn Service on ANZAC Day, during the holidays. It is always an important reminder about how much all of us owe to

the men and women who gave their lives so we could all live in the Australia we know today.

While interviews with parents of current students were happening, we held an 'Open Evening', for all parents of prospective and existing students to come along and look at our programs and facilities.

On Monday 8 May, we held a huge catering event at RDHS, making 230 meals for the Bikes SA cyclists who rode from the Barossa to Riverton on their journey North. We made Minestrone Soup for Entree, Teriyaki Chicken for Main Course and Blueberry cake with cream for dessert plus many different options for the various dietary requirements. Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12 students were involved in various roles.

The RDHS WRITE NOW Competition winners attended the WRITE NOW Festival on Monday 15 May in Adelaide. The 9 students from grades 7-10 headed to Adelaide and immersed themselves in a day of words, language and literature.

Twenty-six year 10 students enjoyed a successful camp in the city with lots of educational experiences relating to future career options. These included visits to Adelaide Zoo, Regency campus of TAFE, MOD – the Museum of Discovery, City West campus of the University of South Australia, a challenge finding their way around the city and the Careers Expo at Wayville Showgrounds.

The first three weeks of term 2 has seen a flurry of activity on the RDHS farm. The harvest produced a bumper crop of wine grapes. The livestock continues to be popular with a huge number of students choosing to be involved with the preparation of the sheep and cattle for the Royal Show. Year 11 students have been busy conducting field trials with various forage crops under irrigation this term. Year 9 students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the dairy calves which form an integral part of the 'Cows Create Careers' program.

RIVERTON COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2023 AGM

Tuesday, August 1st
7:30pm

**Supper Room, Riverton Town
Hall**

Community Group Reports will be presented at this AGM. New Committee Member nomination forms are available from the Riverton History Centre, Wed, Thurs & Fri 10am-3pm if you are interested in joining the committee.

We aim to:

- Encourage & promote Riverton Community
- Interact with local Council, State & Federal Governments with community issues
- Promote Tourism
- Seek funding opportunities

Your Community, Your Say is important!!

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN
YOUR COMMUNITY**

*For more info call
Cassy Griffiths 0429472534*

Cuzz's Corner

Visiting the modern art museum, a lady turned to an attendant standing nearby and asked, "This, I suppose, is one of those hideous representations you call art?" "No madam," replied the attendant, "That one's called a mirror."

The female patient was taken into the operating theatre heavily sedated, and the surgeon asked her, "Madam, where is your pain right now?" Through her medicated fog she replied, "He's at work."

In drought, Dad and Dave fell on hard times. They decided to go to the local bank to ask for a loan to buy a new pump for their dam. The day they went to the bank there was a raging dust storm. The bank manager said, "I should be able to lend you the money, but I'll need to come out to the farm to have a look around." Dad said, "No need to come out; just look outside half the farm is going past your window."

An elderly woman was sipping on a glass of wine while sitting on the patio with her husband and said, "I love you so much, I don't know how I could ever live without you." Her husband asked, "Is that you or the wine talking?" She replied, "It's me...talking to the wine."

The pastor met with a couple who wanted to get married in his church. When the pastor raised the subject of pre-marital counselling, the two were quick to decline it. "We don't need counselling," the 'bride to be' assured him. "We've both been married several times before."



NOW I'LL TELL YOU MRS JONES

Well how about you Mrs Jones ..
Barking orders for all you are worth.
Your attitude doesn't upset me though -
Actually it fills me with mirth.

I am definitely not after your son's money
And I don't see what it has to do with you.
You may be interested to know, however,
For every dollar of his - I have more than two!

Did you insist when he visited me in the past,
That he should be sure to pay his way,
By making a list of expenses
And settle up at the end of the day?

We do not write a daily invoice
Or leave the beer money in a jar on the fridge.
I don't think he would bother to tell you
Even if we did.

We were going to save this news for later,
For a Christmas surprise in December,
But it gives me great delight to let you know,
We were married in England. in September!

Neale
Copyright 2023

Riverton Community Management Committee

Chairperson - John Glistak

Vice Chairperson -

Secretary - Cassy Griffiths

Treasurer - Ruth Stevens

Public Officer - Jackie Bruce

Committee Members -

Gary Davis, Gaynor Bottcher
& Di Schwarz

Monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month currently in the supper room of the town hall on Torrens Road.

All community members are welcome to attend these meetings as an observer. For more information please contact a committee member.

RCMC would like to acknowledge and thank ValleyTech for ongoing help and support with the publication of

The Local Rag.

THE LOCAL RAG

The Local Rag is produced every other month.

Any articles or information from Community Groups, Local Schools, Sporting Clubs or other points of interest are welcomed.

All articles & information is required by the last Friday of January, March, May, July, September & November.

If you have something you would like to be included contact details are below.

Cassy Griffiths, 0429472534

email -

griffithsag@bigpond.com

Kaye McInerney, 0437990704

email -

jvmkmcinerney@outlook.com

*On behalf of Riverton Community
Management Committee.*

DISCLAIMER

The material contained in "The Local Rag" is by nature, articles submitted by individuals on behalf of themselves, or groups to which they belong. Due to space restrictions, articles may be edited without consultation or altering basic content. The views, thoughts and opinions included in this Newsletter belong solely to their author, and do not necessarily mirror the views and opinions of either the Editors, or the Riverton Community Management Committee.