

# THE LOCAL RAG

RIVERTON COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 2025

## Australia Day Celebrations & Riverton Community Awards

Following a decision by Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council to award one set of awards for the whole council area instead of separate awards for the Northern, Central and Southern zones, Riverton Community Management Committee chose this year, for the first time, to implement local community awards.



Approximately 100 people attended the breakfast and the inaugural presentation of the Riverton Community Awards at the Riverton Recreation Grounds on Australia Day, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January. After a delicious breakfast catered for by Gilbert Valley Cricket Club, formalities began with Riley McInerney, CGVC Young Citizen of the Year 2024 (and also coordinator of the breakfast), raising the flag.

MC for the day was Vice Chairperson of Riverton Community Management Committee, Gary Davis. Gary introduced guest Speaker, Scott Haines, who represented CFS. Scott spoke about his personal journey in life which involved various career changes before becoming a member of CFS, both as a volunteer and now as an employee. He emphasised the benefits and rewards of volunteering in the local community.

Councillor, Brian Koch, officiated at the presentation of the awards.



Brian & Margaret Prime were the well deserving recipients of the Community Heroes/Champions award. Brian & Margaret have for the last 30 years, since they retired to live in Riverton, been extremely active volunteers in the community. This include Meals on Wheels, Scholz Park, Red Cross, visiting residents at both Riverton and District Memorial Hospital and Gilbert Valley Homes, Riverton Voluntary Garden Group and volunteering and providing valued assistance in many other groups and clubs in Riverton.

Brian & Margaret were also major contributors to the recipients of one of the two 'Heart of the Community' (Event/Organisation) award groups, Country Carers (Quilters). Along with Gloria Schulz, Ruth Schoenberg and Bev Schoenberg, the group has been making quilts for the needy for more than 26 years. Over 800 quilts have been produced and donated to charities, Lutheran Community Care, Riverton

Hospital, Gilbert Valley (Walara) Homes and families in need. With several processes required, from designing a quilt, sourcing fabrics to the finished product, this group is certainly deserving of the award for Organisation.



The second 'Heart of the Community' award was for the Makers Market event. Organiser, Tracey Vandeppeer, as a representative of the Possum's Nest Craft Group, accepted the award. The Makers Market was held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Thirty five stall holders filled the Riverton Community Hall with an array of quality handcrafted goods. As well as local craftspeople, stall holders came from Clare, Edithburgh, Burra Cape Jervis & Carrickalinga.

Riverton Primary School put on a spectacular display of their lunchtime Nature Club crafts. The school's Parents & Friends raised approximately \$1000 from food sales, the proceeds of which going to earmarked projects.

All proceeds from stall holders' fees and a raffle, totalling \$1000, were donated to Walara Gilbert Valley Homes.

Elise Bastian and Erica Parker, students from Riverton Primary School and Riverton High School respectively, received the Riverton Community Award for Exceptional Primary/ High School Student.

Elise has demonstrated exceptional dedication to her studies, achieving results above her year level. She has shown leadership and compassion, serving as a peer mentor to younger students at school, participating in other projects, including school singing group as well as volunteering at local events and helping organise charity fundraisers to help families.



Erica was nominated by staff because she is an exceptional student and role model, with leadership skills and academic ability. She has been chairperson and secretary of the School's Student Representative Council most of her school life, organising SRC events, including the "Push Up' Challenge over the last two years, raising funds for mental health, a disco for junior students and working in the canteen at lunchtimes.

Congratulations to all award recipients.



**Riverton  
Primary School**

Welcome to the 2025 school year!

We're excited to introduce two new staff members to our wonderful team: Sophie Croft, who will be supporting students in the junior classrooms, and Sue-Ann DeVries, who will be teaching AUSLAN across the school on Mondays.



We would also like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning students and families.

This year brings some exciting upcoming updates to our school, including the completion of our beautiful new nature playground, perfect for outdoor learning and play, along with a modern water fountain to keep everyone hydrated. We look forward to sharing the progress of these projects with you during the year. You'll also notice our newly installed flagpoles proudly displaying our school flags.



We're looking forward to a year filled with growth, learning, and community spirit!

If you'd like to get involved and make a positive impact for our students, we'd love to have volunteers for our Breakfast Club, which operates every morning! It's a wonderful opportunity to support our students and help create a welcoming start to their day. If you're interested in volunteering or would like more information, please feel free to reach out or pop into the school. Your time and effort would be greatly appreciated!

Warm regards,

Melissa Claridge, Principal.



**RIVERTON & DISTRICT  
HIGH SCHOOL**

Hello, I'm Joelene Anderson, and I am very excited to be the new principal of Riverton and District High School. For the past almost seven years, I have had the privilege of being the principal of Port Broughton Area School. I come to Riverton with my two children (11 and

13), who will be attending the local schools, and can't wait to join the sporting clubs. We are looking forward to immersing ourselves in the vibrant life of this wonderful community and are thrilled to call Riverton our new home.



As principal of the school, I am deeply committed to promoting a safe and supportive environment that gives all students the opportunity to excel. To our returning students and staff, welcome back. To our new students and team members, a very warm welcome to our school community—a place where you'll find support, safety, and countless opportunities to shine.

As we begin this new year together, I want to emphasise the values important to us: support for one another, safety in all we do, striving for personal excellence, and active participation in the life of our school. These values aren't just words—they're the foundation of everything we achieve together.

This year, I invite each of you to dream big for our school and community. Whether through supporting educational programs, cheering on our students at sporting events, or contributing to school initiatives, your involvement and passion will help us achieve great things together. Excellence isn't just about individual success; it's about the collective effort, resilience, and spirit of our community.

I also want to remind you that this journey is a shared one. As parents and community members, your partnership with our teachers, staff, and myself is invaluable in creating a school where everyone feels valued, respected, and supported to thrive.

Together, I believe we can make this year truly outstanding. I'm excited to see what we can accomplish together. Let's give our best, make a difference, and enjoy the journey ahead.

Thank you, and let's have an incredible year!

Warm regards,

Joelene Anderson  
Principal  
Riverton and District High School.

New to the area?

Feeling lonely or socially isolated?

Maybe you just want to meet new people?

Why not come along and join our  
Community Coffee and Chat table?

**Tuesday mornings at 10.30am**

All welcome to come along!

**EMPORIUM BAKEHOUSE**



## 2025 at Riverton Kindergarten and Rural Care

We have had a visit from Sue from the Riverton library this week and plan to continue regular visits to the library for our children.



We have had a wonderful start to the year at Riverton Kindy. Our staff team has remained the same and we are so happy to be getting into it again!



We've also started a floor book which we will use to communicate children's learning to families.



PIC•COLLAGE



## Riverton Market Return

What a day!

Thank you to the Riverton Community who came out on such a hot day for the first Riverton Country Market of 2025.

Vendors reported an excellent day and commented that there was a 'buzz' around the area.



Gilbert Valley Lions Club cooked up a storm with their new BBQ trailer and Donut Van. Other food vendors included Chilly Willy's Tropical Snow Cones, Momma T's and the People vs Coffee.

There were approximately 35 stall holders inside the main hall and in Elizabeth Street, providing a great carnival atmosphere.

We look forward to the next market on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

Cindy Nolan

Convenor

## 2024 Christmas Parade & Carnival

The Riverton Christmas Carnival & Parade was again a great success. People attended from Saddleworth, Tarlee, Hamley Bridge,

Rhynie and Auburn along with the Riverton Community.

Many families lined the streets to watch the spectacular parade of vehicles pass by while a large crowd gathered at Scholz Park, enjoying the free sausage sizzle and drink. The Lions Club Donut Van, Chilly Willy's Tropical Snow Cones and coffee, face painting and a crocheted toys and dolls stall added to the festive atmosphere.

Santa arrived to see the children in his workshop to tell him their Christmas wish list and receive a Zooper Dooper ice block. It seems there were quite a few adults who visited Santa as well.



Thanks to everyone who participated and came along to the Carnival.

**RIVERTON**  
**Country Market**

**1st Saturday of each Month**  
**9am - 2:30pm**  
**Riverton Community Hall**

**rivertoncountrymarket@gmail.com**  
**Cindy 0412 805 390**



## The Lions Den

At the recent Riverton Christmas Carnival, a strange animal made its first general public appearance, taking the form of a giant inflatable Lion. This new Lions Club of Gilbert Valley 'mascot' (as yet not officially named) took pride of place in the parade of floats and turned many an eye as it drove past the many onlookers during the evening.



The size of the Lion takes up the floor area of a 6x4 trailer and stands over 3 metres tall. It is printed front and back with the Lions logo, club name and other relevant wording, and will be used as a focal point marker at community events such as Lions International

Skin Cancer visiting mobile clinic and the annual Lions Book Sale weekend in Tarlee.

So, when you see this large Lion lurking about you will know that Lions Club Gilbert Valley is working with and for our local community nearby.

For further information on the Lions Club of Gilbert Valley please email [info.gilbertvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:info.gilbertvalleylions@gmail.com) or leave a message on 0419672073



Greetings all and  
Happy New Year.

It is with sadness that I write my last communication as CEO of Walara and wish to take this opportunity to thank the team at The Local Rag for your support in promoting Walara's work with residents, families, staff and the community.

During my term as CEO, along with the support of our managers and staff, we have achieved significant improvements in our facilities, with the largest investment being the \$6.5m redevelopment at Walara Gilbert Valley. Once completed in the next few months, Walara will have constructed 4 new spacious premium rooms and redeveloped all rooms, giving Walara 32 modern, comfortable rooms.

Rob Veitch, as previous Chief Operating Officer, has a key role with the Walara redeployment and has a long association with



## LIONS CLUB OF GILBERT VALLEY INC.

**COVERING:** Riverton, Saddleworth, Tarlee, Auburn, Manoora, Stockport, Marrabel, Waterloo areas

**MEET:** On the first Wednesday of the month

**AT:** 6 Spur Street, SADDLEWORTH

**TIME:** 7pm

**ENQUIRIES TO:** [info.gilbertvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:info.gilbertvalleylions@gmail.com)

**PHONE:** 0419 867 767





Walara Gilbert Valley, so will be well known to the community. Rob is very passionate about community support and the sustainability of aged care services in the Lower North and surrounds. I am very pleased to hand over to Rob who has the confidence and skills for the CEO role and will continue Walara's great work. Congratulations Rob.

From a redevelopment perspective we are entering Stage 3 of the WGV redevelopment (upgrade of 7 final rooms and a new entry), This will be completed in the next couple of months. Thank you to residents and their families for their patience during this time, including use of a temporary entrance.

Best wishes for the year ahead; keep cool and hydrated during the coming days of summer.

Nino de Cisto



**MARCH 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 in RIVERTON**

This day is a HUGE day AROUND THE WORLD.

It is the one day of the year where all people gather at a designated space in their own town.

It is celebrated in over 170 countries around the world. If you want to join us, please know that you are more than welcome to the

Uniting Church, Moorehouse Tce,  
Riverton at 2pm on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2025



# RIVERTON COMMUNITY HALL

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



RIVERTON COMMUNITY HALL SA - 5412



Cindy  
**0412805390**



**hall.riverton@gmail.com**



## Cuzz's Corner

I have just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 20th time.



My wife said that whatever I get her for Valentine's Day, she will wear. So, I'm buying her nothing. It's a win-win situation.

A husband and wife were sitting together having their coffee.

The husband asked, "Honey, you always carry my photo in your handbag to the office. Why?"

"When there is a problem, no matter how impossible, I look at your photo and the problem disappears."

Hubby says, "You see how miraculous and powerful I am for you?"

"Yes," said the wife. "I see your picture and say to myself, 'What other problem can there be greater than this one?'"

At a couples' conference the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected that 85 percent of husbands don't know their wives' favourite flower is. A husband turns to his wife and whispers, "It's self-raising, isn't it?"

## TEA'S UP

Fiona has a special talent  
When it comes to brewing a cuppa,  
Always made with fresh tea leaves  
From breakfast right through to supper.

No matter who is in the fold,  
She knows exactly who likes what.  
Family and friends simply love her tea,  
And she never forgets to warm the pot.

Everyone has an individual taste,  
Each one Fiona can recall.  
She never fails to impress the crowd,  
Fiona pleases them one and all.

Her biscuits, cakes and slices,  
Scones and petit fours - all homemade,  
Are always sure to go down very well  
At any time of the day.

For those who favour coffee,  
Fiona tells them from the very start,  
That tea is her speciality,  
As for coffee she isn't so smart.

Even though she does her very best,  
To make all and sundry feel at home  
And if they do not like her coffee,  
They can always make their own.

Neale  
(Copyright 2025)





## Riverton Community Management Committee

Chairperson - John Glistak  
Vice Chairperson - Gary Davis  
Secretary - Cassy Griffiths  
Treasurer - Ruth Stevens  
Public Officer - Jackie Bruce

Committee Members -  
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**  
**griffithsag@bigpond.com**

**Kaye McInerney, 0437990704**  
**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.

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.